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## **For Immediate Release**

### **St. Mary Medical Center awarded HFAP accreditation**

APPLE VALLEY, CA – April 6, 2010 – St. Mary Medical Center has gained full accreditation from the Healthcare Facilities Accreditation Program (HFAP), an independent, recognized accreditation authority. It earned this distinction after HFAP conducted an extensive and objective review of the Medical Center’s quality and safety standards.

“St. Mary Medical Center clearly demonstrates a commitment to quality patient care,” said Michael Zarski, CEO of HFAP. “We base our decision on federal standards, patient safety and treatment, quality improvement, and environmental safety. St. Mary Medical Center met or exceeded standards in every case.”

“We’re proud to achieve this prestigious distinction,” said Dr. David O’Brien, Chief Operating Officer of St. Mary. “By awarding us accreditation, the HFAP has recognized our commitment to providing outstanding care to our patients and our community. In fact, quality is consistently the priority focus in our strategic plans and goals.”

The HFAP is one of only three national voluntary accreditation programs authorized by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) to survey all hospitals and other medical facilities for compliance with the Medicare Conditions of Participation. The HFAP has been accrediting healthcare facilities for more than 60 years and under Medicare since its inception. For more information, go to: [www.hfap.org](http://www.hfap.org).

Established in 1956, St. Mary Medical Center is a 186-bed acute care facility located in Apple Valley. St. Mary is home to the High Desert’s only comprehensive cardiovascular surgery program and the area’s only robotic surgery system. For more information, go to: [www.stmaryapplevalley.com](http://www.stmaryapplevalley.com).

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