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**St. Vincent's New Stratford Building Represents Future of Healthcare by
Centralizing Services Designed to Keep People Well**

16,000 sf Stratford Health & Wellness Center offers cardiology, primary, and urgent care services with more to come

STRATFORD, Connecticut - February 18, 2015 - St. Vincent's Health Services expanded its services in Stratford with yesterday's grand opening of the state-of-the-art St. Vincent's Stratford Health & Wellness Center, located at 3272 Main Street, Stratford, CT. An open house introduced the cardiac and primary care physicians based at the new 16,000 square foot facility. In addition, the building houses St. Vincent's fifth Urgent Care Clinic, which opened earlier this month. Stratford Mayor John Harkins was joined by Senator Richard Blumenthal, Bridgeport Mayor Bill Finch, and leaders from St. Vincent's Health Services for a ribbon cutting ceremony and blessing for the new building.

"We asked residents of Stratford what they wanted and needed most from their healthcare providers and we listened. Our Stratford Health & Wellness Center brings the best medicine closer to home by centralizing services in one convenient location," explained Dianne J. Auger, senior vice president and chief strategy officer, St. Vincent's Health Services.

exterior photo of the new St. Vincent's Stratford Health and Wellness Center
Designed around St. Vincent's promise to provide exceptional and compassionate care, the Stratford Health & Wellness Center is embracing the future trend in healthcare, which has providers extending important services and employment opportunities beyond the hospital and into the communities we serve. In addition, St. Vincent's Health & Wellness Center is the future home of even more services including a Community Education Center, which will offer lectures, presentations, and will be complete with kitchen facilities for healthy nutrition and cooking demonstrations. Also planned for this site are wound care and cardiology testing. All of these services will be opening by late spring/early summer 2015.

In addition to the new Stratford Urgent Care Clinic, the St. Vincent's Stratford Health & Wellness Center is home to Dr. Charles Bruce-Tagoe, primary care physician with Stratford Medicine, and Drs. Rebecca Streeter and Mark Heiman, cardiologists with Cardiology Physicians of Fairfield County.

This is the second major expansion of St. Vincent's into Stratford, following January's opening of the St. Vincent's Health Check Clinic at Oronoque, located inside the Oronoque Pharmacy.

"Health care is a forever-changing need in today's society," stated Stratford Mayor John Harkins. "Having this facility in the center of town is a great opportunity for the citizens of our community, and we thank St. Vincent's for making that commitment to Stratford."

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About St. Vincent's Health Services

St. Vincent's Health Services (SVHS) is a member of Ascension Health, the nation's largest Catholic and largest non-profit healthcare system. SVHS offers 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. SVHS comprises St. Vincent's Medical Center, a 473-bed community teaching and referral hospital with a Level II trauma center, providing a full range of inpatient and outpatient services with more than 500 affiliated physicians in more than 50 medical and surgical specialties and subspecialties; St. Vincent's College, which provides an education in nursing, allied health and the liberal arts and sciences; St. Vincent's Special Needs Services (SVSN), a major provider in Southern Connecticut of specialized lifelong education and therapeutic programs for children and adults with multiple developmental disabilities, and St. Vincent's Medical Center Foundation, which sponsors St. Vincent's SWIM Across the Sound, offering cancer prevention and patient support programs for un- and under-insured area residents. St. Vincent's Medical Center has been ranked for the second consecutive year as a Best Hospital in Fairfield County and in all of Western Connecticut for 2013-2015 by U.S. News & World Report in its annual "Best Hospitals" survey. Recently the recipient for the third year in a row and sixth consecutive time of the "A" Hospital Safety Score" from the Leapfrog Group, St. Vincent's Medical Center is one of two hospitals in the state to hold both the Leapfrog "A" and Nursing Magnet® Recognition, the highest national award for nursing excellence. In 2013 St. Vincent's Medical Center was named Top Performer on Key Quality Measures®, by the Joint Commission, the leading accreditor of health care organizations in America, and has been recognized by both the Joint Commission and OSHA as a model of a highly reliable organization. The American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer awarded St. Vincent's an Outstanding Achievement Award with Accreditation in 2012, and it has also earned its designation from the National Accreditation Program for Breast Cancer. St. Vincent's serves as the principal clinical partner for the new Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University. St. Vincent's is also a teaching affiliate of the University of Connecticut School of Medicine and of New York Medical College. St. Vincent's MultiSpecialty Group, an affiliate of St. Vincent's Medical Center, is a clinically integrated network of primary care and specialty care providers in the community and in the hospital. Serving southwestern Connecticut, St. Vincent's Health Partners (SVHP), a physician hospital organization, provides a strategy to improve patient care most efficiently 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 or follow

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