

# St. Mary Medical Center

A Ministry of the  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange

ST. JOSEPH  
HEALTH SYSTEM

and the Brothers of St. John of God

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## Verizon Grant Saves Time for Heart Attack Victims

APPLE VALLEY – January 8, 2010 – St. Mary Medical Center is working closely with local emergency responders to ensure heart attack victims receive the right interventions in the timeliest way. In order to speed-up the time heart attack patients receive care, the Emergency Department at St. Mary recently installed a CarePoint EMS Workstation thanks to a \$55,000 grant from the Verizon Foundation. The workstation serves as a receiving station for the wireless, radio or cell phone transmission of electrocardiograms (EKGs) performed in the field by emergency medical responders of the Apple Valley Fire Protection District. The EKGs are transmitted from the field to the hospital before the patient arrives in the Emergency Department allowing physicians and nurses to prepare for the patient's exact needs.

St. Mary Medical Center will pilot the EKG pre-hospital transmission project with its community partner, Apple Valley Fire Protection District. The project includes specialty training for the emergency response teams. Key learning will be shared with San Bernardino County with a goal to promote implementation across High Desert emergency responders.

Caption: Michael Page, Director of Government and External Affairs for Verizon, presents a \$55,000 check to St. Mary Medical Center and Apple Valley Fire Protection District staff for the implementation of a CarePoint EMS Workstation that will allow emergency responders to transmit EKGs from the field to the Emergency Department at St. Mary. This will ensure patients receive the right intervention in the timeliest way.

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Established in 1956, St. Mary Medical Center is a 186-bed acute care facility celebrating more than 50 years of healing in the High Desert. St. Mary is home to the High Desert's only comprehensive cardiovascular surgery program. The Medical Center is fully accredited by The Joint Commission.