

Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 420 W. Watkins Road, Phoenix AZ 85003

Media Advisory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 1, 2006

Holiday Party welcomes AZ's new residents

Katrina evacuees continue on their journey toward a new life

For many of us, the holidays are the time of year where we welcome people into our lives and encourage them to feel at home. We share our prayers, our meals, our money and our time in the spirit of giving.

It has been more than a year since Hurricane Katrina ravaged the Gulf Coast and of the thousands who arrived in Phoenix last year, there is still of group of evacuees struggling to mend their lives in a place that doesn't yet feel like home. St Vincent de Paul, Lutheran Social Ministry of the Southwest and Catholic Social Charities would like to welcome our evacuees home with a Holiday Party, Saturday, Dec. 2nd from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Mt. of Olives Lutheran Church, 3546 E. Thomas Road in Phoenix. After a year in our desert, the evacuees are no longer visitors, but members of our community and as long as this segment of our community suffers, we will be there to help.

WHAT: Holiday Party to Welcome Arizona's New Residents

WHEN: Saturday, December 2nd from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

WHERE: Mt. of Olives Lutheran Church, 3546 E. Thomas Road in Phoenix.

Photo Ops:

- 11- Noon – children's arts and crafts
- Noon-1:00 – Lunch is Served
- 1-1:30 – awards presentation (five awards for case workers and volunteers who have shown outstanding dedication in aiding our evacuees).
- 2:30 - Surprise Holiday Guest (Santa Claus) will bring toys for the kids.
- Jazz and gospel music performances throughout the afternoon.

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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/dental care for the working poor, five charity dining rooms, thrift stores, a transitional housing shelter and general assistance for individuals in need.