



## **Texas Diabetes Institute**

 **University Health System**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Local women's club named to *Wall of Honor***

(San Antonio, TX – November 13, 2008) Lo Bello de San Antonio Women's Club was inducted to the Texas Diabetes Institute *Wall of Honor*, Thursday, November 13, for its commitment and support of research to improve the lives of patients with diabetes and in search of a cure for this deadly disease.

The numbers are alarming. An estimated 240 thousand people in Bexar County are living with diabetes. Another 68 thousand adults and children have it, but don't yet know it. To put those numbers in perspective, it would take 17 AT&T Centers to hold all of the people in this community afflicted with diabetes. "The Texas Diabetes Institute is one of the nation's leading centers dedicated to stopping this worsening epidemic, but we can't do it alone," said George B. Hernández, Jr., University Health System President/CEO. "The ongoing support of organizations like Lo Bello de San Antonio Women's Club is critically important to our success."

Founded in 1993, Lo Bello is comprised of 24 local business women who are committed to raising funds for scholarships and nonprofit organizations. Over the years they have contributed more than \$500,000 to individuals and charitable projects. Of that total, \$50,000 has gone to support University Health System projects, including the Texas Diabetes Institute, the University Health System Foundation Nursing Scholarship program and the Peveto Center for Pastoral Care at University Hospital. "It would be impossible to count the number of patients and staff members who have directly benefited from their generosity," added Theresa De La Haya, University Health System Vice President for Community Health & Clinical Preventive Programs.

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Lo Bello de San Antonio Women's Club is the eighth name to be placed on the *Wall of Honor* at the Texas Diabetes Institute. The Institute, which opened in 1999, remains the nation's largest and most comprehensive center, devoted entirely to battling diabetes. It is located in the heart of San Antonio's West Side, where the incidence of diabetes is the highest in the nation.

The *Wall of Honor* is named for Dr. Saul Trevino, a pioneer in the treatment of diabetes. More than 50 years ago he was teaching diabetes management by telling his patients they could lead a normal life if they ate right and exercised regularly. "It is in his honor that we come to this place each year to recognize the advocates that walk in his footsteps – the individuals whose actions speak louder than words when it comes to building better lives for patients with diabetes, and taking those important steps that will ultimately lead to a cure," remarked De La Haya during the induction ceremony Thursday evening. Past inductees include Elvira M. Cisneros, Dr. Lawrence B. Harkless, Luis Roberto Vera, Jr., Commissioner Paul Elizondo, Dr. Roberto P. Treviño, John A. Guest and Colonel Roy W. Burley.