

Caring

DAUGHTERS OF CHARITY SERVICES
OF SAN ANTONIO

Fall 2014



Charity - Mission
VINCENT
DE PAUL
LOUISE DE
MARILLAC
350th anniversary

La Misión welcomes & tours Southside ISD staffers

On August 20, school counselors and nurses from the Southside Independent School District toured La Misión Family Health Care just

adult primary care, adolescent care, pediatric care, dental care, counseling, social services, laboratory services, limited radiology, and limited pharmacy.

SSISD has eight schools, including one high school, and a total enrollment of approximately 5,200 students. Attending the orientation and tour were representatives of Freedom, Heritage, and Julian C. Gallardo Elementary Schools, Julius L. Matthey Middle School, Losoya Intermediate, Pearce Primary, Southside High School, and the Discipline Alternative Education Program



as the school year was kicking off.

Sister Irma Vargas, DC, Community Outreach Worker in the Social Services Department, contacted Cindy Wineland, Coordinator of SSISD counselors to arrange an orientation session and tour for the school staff members who are most likely to be aware of physical and mental health needs of students.

"We wanted to develop a relationship with the school staff because we are so close to several SSISD schools," said Sister Irma. "Last year one of the counselors called asking if we could help with toiletries for four seniors who were homeless because their parents had kicked them out. They were 'couch surfing' at friends' houses. We want to increase awareness of what we have to offer to support the counselors and nurses that work with troubled students. By the way, all four of those students graduated," she concluded with a smile.

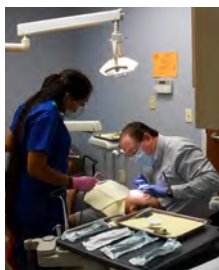
The program opened with Gracie Molina, Director of Clinical Services; Sister Consuelo Tovar, DC, Director of Mission Integration; and Sister Pat Connolly, DC, Licensed Professional Counselor, welcoming the group of over 30 attendees. The group also heard from Center Manager Veronica Sosa, Eligibility Worker Henrietta Rangel, Caseworker Olivia Espinoza, and Luis Solis, Director of Wellness. La Misión offers

Handmade rosaries comfort children far from home

During August, when many unaccompanied youth from Central America were being transferred from temporary housing at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, they left with a handmade rosary around their necks or tightly clutched in their hands.

"We learned from Father Richard Simoure at St. Clare Catholic Church that the children were asking for rosaries," explained Sister Laureana Perez, DC. "The Rosary Ministry at Holy Trinity Catholic Church meets regularly to make rosaries. The handmade rosaries are unbreakable, each secured with a tough cord, ready for any trip the child may be taking."

Within two days, thanks to Holy Trinity Rosary Ministry volunteers, 200 rosaries were delivered and distributed to children at the shelter by Fr. Richard. "The children can hold and hope their rosary will keep them safe," said Sister Laureana. "Even if the child doesn't know how to pray a rosary, it's the symbolism, especially for Hispanic Catholics – a connection they have with parents and grandparents while they are here and so alone."





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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

Mission and Ministry, Inc., the granting entity of the Daughters of Charity Province of St. Louise, has awarded Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio a grant of \$100,000 for our early childhood education program. This grant will strengthen the program in two specific ways: first, by increasing support to families and children in the area of behavioral and emotional health, and second, by broadening the knowledge and skills of our teachers with high-quality professional training.



When we first hired a master's level behavioral specialist in 2011, we didn't know how many children would need or benefit from her services. Now she reports that 78 percent of the children we serve have developmental delays and social-emotional concerns. We have needed to provide additional training and equip our teachers to recognize emotional and social problems commonplace in our child population, so that parents can get help and resources in a timely way to prepare children for success in school and in life.

The professional development training program will take a proactive stance by heightening teacher's awareness and sensitivity to effectively respond to areas of behavioral and emotional concern early on. In this way we can help change the course of a problem that might otherwise become life-long.

Mission and Ministry grant requests must be endorsed by a Daughter of Charity, and Sister Pat Connolly, DC, LPC, was the principal applicant for this grant. Many thanks to her, the Social Services Department, and to the DePaul and DePaul-Wesley staff who worked together to make it happen.

Sign up to Adopt a Senior for Christmas

Even though it's still in the 90's outside, it's not too early to Adopt a Senior for Christmas. Last year the program assisted 367 seniors in the neighborhood with the help of 182 donors.



There are two ways to participate. First, you can ask us to send you the name of a senior, a list of items they need, and you shop for that person.

Or you can purchase things such as non-perishable food, hygiene and cleaning supplies, HEB gift cards, and household items, and let us assemble the baskets. The items must be dropped off at 7607 Somerset Road by December 2 for December 8-12 distribution. Monetary contributions are also welcome.

Call 210-334-2300 for more information or download a registration form from www.dcssa.org/socialadopt (click on the second "Adopt Forms" button).

Adopt-a-Child Sends 454 Children Back to School



The 19th annual Adopt-a-Child Back to School program kicked off at DePaul Family Center with plenty of volunteers and recipients. (Left to right beginning above.)

- A roomful of donated supplies waiting to be distributed.
- Steve Dufilho, reporting for volunteer duty.
- A grateful mom and her three children.
- Beth Roberts and Sister Laureana Perez, D.C.
- Handmade thank you cards from some talented children.

● Tom Roberts and... hey—is that a halo over Bob Ousey's head?

Another less popular but important part of going back to school is making sure immunizations are up to date.

● The Kohl's Cares program brought the Children's Mobile Clinic to DePaul Family Center in partnership with CHRISTUS Children's Hospital of San Antonio.

● Two nurses in the Children's Mobile Clinic served a capacity crowd of neighborhood children, and they will be back next year.

● A happy mom and her newly vaccinated boy. Whew! Glad that's over!



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MEMORIAL AND HONOR GIFTS RECEIVED FROM JULY 1 - AUGUST 31, 2014
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

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Thomas E. LaLanna
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Mrs. Mary Ann Sackett
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CONSIDER A PLANNED GIFT

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.