Archbishop to Dedicate DePaul-Wesley Children's Center on March 7

The dedication of DePaul-Wesley Children's Center, scheduled for March 7 at 10:00 a.m. will feature a blessing and remarks by The Most Reverend Gustavo Garcia-Siller, Archbishop of San Antonio. The building is owned by Methodist Healthcare Ministries and the Early Childhood Education program is conducted by Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio. This partnership has brought our quality child care program to families in a neighborhood whose children benefit tremendously in the important years before they start kindergarten. These years are the beginning of the learning process, and they are the most formative in the life of a child. Success at this time sets the stage for success throughout life. Daughters of Charity Services has conducted a child care program on San Antonio's South Side since 1984.

Officials and trustees from both partnering organizations will attend, along with city dignitaries, parents, volunteers, staff, and neighborhood residents.

Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio and
Methodist Healthcare Ministries

cordially invite you to join us
for the Dedication of
DePaul-Wesley Children’s Center
1418 Fitch, San Antonio TX 78211
(next to Wesley Health & Wellness Center)

March 7, 2014, 10-11 a.m.
Light refreshments

Rsvp to Dianne McAlister
210-334-2304
Message from the President/CEO

I am delighted to join all of you as the new President/CEO of Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio. Having been on the job for about two months, I am learning many things every day and look forward to working with the staff, volunteers, and Board of Trustees to write the next chapter in the organization’s 56-year history of good works in San Antonio’s south side neighborhoods.

I may be the new guy on the block, but I’m not the new guy in town.

Working for an organization whose mission is service to the community has been a lifetime fit for me. For the past nine years I served as Regional Chief Executive Officer for the Southwest Texas Region of the American Red Cross, headquartered in San Antonio. We were tasked with helping individuals and families obtain access to a variety of services, particularly during disasters, either natural or human-made. Daughters of Charity Services seeks to head off emergencies and disasters with preventive care and maintenance in social services and counseling, primary medical and dental care, as well as preparing children for long-term success in life through the early childhood education program. After thirty-seven years with the Red Cross, I am excited about these new opportunities for leadership.

That career in service to others has been in the cards for me since college. My alma mater, the College of the Holy Cross, instilled in her students the basic principles of Jesuit spirituality, which seeks to discover God in all things, including our daily human experience. Rev. Michael McFarland, S.J., a past President of the College, has said, “For Jesuits there is no possibility of ignoring, denying, or running away from the world in which we find ourselves.”

This notion is wholly congruent with the work of the American Red Cross, Daughters of Charity Services, my own personal values, and, clearly, our Holy Father, Pope Francis.

Heeding the words of St. Vincent de Paul who said, “God always blesses humble beginnings much more than those accompanied by a lot of show,” I will simply add that I enthusiastically join with others, past and present, in committing my heart and hands to the mission of Daughters of Charity Services of San Antonio. I anticipate an exciting year of growth and change ahead for all of us.

[Signature]
Wrapping up Christmas!

An energetic army of Santa’s helpers, elves, Good Samaritans, shoppers, and hunter-gatherers delivered a happy and healthy Christmas to Daughters of Charity Services’ clients from toddlers to senior citizens. Thanks to all who participated. Clockwise, starting at far top right: For the third year, Payless Shoes invited 100 children from our Early Childhood Program to come into the store to shop for shoes at no charge. The St. Pius X Knights of Columbus collected funds from their parish and purchased 300 jackets to give to our after schoolers just in time for the first cold snap. We partnered with Elf Louise and donated additional jackets at El Carmen. The Holy Trinity Catholic Daughters of America, shown with Sister Laureana Perez, DC, donated fruit baskets and blankets as part of the Adopt a Senior for Christmas Program. Students from John Paul II Catholic High School in Schertz donated toiletries and other needed items to the Adopt a Senior Program. The Senior Christmas Lunch, held this year at El Carmen, hosted over 100 with invaluable help from the USAA Season of Sharing Volunteers. These elves set up the dining room, served food, bussed tables, and brought fruit baskets and blankets for all attendees. They even hired a deejay and brought Christmas cookies for everyone. At top near right Sister Irma Vargas, DC, consults with Santa and it turns out that this year no one was naughty and everyone was nice!

Daughters of Charity Services Board of Trustees welcomes three new members. From left, Ray Berend, Tom Roberts, and Angelica Lopez.
MEMORIAL AND HONOR GIFTS RECEIVED FROM SEPT 16 - DEC 31, 2013
We are honored to be the recipient of these loving tributes.

MEMORIAL
Reiko Almeter
Steven C. Berger
Patricia Adams
Daniel Durst
Daniel Durst
Paula Grothues
Anita O. Jimenez
Milton J. Robichaux
Carrie La Lanne
Diane Peyton Cobis
Mr. John L. Bower

GIVEN BY
Mr. & Mrs. Terence Almeter
Mrs. Deborah M. Berger
Dianne O. McAlister
Mrs. Marie Durst
Mr. Steve Meinecke
Mr. & Mrs. John Wauters
Mr. Thomas Jimenez
Ms. Corinne Robichaux
Ms. Corinne Robichaux
Mrs. Marie Durst
Mr. & Mrs. Clem Spalding

HONOR GIFTS
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Faught
Arthur Grothues
Helen Grothues
Patricia Murray

GIVEN BY
Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Faught
Laura Aelvoet
Laura Aelvoet
Mrs. Betty J. Andrews

CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION GIFTS
The John G. & Marie Stella Kenedy Foundation
The Faye and William Cowden Charitable Foundation
Saint Suzie Charitable Foundation
CHRISTUS Fund
St. Thomas Foundation (Nashville TN)

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.