

# Press Release



**St. Vincent's ♦ 4200 Calle Real ♦ Santa Barbara, CA 93110 ♦ 805-683-6381 ♦ [www.stvincents-sb.org](http://www.stvincents-sb.org)**

## **For Immediate Release:**

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## **St. Vincent's Casa Alegria Children's Center Honors Graduating Preschool Class**

*Santa Barbara, CA-* The Sisters and staff at St. Vincent's Casa Alegria Children's Center along with parents, family, and friends will celebrate the 11<sup>th</sup> annual graduating preschool class this June. Eleven children from the "Chunky Monkeys" and "Giggly Bears" groups have successfully completed preschool and will attend local kindergartens this fall.

"As much as we will miss our graduates, we are confident that they are leaving us with skills that will carry them through the rest of their lives," said Ana Flores, Director of Casa Alegria.

St. Vincent's Casa Alegria Children's Center is a licensed childcare facility that provides quality, affordable childcare and early learning opportunities for children between the ages of 3 months and 5 years. The Infant, Toddler, and Preschool programs serve the needs of the individual child with enriching activities that focus on the social, creative, physical, cognitive, and sensory aspects critical to a child's development. Based on the RIE (Resources for Infant Educators) philosophy, these programs stress respect for the individual and develop appropriate care, along with primary care giving. Complementing the curriculum is a balanced nutritional meal plan that provides every child with a healthy breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snack.

St. Vincent's is a ministry of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul, a Roman Catholic Community of Sisters. It is Santa Barbara's oldest, continuously operating non-profit social service agency. Since 1858 the foundation for St. Vincent's services is to respond to the changing needs of the population. Today, St. Vincent's important works strengthen the whole family.

St. Vincent's offers solutions to homelessness, poverty, and abuse through programs in affordable housing, education, and childcare. Key service programs include PATHS residential program for single mothers and their children, Casa Alegria Children's Center for infants through preschoolers, Vincent's Heart food and supply pantry, and Affordable Housing Programs for seniors and families. These programs serve the basic needs of almost 600 low to extremely low-income individuals each day. Through comprehensive campus-based services every individual is encouraged to develop the necessary skills to lead a productive and full life in a respectful, safe, and nurturing environment.

St. Vincent's continues its 152-year commitment to serving the needs of the most vulnerable in Santa Barbara. Upcoming events benefiting these programs include *St. Vincent's 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic*, Monday, August 30, 2010 at the La Cumbre Country Club and the *Annual Fashion Show and Luncheon*. For information on supporting the key service programs at St. Vincent's and the Golf Classic contact Kelly L. Stark, Director of Development at 805-683-6381 ext. 107 or log onto [www.stvincents-sb.org](http://www.stvincents-sb.org).

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*Since 1858 the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul at St. Vincent's have provided valuable services to break the cycle of poverty, violence, and abuse for the most vulnerable and needy of Santa Barbara County. Through educational and personal growth opportunities, St. Vincent's is committed to helping our sisters and brothers who are poor realize their full potential as children of God with dignity and respect. St. Vincent's Institution is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization supported by private donations and grants.*