



For Immediate Release  
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**Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare releases 2008 annual report**

Milwaukee, WI – Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare has released its 2008 annual report which illustrates with poignant stories the many ways the System continues to provide exceptional and compassionate health care.

“This report provides a glimpse of our community outreach efforts over the past year and compassionate and quality care we provide to those we serve,” says John Oliverio, President and Chief Executive Officer. “Each and every day, despite endlessly shifting social and economic realities, our associates continue to serve as the eyes and hands of Jesus, living out his healing ministry, and meeting the needs of the times.”

Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare provided \$180 million in charitable benefits to the community in fiscal 2008, including \$22 million in charity care, according to report. In Southeast Wisconsin, community impact totaled nearly \$135.4 million including \$14.3 million in charity care.

In addition to the gap in reimbursement for Medicaid and local government programs, Wheaton also provided \$155.2 million in care to the elderly that was not reimbursed by Medicare. The gap in Medicare reimbursement was not included in accordance with the new Catholic Health Association Community Benefit Reporting Guidelines. Including the Medicare shortfall, the total would be \$335.7 million.

The report can be found on the Wheaton Franciscan Healthcare website, [www.mywheaton.org](http://www.mywheaton.org). Hard copies of the report can be obtained by contacting Anne Ballentine, Vice President - Communication & Public Relations at 414-465-3605.