



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:
Mary Lou Brasee
Visiting Nurse Association
(402) 930-4022 | mbrasee@vnaomaha.org

11th Annual Art & Soup Offers Inaugural Patron Party

Omaha, Neb. (Feb. 5, 2008) – The Visiting Nurse Association (VNA) is entering its 11th year hosting their Art & Soup event, and this year they have added another ingredient to the mix.

This year, Art & Soup will feature a Patron Party the day of the event, Sunday, February 17, from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m. at the Holiday Inn Convention Center. Guests will experience a light meal of three-signature soups prepared by Sage Student Bistro at the Institute for the Culinary Arts, a short presentation on their creation, a chance to meet artists one-on-one and the opportunity to “buy it now” on the silent auction.

Tickets to the Patron Party are \$100 and include admission into Art & Soup, as well. However, seating for this special event is limited, so those interested should make reservations soon.

The actual Art & Soup event begins at 2 p.m. when doors open to the public. All attendees can spend the afternoon sampling soups from 25 local chefs and then voting for their favorite, as well as purchasing original artwork from the 60 different area artists.

Tickets for general admission to Art & Soup are \$45. To purchase tickets to the event in advance, or to make a reservation for the Patron Party visit www.vnaomaha.org or call (402) 930-4021 today.

Proceeds from the event allow VNA to continue providing public health services for children and adults living in Omaha and Council Bluffs homeless shelters. In 2007, VNA shelter nurses provided care to 1,045 children, 1,281 women and 1,917 men totaling 4,243 (unduplicated) individuals served. The number of children living in homeless shelters continues to increase. The increase in the number of homeless children is attributed to abuse and neglect, runaways, abandonment or children experiencing a family crisis.

###

About the Shelter Nursing Program

Nurses visit local Omaha-area homeless shelters to provide health care to children and adults, including health screenings, prenatal education and support, nutrition education, adult and pediatric asthma care, as well as linking individuals to primary health care providers, identifying community resources for families and advocating for the homeless, including frail elderly and immigrant populations. The VNA provides public health nursing to the following shelters: Siena Francis House, Open Door Mission/Lydia House, McAuley Center for Women and Families, Cass Street, The Shelter for Abused Women, Children's Crisis Center, Kids Cottage, Youth Emergency Service, Family Service Shelters and the Stephen Center.

About the Visiting Nurse Association

Established in 1896, the VNA provides home care, IV therapy, hospice, and community health services. VNA cares for all people, especially mothers with infants and the elderly, for whom preventive care is critical. For more than 100 years, VNA remains true to its mission: to foster the dignity and well being of the residents of our community by delivering the highest quality home and community based health care services that provide peace of mind, quality of life, and independence. VNA is accredited by the Joint Commission.