St. Vincent Charity launches its 150th Anniversary!

More than 1,000 guests were in attendance as Dr. David F. Perse, President and CEO, kicked off St. Vincent Charity Medical Center’s yearlong 150th anniversary celebration on October 18 at Pizzazz—the medical center’s signature fundraising gala.

Held at Public Auditorium, the biennial event set the stage for a remarkable celebration of a legacy that began on October 10, 1865. Founded by the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, St. Vincent Charity is the oldest private hospital in Cleveland. The history of Cleveland and St. Vincent Charity Medical Center are not independent of one another. A city is people; a hospital is people—the story of the past century and a half is the story of how these people have helped each other.

“We would not be here were it not for the leadership, example and incredible work of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine,” said Dr. Perse. “We are but stewards of their mission and we strive daily to follow their humbling example of service.”

Through the efforts of many, St. Vincent Charity Medical Center has strengthened its operations and its presence in the downtown Cleveland community. With the support of physician, community, corporate and philanthropic partners, St. Vincent Charity is stronger.

In addition to raising more than $750,000 to support St. Vincent Charity, the evening culminated with remarks and a toast honoring the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine given by Dr. Perse.

“These incredible women had the foresight to see how care would be provided moving into the future. And they did so time and again by finding the right partners at the right time,” said Perse. In addition to acknowledging the Sisters’ appreciation of the talents of lay persons with whom they minister,

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Confetti filled the room as Dr. David Perse concluded his anniversary toast and guests raised their glasses in support of St. Vincent Charity.
Pizzazz Gala raises $750,000 to support St. Vincent Charity’s mission

The 150th anniversary of St. Vincent Charity Medical Center was kicked off with a bang—literally—at the Pizzazz Gala on October 18th. More than 1,000 guests were in attendance to toast St. Vincent Charity and officially begin the yearlong anniversary celebration highlighted throughout this issue of Caritas.

More than $750,000 was raised to support the healing mission of St. Vincent Charity. In addition to supporting St. Vincent Charity, Pizzazz is also to celebrate the extraordinary individuals who have contributed so much to our organization and our community.

At the gala event, St. Vincent Charity presented the Honorable Frank G. Jackson, Mayor of the City of Cleveland, with the St. Vincent de Paul Award, given to friends, supporters and community leaders who best exemplify the spirit of St. Vincent, an apostle of charity. “(Mayor Jackson), a native son of the Central neighborhood, through your work and your support, you have made lifelong friends here at St. Vincent Charity Medical Center,” said Sister Judith Ann Karam, CSA, Congregational Leader and Honorary Chair of the 150th anniversary celebration.

Also honored with the St. Vincent de Paul Corporate Award was KeyBank, represented by Christopher M. Gorman, President of Key Corporate Bank.

“KeyBank’s support has benefitted not only our Pizzazz efforts, but also our internal programs and services as well as signature capital improvements,” said Karam.

Heartfelt thanks go to Henry L. Meyer III, Retired Chairman & CEO, KeyCorp, who served as chair of the event, as well as Medical Mutual, our Presenting Sponsor and Champagne Toast Sponsor.

Dr. Perse invites the community to become advocates and ambassadors. “Since our beginnings 150 years ago, we have served the healthcare needs of Greater Cleveland. We are excited about the next 150 years and invite you to join in our journey of healing,” he said.

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150th Anniversary Launch
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Join Us In Celebrating...

St. Vincent Charity Medical Center is sharing its milestone 150th anniversary with the launch of an interactive microsite—www.stv150.org.

Building off of the #STV150 social media campaign, the website features a highly visual and interactive timeline that takes users through St. Vincent Charity's 150 years, highlighting significant historical events along the way. The timeline is filled with historical images that celebrate our past, as well as illustrate how healthcare has evolved over the last 150 years.

The entire community is invited to get involved in the celebration by sharing their memories of St. Vincent Charity. The “Share your Story” section on the microsite encourages patients, families, Caregivers (past and present) and friends to share stories, memories or photos of their time at St. Vincent Charity. Users can also learn more about St. Vincent Charity’s special events that will be held throughout the anniversary year.

Additionally, users can peruse grateful patient stories, browse the video gallery, make a donation and discover what’s next for St. Vincent Charity Medical Center.

The St. Vincent Charity community is invited to join the conversation on social media by using #STV150. ◆

Facebook: facebook.com/stvincentcmc
Twitter: @stvincentcmc
Instagram: @stvincentcharity

Calendar of Events

St. Vincent Charity Anniversary Bash
February 28, 2015
Cleveland Museum of Art

Appreciation Dinner
May 28, 2015
At the home of Dr. David F. Perse, President and CEO of St. Vincent Charity Medical Center
Information coming soon on stv150.org

Community Lunch on the Lawn
August 2015
St. Vincent Charity Medical Center’s Front Lawn
on East 22nd Street
This event is free and open to the public

Closing Mass and Luncheon
October 2015
Luncheon at the Westin Cleveland.
Mass to follow at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist honoring the legacy of the Sisters of Charity.
Registration information available soon on stv150.org

Our Mission
In the Spirit of the Sisters of Charity of St. Augustine, the St. Vincent Charity Medical Center family is dedicated to the healing ministry of Jesus. As Caregivers we serve with a deep respect for the dignity and value of all persons, we are focused on quality care, dedicated to the poor and committed to continuing education.