

July 3, 2006
For Immediate Release

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ST VINCENT HOME FOR CHILDREN RECEIVES \$249,822 CO-INVESTOR'S GRANT FROM MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Normandy, MO –

St. Vincent Home for Children has been awarded a co-investor's grant from the Mental Health Board in the amount of \$249,822. The funds will be used to provide a new family preservation program at St. Vincent's. Through St. Vincent's Emergency Shelter Program children, ages 6-16 and their families who live in the City of St. Louis, will be able to spend up to 30 days in a fully supervised apartment setting and receive services such as family, individual and group therapy, linkage to community resources, transportation to school, educational support and aftercare. Families in need of this service may contact Debra L. Russell at 314-261-6011, ext. 108.

Christopher M. Blake, Executive Director at St. Vincent Home for Children expressed his enthusiasm at this opportunity to serve an important population of children in need. "This is a tremendous opportunity for us to reach out to an entirely new segment of our community. At the present time, through our residential treatment program, we are helping children who have been removed from their homes due to abuse and neglect. In many ways, this Emergency Shelter Program harkens back to services we provided twenty to fifty years ago, when children came to stay at the Home because the family was in crisis. Through the Emergency Shelter Program, we will once again be able to help families as they experience financial, emotional or physical challenges. Our goal will be to provide the kinds of professional support and helping hand to these children and families that will ultimately keep the family intact instead of waiting for it to disintegrate, often with the children becoming wards of the State."

St. Vincent Home strives to help children overcome the devastating effects of child abuse and other negative factors in their life and prepare them to lead fulfilling and productive lives. Victims of child abuse and neglect with emotional, behavioral and psychiatric disorders are served through St. Vincent Home's residential treatment program while children with learning, emotional and/or behavioral disorders are served through the special education program at St. Vincent School.

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ST. VINCENT HOME FOR CHILDREN – 7401 Florissant Road – St. Louis, MO 63121

www.saintvincenthome.org