



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

Southern Illinois HSHS hospitals receive Healing Illinois grant
Speaker series to focus on racial healing

BREESE, III. — On Feb. 28 and 29, Hospital Sisters Health System (HSHS) will begin a virtual speaker series entitled “I Have a Dream...” to reflect on revealing and embodying racial healing for all people, thanks to a Healing Illinois grant.

[Healing Illinois](#) is an initiative led by the Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) and the Field Foundation of Illinois. Statewide, 184 recipients will receive \$4.5 million in funding for community-based activities to advance racial healing. In Southern Illinois, this grant is awarded by the Southern Illinois Community Foundation.

“At the heart of the HSHS Mission is Christ’s healing love for all people. We seek to reveal and embody Christ’s healing love in each encounter we have with patients, family members, colleagues, and community members,” said Angela Senander, HSHS system director of formation. “We look forward to the opportunity to be in dialogue with scholars and practitioners advocating for racial justice in our communities and health care organizations.”

The HSHS hospitals in Southern Illinois will foster community conversations about racial healing with grant funds from Healing Illinois. St. Joseph’s Hospital Breese and its HSHS affiliated hospitals, including HSHS St. Joseph’s Hospital Highland, HSHS Holy Family Hospital in Greenville and HSHS St. Elizabeth’s Hospital in O’Fallon, will work together to foster this dialogue in Southern Illinois.

This dialogue will begin during Black History Month and continue monthly through June, as we approach Juneteenth. On Feb. 28, Maria Teresa Davila, Ph.D., chair and associate professor at Merrimack College, will give a presentation entitled, “I Have a Dream of Racial Justice for All.” On Feb. 29, Elaine Hardy, Ed.D., RN, dean and professor at St. John’s College of Nursing will present, “I Have a Dream of Overcoming Racial Disparities in Health Care.” All events are virtual, free of charge and open to the public. More information can be found at stjoebreese.com/events.

For more information about HSHS, visit hshs.org.

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About Hospital Sisters Health System

Hospital Sisters Health System's (HSHS) mission is to reveal and embody Christ's healing love for all people through our high-quality Franciscan health care ministry. HSHS provides state-of-the-art health care to our patients and is dedicated to serving all people, especially the most vulnerable, at each of our physician practices and 15 local hospitals in two states – Illinois (Breese, Decatur, Effingham, Greenville, Highland, Litchfield, O'Fallon, Shelbyville and Springfield) and Wisconsin (Chippewa Falls, Eau Claire, Oconto Falls, Sheboygan and two in Green Bay). HSHS is sponsored by Hospital Sisters Ministries, and [Hospital Sisters of St. Francis](#) is the founding institute. For more information about HSHS, visit hshs.org. For more information about Hospital Sisters of St. Francis, visit hospitalsisters.org.