



Charity - Mission  
VINCENT  
DE PAUL  
LOUISE DE  
MARILLAC  
1860-2010  
350<sup>th</sup> anniversary

# Caring

DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY SERVICES  
OF SAN ANTONIO

Summer 2014

## Charity Ball Association hosts Children at Kiddie Park

The Charity Ball Association of San Antonio treated 20 children from DePaul-Wesley Children's Center to a morning of fun and rides at Kiddie Park on the corner of Mulberry and Broadway (photo below), the nation's oldest children's amusement park since 1925. A photograph of this excursion will appear in the Charity Ball Association's rotogravure, which comes out once a year and recognizes children's organizations funded by the 60-year old women's philanthropic group. The mission of the Charity Ball Association is to support and enhance the quality of life for the children of Bexar County.

The Charity Ball's commitment to Daughters of Charity Services goes way beyond a day of fun and games. The Association has awarded a 2014 grant to expand and enhance the Early Childhood Education program curriculum with an online assessment tool that can create a developmental profile of each child. This will help determine the child's levels of knowledge and abilities. It will also assist teachers in recognizing children who might benefit from special help, screening, or further evaluation. Current estimates show that the majority of our children are performing at age level. However,

our behavioral specialist has determined that approximately 50 percent of the children who come from neglectful, chaotic, and even traumatic settings would benefit from intervention and extra help.

The Charity Ball Association has been a good friend to the children of DePaul and DePaul-Wesley with past grants for furniture and equipment, as well as a major playground grant to the Children First campaign to build DePaul Children's Center in 2008.



### Adopt-a-Child Back to School Program

#### *Do you remember the excitement of the first day of school?*

Many children living in poverty spend that special day at home, to avoid the embarrassment of wearing worn-out clothes and being without the required school supplies. Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio have been advocates for the less fortunate with the

*Back to School Program* since 1995.

Please be part of this wonderful tradition by participating in the *Adopt-a-Child Back to School Program*. Monetary donations are accepted, or you can shop for a particular child.

#### Call 210-334-2300 for more information

New shoes .....	\$25-\$50
New clothing .....	\$50-\$100
School supplies .....	\$25-\$50
TOTAL .....	\$100-\$200

#### *Your contribution makes the first day of school special!*

☐ YES, I want to shop for a child.  
Please send me more information.

☐ YES, I want to sponsor a child.  
Enclosed is my contribution of:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: ADOPT-A-CHILD  
Daughters of Charity Services  
7607 Somerset Road - San Antonio, TX 78211  
or FAX to: 210-922-0332





Summer 2014  
Published by  
Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio  
7607 Somerset Road, San Antonio, Texas 78211

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*Mission Statement*

Faithful to the Vincentian tradition, the Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio will establish and maintain neighborhood-based programs to increase accessibility to primary health care and human services on the part of the poor. These programs will have a strong holistic orientation and consider participation and empowerment as an integral dimension of the delivery service. While services will be rendered with preferential option for the poor, it is not to the exclusion of others.

*Service Locations*

Main phone number: **210-334-2300.**  
DePaul Family Center  
7607 Somerset Road  
San Antonio, Texas 78211  
DePaul Children's Center  
3050 Golden  
San Antonio, Texas 78211  
DePaul-Wesley Children's Center  
1418 Fitch  
San Antonio, Texas 78211  
El Carmen Wellness Center  
18555-1 Leal Road  
San Antonio, Texas 78221  
La Misión Family Health Care  
19780 South US Hwy 281  
San Antonio, Texas 78221



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT/CEO

Organizations like ours are fond of their statistics. We use them to measure our progress from year to year, to report to funders, and to give ourselves a pat on the back. For example, last year Daughters of Charity Services provided 55,261 child care days, 6,306 medical visits, 6,033 dental visits, and 9,212 social service visits.



But we must never lose sight of the fact that every one of those numbers stands for a person, a family, a child, a mother, or a father. Behind that number might be a crisis or a tragedy, or there might just as easily be a crisis *averted*, an accomplishment, a triumph, a healing.

At this year's luncheon, Board Chair Lee Bailey took flight from that lofty statistical perch in the sky and zoomed down the way you might do on Google Maps, to give us a close look at a few of the people behind the numbers.

He told us about the gentleman in Sister Laureana's office one day who displayed some erratic behavior, and she called 911 over his protests. Turns out he was having a stroke. She worked with him later to manage the ensuing medical charges. We learned about the diabetic woman who couldn't afford glucose test strips. When our caseworker investigated, she found out that the client had neglected to sign up for Medicare Part D, which covers diabetic testing supplies. This client also had her eyes checked at the University of the Incarnate Word School of Optometry where we have a collaborative agreement. Lee told us about a family last winter who didn't have any heat in their house until we located some space heaters for them. Then there was the teacher who noticed that one of the infants in her care seemed to be behind in motor skills development. We referred the family to Brighton Center and today that baby, now a toddler, has improved significantly.

We still love our numbers, but we really love the clients, the skilled associates, and the healing care that those numbers represent here on the ground.







## Luncheon Speaker Reinforces Focus on Teachers

Ana De Hoyos O'Connor grew up in the Columbia Heights neighborhood a few blocks from DePaul-Wesley Children's Center, and her mom still lives there. When it came time for her to speak, she stepped out from behind the podium and engaged the lunchtime crowd with her passion and enthusiasm. She is an expert in Early Childhood Education and had just returned from Minneapolis and the 2014 Institute for Early Childhood Professional Development of the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the organization that accredits our child care program.



Ana began by reminding us that childhood isn't what it was. "We used to get on our bikes—without helmets—and go to the pool and stay gone all day," she said, describing the bygone days of a typical low-tech summer vacation. "Those days are gone, and they're not coming back. The world of a child today is more complicated than it was for us, and our early childhood teachers need professional training and support to prepare children for school and for life." The audience all but shouted "Amen!" in response.



Ana is a full time Associate Professor of Early Childhood Studies at San Antonio College. She was one of 14 people appointed by the Governor of Texas to the Texas Early Learning Council, an organization that sets standards for early childhood programs. She has 25 years of experience in the field and has traveled all over the world, observing preschool programs and training and mentoring preschool teachers.

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*We are honored to be the recipient of these loving tributes.*



FOR MORE INFORMATION  
ABOUT DAUGHTERS OF  
CHARITY SERVICES OF  
SAN ANTONIO, GO TO:  
[WWW.DCSSA.ORG](http://WWW.DCSSA.ORG)

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*Will you make a bequest to Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio by including a gift in your will to our future work?*

A charitable bequest is a gift intended to serve a religious, educational, political, or general social purpose to benefit mankind, aimed at the community or a particular segment of it. Charitable bequests also reduce the estate taxes that might be owed on the estate left by a decedent.

To discuss planned giving options, please call Dianne McAlister at 210-334-2300 or email her at [dmcalister@dcssa.org](mailto:dmcalister@dcssa.org).