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For Immediate Release

St. Vincent's Susan Davis To Lead Ascension Ministry Markets

Bridgeport, CT, Feb. 28, 2012 – Susan L. Davis, RN, EdD, president/CEO of St. Vincent's Health Services, will assume additional leadership responsibilities for the Gulf Coast/Florida ministry market of Ascension Health, the nation's largest Catholic and nonprofit healthcare system.

The change in leadership, announced today and effective February 29, 2012, means Dr. Davis will provide permanent leadership and strategic guidance for facilities within the Gulf Coast/Florida region, in addition to her current responsibilities as Ministry Market Leader for New York/Connecticut.

Remaining president/CEO of St. Vincent's Health Services and CEO of St. Vincent's Medical Center, Dr. Davis will continue to set the strategy for continued growth, assisting St. Vincent's Medical Center Foundation and expanding her role in the community. To allow Dr. Davis to handle the additional responsibilities, Stuart G. Marcus, MD, FACS, has been appointed president of the Medical Center.

Dr. Davis also will become interim CEO of Sacred Heart Health System Pensacola, Fla. on March 10, as the Sacred Heart Board and Ascension Health work to identify who will fill the CEO position on a permanent basis. In addition to Sacred Heart, the Gulf Coast/Florida Region includes Providence Hospital in Mobile, Alabama and St. Vincent's HealthCare in Jacksonville, Florida.

"These new responsibilities reflect Susan's substantial leadership skills and her commitment to meeting community needs and improving the quality of person-centered care," said Charles J. Barnett, FACHE, Ascension Health president, healthcare operations and chief operating officer.

Dr. Davis came to St. Vincent's Health Services in 2004 from Vassar Brothers Medical Center in Poughkeepsie, N.Y., after an 18-year career that included service as Vice President of Nursing, Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer, and from 2001-2004, President/Chief Executive Officer. As President/Chief Executive Officer of Vassar, she developed and implemented a variety of successful clinical services, including a new regional heart center for residents of the update New York area.

She received a Bachelor of Science in nursing from Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, N.Y., a Master of Arts in nursing administration and a Doctorate of Education with an emphasis in management from Columbia University. She is a Fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives.

Davis has received both local and national recognition for her commitment to the community and to volunteerism. She has been actively involved with the United Way, hospice and the American Cancer Society, and has been recognized for her service in New York and Connecticut.

Dr. Davis and her husband reside in Easton.

Ascension Health

About Ascension Health

Ascension Health (www.ascensionhealth.org) is transforming healthcare by providing the highest quality care to all, with special attention to those who are poor and vulnerable. Ascension Health, which provided \$1.2 billion in care of persons living in poverty and community benefit programs last year, is the nation's largest Catholic and nonprofit health system. Its Mission-focused Health Ministries employ more than 121,000 associates serving in more than 1,400 locations in 21 states and the District of Columbia.

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