

CMC, Catholic Charities Form 'Our Place' Program

Catholic Medical Center and N.H. Catholic Charities have combined resources to combat the effects of a trend causing concern in the Manchester community and across the nation.

Called "Our Place," the adolescent pregnancy and parenting program provides medical, social and educational assistance to pregnant and parental teens.

"CMC is a community health resource with a strong commitment to respect God's gift of life," said Sr. Margaret Ahern, RN, MSN, director, Department of Education.

The services provided at "Our Place" are available to any adolescent, single or married, who is in need of medical, social or educational assistance.

"A team of professionals, including a nurse, counselor, nutritionist and vocational counselor will provide assistance and information to program participants, their families and interested com-

munity groups and agencies," said Suzanne R. Foye, supervisor, Maternity and Adoption Services, NH Catholic Social Services.

"This multi-disciplinary approach will have a strong emphasis on health, education and awareness," Mrs. Foye continued.

Adolescents who participate in the program are taught pre-natal care, nutrition, the labor and delivery process, parenting skills, the child's growth and development and use of community services. Peer support and sharing of experiences will be encouraged.

Support and assistance will be further developed through the formation of relationships among the adolescents, their children and the teen-ager's parents.

Following the child's birth, support is maintained through home visits made by "Our Place" team until the child is five years old.



CATHOLIC MEDICAL CENTER and **N.H. Catholic Charities** announced the opening of a jointly sponsored project called "Our Place," for pregnant and parenting teens. Standing at left is Sylvio L. Dupuis, O.D., CMC president and at right is Fr. John Quinn, director, N.H. Catholic Charities. Displaying the "Our Place" logo, signifying a place of sharing and caring, are, at right, April Carty, R.N., nurse coordinator, CMC Department of Education and Laurel Forcier, M.Ed., counseling coordinator, N.H. Catholic Charities.