

St. Vincent's Services
2009-2010 Annual Report

St. Vincent's Services
66 Boerum Place
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Phone (718) 522-3700
Fax (718) 852-5560

Email verlisap@svs.org
Website www.svs.org

The mission of St. Vincent's Services is to serve needy children and their families with services which support, supplement, or substitute for the healing, nurturing, and developing relationships ideally found in family life.

Dear Friends,

It is a pleasure to share our Annual Report with you. The past year has been very productive for us as we work toward our shared goal of providing our youth with the support, guidance, and care they need to reach for their dreams. It is particularly gratifying to look back upon our activities and be thankful for what we have been able to accomplish—especially during these challenging economic times. I am enormously proud of the hardworking and dedicated staff, who have put so much of their time and effort into serving our young people and families over the past year. And I am especially proud of the youth of St. Vincent's Services as they work toward achieving a lifetime characterized by self-sufficiency, promise, and hope. During 2009-2010 SVS achieved the following:

- Provided direct services to approximately 1,000 of the city's most vulnerable children, including over 750 in foster family homes, 90 in our Positive Caring Services (PCS) program (including children with HIV/AIDS and other medically fragile conditions), and 100 in our Youth Residential Services; in addition, we served 54 adults with developmental disabilities in five residences. Our outpatient Mental Health Clinic hosted 21,000 visits per year, comprised of both SVS children and families as well as clients from the surrounding community.
- Enabled thirty young collegians, including twelve over the age of twenty-one, to attend the postsecondary institution of their choice through the **American Dream Program (ADP)**, our signature educational program. A special focus of the past year was to nurture the educational achievement of the over-21-year-old students who reside at our ADP College Complex, located at SVS headquarters in Downtown Brooklyn. Support for the tuition and living expenses of these young people is especially critical. Government funding for foster youth stops at age 21, but not everyone finishes college before his or her 21st birthday. Tuition support is invaluable to these young people, as it often means the difference between staying in college and finishing up their degree, or dropping out of college due to an inability to pay for their education. *Funding for this year's American Dream Program was provided by an extraordinary new grant from the DeMatteis Family Foundation, along with generous support from the Hagedorn Fund, the Serenbetz Family Foundation; the Brooklyn Community Foundation; the Sidney, Milton, and Leoma Simon Foundation – Florida; The Charles Cohn Foundation, Inc.; the Charles and Mildred Schnurmacher Foundation; The Dr. Scholl Foundation; and other friends of St. Vincent's Services, as well as our Board of Directors.*
- Successfully launched the **Pathways to the American Dream** program, a dynamic new initiative designed to improve educational outcomes among high school students

currently in our care, and to provide the types of rich exposures to higher education and career development that will help to guide these highly at-risk young people in planning for academic success, a satisfying career, and economic security. During the launch year we provided our 25 high school-aged Pathways youth with tutoring, study skills instruction, test prep, and other enrichment activities—and saw highly positive results! We anticipate that the enhanced academic and personal supports provided to the Pathways participants will position them for successful graduation from high school and admission into the college, vocational, technical, trade, or business school of their choice, with the result that they will become active members of our ADP program. *We are grateful to the Hyde and Watson Foundation and the other friends of St. Vincent's Services who supported the launch of this critical new initiative, as we seek to identify lead donors to provide sustaining funds to help us secure bright futures for these promising young people.*

- Initiated the **Ethics Awareness Project** with support from the *Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities*. This innovative project will support our 90 Group Home youth in developing “virtue-based” ethics and learning to act on these ethics in their everyday lives. Over the past year participants have taken part in monthly “Spiritual Gatherings” that include a group dinner followed by workshops that incorporate films, readings, group exercises, and discussions to explore current events through an ethics-based framework. A Year-End retreat will allow for an extended exploration of the nature of ethical practice and spiritual awareness. Through these activities we hope to instill an enhanced spiritual awareness among our young people; strengthen their self-esteem and compassion; and promote a sense of understanding and responsibility toward their neighbors and the greater world.
- Developed and implemented **SMART Girls**, an initiative targeted toward addressing the specific needs of our female Group Home residents. The implementation of the SMART Girls program—which includes a Book Club, “College Bound” mentoring, a volunteerism component, Creative Self Expression, and “rap session” style group discussion—is providing the young women of SVS Group Homes with a positive intervention that will address the emotional and personal traumas they experienced prior to their placement in the foster care system. SMART Girls is designed to promote increased safety, stability and self-esteem among our female Group Home residents, empowering them to lead lives free of violence and abuse and to work toward economic self sufficiency. *The New York Women's Foundation provided generous lead support for this vital initiative.*
- Provided young people and families in our Foster Family Services area with stability and enhanced communication capacity through training in the Transitions Framework via our **Families in Harmony** initiative. We are now looking to bring this transformative program model to our Group Home youth over the coming year. *This multi-year effort has benefited from the friendship, guidance, and very generous support of the Andrus Family Fund.*
- Raised over \$650,000 at the **SVS Annual Dinner** in November 2009, for the benefit of our American Dream Program and other SVS initiatives.

The following is an overview of St. Vincent's Services income and expenses for the previous fiscal year ending **June 30, 2009**.

<u>Total Support & Revenue:</u>	\$42,405,142
Program Expenses:	\$40,403,710
Management & General Expenses:	\$5,054,500
Fundraising Expenses:	\$605,597
<u>Total Expenses:</u>	\$46,063,807
Total Assets:	\$15,482,768
Total Liabilities:	\$11,390,403
Net Asset Balance:	\$4,092,365

Board of Directors

Thomas R. Tizzio, Chairman
Frank A. Dellomo, Vice Chairman
Alan D. Schwartz, Vice Chairman
Jonathan S. Barnett, Esq., Treasurer
Albert C. Wilshire, Secretary

John J. Amore
Andrew W. Attivissimo
John P. Connors, Jr., Esq.
Thomas E. Constance, Esq.
Robert M. Corwen, Jr.
Lawrence F. DiGiovanna, Esq.
Frank G. Fusaro, CPA
John W. McConnell, Esq.
John McDonough, Esq.

William A. McKenna, Jr.
Joseph M. Martuscello, Esq.
William D. Motherway, Esq.
Larry Rafferty
Rev. Msgr. Paul R. Sanchez
John A. Schneider
Mark A. Van Lith
Seth H. Waugh
Peter S. Zaffino

President and CEO: Rev. Msgr. Robert M. Harris

St. Vincent's Services is tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Donations are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.