



## NEWS RELEASE

### For Immediate Release

Contact: Norma Salas, Communications Manager  
Office: (602) 850-6755, Cell Phone: (602) 421-9543, E-Mail: NSalas@svdp-phx-az.org

February 18, 2005

### *Board of Visitors Provides Vitally Needed Support*

PHOENIX, AZ – The Board of Visitors recently presented the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Board of Directors with a check for \$15,000 to support the dental program at the Virginia G. Piper Medical & Dental Clinic. This brings to \$182,000 the contributions made by the group to the Society since 1996.

Janice Ertl, Director of the Clinic, expressed her gratitude for the gift, explaining that the Board of Visitors is a key supporter of the children's dental program. She explained that providing dental care is expensive and although the clinic is able to complete more than 3,200 dental visits annually, many children are still turned away due to limited funding.

The Board of Visitors was started in 1908 as an auxiliary support group of St. Luke's Hospital. It has since become an independent group, providing financial assistance to various charities in the Valley.

--30--

**Note:** Photo attached

**Caption:** Anne Rathwell, Chair of the Board of Visitors (pictured on left), presents a \$15,000 check to Janice Ertl, Director of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Virginia G. Piper Medical and Dental Clinic.

*The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a non-profit organization, dedicated to serving the poor and providing others with the opportunity to serve. Programs include services for the homeless, medical and dental care for the working poor, five charity dining rooms and general assistance for individuals in need.*