St. Mary Medical Center
A Dignity Health Member

NEWS RELEASE

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St. Mary Medical Center Foundation Honors Dr. Vincent Esposito, Dr. Patrick Cahill, and Rocky Suares with Life Achievement Awards at Bella Notte Celebration

$500,000 Raised for C.A.R.E. Program and Sister Sabina Sullivan Women's Health Center

(from left) Dr. Vincent Esposito, Dr. Patrick Cahill, and Rocky Suares receive Life Achievement Awards from St. Mary Medical Center Foundation for their service to St. Mary and the community.

Long Beach, CA— November 9, 2012— On Saturday, November 3, St. Mary Medical Center Foundation held its *Bella Note* 31st Auction and Dinner at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Long Beach. Among the highlights of the evening was a Life Achievement Award presentation in front of 525 elegantly attired guests to honor three distinguished gentlemen: Dr. Vincent Esposito, Dr. Patrick Cahill, and Mr. Rocky Suares.

The annual event, started by Founding Chairwoman **Sheila Hanley** (there with husband **Dr. Bill Hanley**), was also held to raise funds to honor 25 years of the C.A.R.E. Program and to support the Sister Sabina Sullivan Women's Health Center at St. Mary. The stellar event was spearheaded by Dinner Committee Co-Chairs, **Rich Foster** (there with wife **Nancy**) and **Chris Pook**, (with wife **Ellen**) under the overall leadership of Foundation Board Chair, **George Murchison** (with wife, **Joyce).**

Throughout the Silent Auction, held in both the elegant hotel lobby and the Beacon Ballroom, lively bidders eagerly signed their names on over 400 auction items including offerings of exotic travel, unique personal and home items **(sponsored by Daryl and Sandy Phillips, Phillips Steel),** fabulous liquor and wine gift baskets (created by **Mary Nejdl** and sponsored by **Marv and Kathy Lieblein, Family Pharmacy**), and the ever-popular exquisite jewelry **(**sponsored by **Josephine Molina and Heather Rudy).** Palates were treated to a selection of hot and cold gourmet

hors d'oeuvres and two fabulous ice sculptured martini bars sponsored by long time Auction supporters, **Ed Conrad and Stephen Dodge**. The festive champagne bar in the Beacon Ballroom, **sponsored by Bob and June Gault,** was once again a popular reception feature.

This was a record year for Auction sponsorships stimulated by a challenge from the Evalyn M. Bauer Foundation to match all sponsorships of $5,000 or over. Gold sponsors included **Dr. Vincent and Janet Esposito, the late Rose DeLuca, Pacific Healthcare IPA, Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, Dr. Bill and Sheila Hanley, Ed Conrad, and Stephen Dodge.** Silver sponsors were **Gong, Nashed, Pascoe, Inc., Suares Investment Group, Rocky and Julie Suares, Dr. Patrick and Jackie Cahill, Ed and Linda Kaleff, F & M Bank, Filomena Esposito, George and Joyce Murchison, St. Mary Emergency Medical Group, St. Mary Medical Center Medical Staff, Robert and June Gault, Pacific Shores Medical Group, and Archstone Foundation.** Returning to action once again were popular auctioneers **Randy Gordon,** President of the Long Beach Chamber of Commerce (there with **Nancy Becker**), and marketing/advertising executive, **Allan Rahn** (there with wife **Linda**).

In the elegant Tuscan-themed Regency Ballroom, the gourmet dinner of Grilled Porcini dusted Filet of Beef and Scallops Putanescaa was followed by a decadent dessert of Chocolate Zucotto. Theme enhancing table centerpieces (sponsored by **Frank and Lisa Chapman, UBS**), consisted of cut wine bottles made by the creative hands of volunteers **Geri Ehlers, Carol Field, Carole Huss, Mary Nejdl and Danielle Mansfield.**

The evening's program began with "Old Glory," an emotional tribute to the American flag, eloquently delivered by Jimmy Weldon, followed by the invocation given by **Monsignor Sean Flanagan** and introductions from Master of Ceremonies, St. Mary Foundation President, **Drew Gagner. Dr. Patrick Cahill, Dr. Vincent Esposito, and Rocky Suares** were presented with custom-designed crystal Life Achievement Awards. Recipients were honored for their years of dedication, philanthropic generosity and service to St. Mary Medical Center and the Long Beach community. A tribute video was presented that highlighted the accomplishments of each of the award recipients which can be viewed here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gf8KJVhcNDM&feature=plcp

Rocky Suares is the managing director of Suares Investment Group of Wells Fargo Advisors, and has been an integral part of the St. Mary Foundation and the Auction for many years. The scope of his dedication to the community goes far beyond the walls of St. Mary and his love for the Sisters, as his and wife Julie's generosity is felt by many fortunate organizations throughout Long Beach.

Dr. Vince Esposito, who was born at St. Mary and whose father Dr. Leslie Esposito also served at St. Mary before him, has been part of the staff of St. Mary since 1973. He has been co-director of the Radiology Department since 1980. He has served St. Mary as Chief of Staff, Chairman of the St. Mary Medical Center Community Board, and as a member of the St. Mary Foundation Board where he founded and chaired its Charity Golf Tournament for 18 years. Dr. Esposito has also served on the Board of Directors of the American Cancer Society, the Long Beach Heart Association and Holy Family Adoptive parents. He is former chairman of the Chadwick School Board of Directors. His commitment to his family, his many friends and his profession, has won him much respect and admiration.

Dr. Patrick Cahill was born, raised and educated in Ireland, where he received his medical degree and fellowship from the Royal College of Radiology. He became co-director of the Radiology Department at St. Mary in 1981 where he also served as Chief of Staff and was co-founder of the Golf Tournament. He currently serves as Staff Radiologist at St. Mary, Pacific Hospital Long Beach and Community Hospital Long Beach and is also a Clinical Assistant Professor in Radiology at UCLA Medical Center.

Enthusiastic bidding on live auction items led to the following generous winners: **Marv and Kathy Lieblein, and the family of Mary Nejdl ,** will each be spending a week at a private Italian Villa, **Naomi Rainey** will be treating 20 friends to a Cocktail Harbor Cruise on the private yacht of Lou and Joan Cassani, between selecting trips to the Hyatt of her choice and any Diamond Resorts International location. **Josephine Molina,** and seven fortunate friends, will share in the Epicurean delights of a gourmet meal at the executive penthouse of Keesal, Young and Logan, **Beverly Culbertson** will be relaxing in a condo on the beach in Kauai, **Greg Parkin** will be enjoying a sun and spa retreat in Rocky Point, Mexico, **Dr. Simon and Seta Tchekmedyian** will have a week to enjoy New York in a private elegant condo, and Jodi Gutierrez will be showing off the diamond pendant purchased by husband, Miguel.

Seen at the scene: President of St. Mary Medical Center, Tom Salerno; St. Mary Chief of Staff, Dr. Jyoti Datta with Dr. Nona Datta; Sister Gerard Earls; Dr. Seymour and Reva Alban; Jeanne Coughlin; Paul and Sandra Carter; Rob Boullon; Bob and June Gault; Cheryl Lackman-Feinberg and Ron Solomon; Dr. Dominic and Marge DeCristofaro; John and Kathy Wavell; Henry and Jane Meyer; Lou and Joan Cassani; Mark Mills and Jerry Pennington; the Honorable Gerrie Schipske; Doug and Linda Drummond; Bill and Laura Edwards; Dan and Pam Munzer; Bob and Jan Waestman; Dr. Hadi and Sophia Emamian; Leo and Judy Vander Lans; Gene and Ann Lentzner; Dr. Lewis and Jill Rosenberg; Charlie and Terese Parkin; Commander Joe and Tammie Stilinovich; Christopher and Alida Steinhauser; Shirley Saltman; Dr. Sandy and Susanna Witzling; Dr. Harley and Sallie Deere; Dr. Minnie Douglas; Peter and Joann Ursano; Doug and Freda Otto; Martin and Cindy Howard; Dr. Stephen and Sheila Shea; Joe and Joan Prevratil; Marilynn Bonzer; Bud and Geri Ehlers; St. Mary Community Board Chairs; Eloy Oakley; Dan O'Callaghan with Roseanne; and St. Mary Hospital Board Chair, Terry Geiling with Nancy.

To view the photo album from the event, go to: **http://ambrosevents.com/2012/11/05/st-mary-medical-center-foundation/**

About St. Mary Medical Center Foundation
The St. Mary Foundation was founded by the Sisters of Charity in 1970 to raise, administer and distribute funds in support of the mission of the Sisters of Charity and St. Mary Medical Center. The Foundation supports hospital programs, research and education, as well as capital improvements, including equipment purchases. For more information, please visit us at www.supportstmary.org

About St. Mary Medical Center
Founded by the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word in 1923, St. Mary Medical Center, a member of Dignity Health, offers a full continuum of primary and secondary acute care services to the Greater Long Beach community. With more than 500 physicians, 1,456 employees and 389 patient beds, St. Mary is committed to providing a unique balance of leading edge technology while ensuring dignity and compassionate care of body, mind and spirit to the community it serves. For more information, please visit us at www.stmarymedicalcenter.org.