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For Immediate Release

US NEWS & WORLD REPORT NAMES ST. VINCENT'S MEDICAL CENTER
BEST HOSPITAL IN FAIRFIELD COUNTY AND WESTERN CT

BRIDGEPORT, CT, July 17, 2013—St. Vincent's Medical Center has been ranked as the Best Hospital in Fairfield County and in all of Western Connecticut for 2013-2014 by U.S. News & World Report.

St. Vincent's is also ranked # 4 in the state, and was recognized as "High-Performing" in the specialties of Gastroenterology & GI Surgery; Geriatrics; Gynecology; Neurology and Neurosurgery; Pulmonology and Urology.

The annual U.S. News Best Hospitals rankings, now in their 24th year, recognize hospitals that excel in treating the most challenging patients.

"I would like to recognize our hospital staff and our medical staff for their outstanding work that led to this recognition. St. Vincent's is pleased to be ranked as the best hospital in Fairfield County and Western Connecticut. It's no coincidence that St. Vincent's has achieved these high rankings from US News and World Report, Nursing Magnet recognition, and for two years in row, a Leapfrog Hospital Safety Score of "A". These achievements affirm all the work we have done to create a safe and highly reliable organization that patients and their families can trust for the highest standard of care," said St. Vincent's President Stuart G. Marcus, MD, FACS. "We are extremely proud of our physicians and hospital staff who do their best every day to save lives and keep patient safety and the patient and family experience at the top of mind and top of heart."

St. Vincent's has implemented a high reliability safety program across all its services, and recently received its second "A" Hospital Safety Score from the Leapfrog Group, a national organization dedicated to improving the safety, quality and affordability of health care for Americans. St. Vincent's is one of only two Connecticut hospitals to receive both Nursing Magnet® recognition and Leapfrog "A" Hospital Safety Score. The Connecticut Hospital Association awarded the Medical Center the 2012 John D. Thompson Award for its safety program, and St. Vincent's was also featured by the Joint Commission recently as a model of a high reliability organization.

U.S. News evaluates hospitals in 16 adult specialties. In most specialties, it ranks the nation's top 50 hospitals and recognizes other high-performing hospitals that provide care at nearly the level of their nationally ranked peers.

"A hospital that emerges from our analysis as one of the best has much to be proud of," said Avery Comarow, U.S. News Health Ranking Editor. "Only about 15 percent of hospitals are recognized for their high performance as among their region's best."

U.S. News publishes Best Hospitals to help guide patients who need a high level of care because they face particularly difficult surgery, a challenging condition, or added risk because of other health problems or age. Objective measures such as patient survival and safety data, the adequacy of nurse staffing levels and other data determined the rankings in most specialties.

The specialty rankings and data were produced for U.S. News by RTI International, a leading research organization based in Research Triangle Park, North Carolina. Using the same data, U.S. News produced the state and metro rankings.

The rankings have been published at <http://health.usnews.com/best-hospitals> and will appear in print in the U.S. News Best Hospitals 2014 guidebook, available in bookstores and on newsstands August 27.

ST. VINCENT'S MEDICAL CENTER

St. Vincent's Medical Center in Bridgeport, CT is a 473-bed community teaching and referral hospital with a Level II trauma center and a 76-bed inpatient psychiatric facility in Westport. St. Vincent's provides a full range of inpatient and outpatient services over 50 specialty and subspecialty medical and surgical disciplines with regional centers of excellence in cardiology, surgery, cancer care, orthopedics, diagnostics, women's and family services, behavioral health, senior health and an array of specialized services. St. Vincent's, recently the recipient for the second year in a row of the "A" Hospital Safety Score" from the Leapfrog Group, a national organization dedicated to improving the safety, quality and affordability of health care for Americans. St. Vincent's is also one of only two hospitals in the state to receive both the Leapfrog "A" and Nursing Magnet® Recognition, the highest national award for nursing excellence. St. Vincent's was also featured by the Joint Commission as a model of a high reliability organization. St. Vincent's Medical Center is a subsidiary of St. Vincent's Health Services, which include St. Vincent's College, St. Vincent's Special Needs Services, St. Vincent's Medical Center Foundation and St. Vincent's Urgent Care Walk-in Centers. It is a member of Ascension Health, the nation's largest Catholic and largest non-profit healthcare system. St. Vincent's is the principal clinical partner for Quinnipiac's Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine set to open in 2013, and is also a teaching affiliate of the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and of New York Medical College. The Medical Center is also sponsor of Swim Across the Sound, a charitable, grass roots organization, which, since 1987, has held a unique niche, providing cancer education, screening, and prevention programs at low- or no-cost for the uninsured and underinsured in the area. Serving Southwestern Connecticut, St. Vincent's Health Partners (SVHP), a physician hospital organization comprised of 300 healthcare providers and St. Vincent's Medical Center, provides a strategy to improve patient care while effectively dealing with a changing healthcare environment, and aligns physician and hospital efforts through active coordination of care and data sharing.

For referral to a St. Vincent's physician or more information on programs and services, call the toll-free Care Line at 1-877-255-SVHS (7847) or visit www.stvincents.org

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