

Celebration of Babies

October 16, 2010

*The New Mexico Museum of
Natural History and Science*

The annual event is a celebration of NM children and highlights the importance of the early years in life. Science has proven that meeting the developmental needs of young children is critical to building a strong foundation for lifelong physical and mental health and enhancing readiness to succeed in school. Many attendees at the St. Joseph event were participants in the St. Joseph Home Visiting program which provides education and support to those parenting for the first time. It is a free service offered to anyone living in the greater Albuquerque metropolitan area. Additionally, St. Joseph offers an Enhanced Referral Service to families in the home visiting program that helps them in meeting life challenges such as access to food, housing, employment, Medicaid enrollment, getting back into school, and finding quality child care.

Archbishop Michael Sheehan of New Mexico attended this year's event. "I learned from families that they love the St. Joseph Home Visiting program," said Archbishop Sheehan. "St. Joseph's home visitors answer all their questions and help them prepare during pregnancy for the birth of their baby. This important program will have a significant impact on the lives of these families, their babies and on the health of New Mexico in general."

Families and friends of St. Joseph enjoyed an evening of entertainment with Isotopes Orbit and Little Joe who encouraged the children to learn and have fun and stressed the importance of family values. Children also enjoyed touring exhibits and participating in interactive snake shows.

"We are proud of the work we do and the mission that we continue to serve, that of our founding Sisters of Charity" said Allen Sánchez, President and CEO of St. Joseph Community Health.

