



San Antonio Housing Authority
818 S. Flores St.
San Antonio, TX 78204

News Release

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Contacts: Gavino Ramos, SAHA, (210) 389-7388
Bill Day, Valero, (210) 621-7191

VALERO and SAHA PARTNER TO PROVIDE MUCH-NEEDED SCHOOL SUPPLIES

SAN ANTONIO – Next week is the start of a new school year for many San Antonio children, including those who live at Alazan-Apache Courts. Although the end of their summer vacation is near, more than 600 children and parents enjoyed one last big celebration today at the 7th annual back-to-school fest.

The day was more than just enjoying good food and entertainment – it also provided parents with the opportunity to immunize their children, receive free haircuts, dental screenings and much-needed school supplies.

The event, a partnership between Valero and the San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA), has been a tradition at Alazan-Apache Courts for the last seven years.

“This is an event that Valero volunteers look forward to each year. By providing school supplies for children in the community, we simultaneously can improve their educational experience and help get them excited about going back to school,” says Max Kiesling, a senior manager for transportation analysis and president of the Valero Volunteer Council.

“Valero has come through for the children in this community for many years,” says Alfred Valenzuela, interim CEO/president of SAHA. “They donate all the food, school supplies and backpacks among other items for this event. Not to mention that they provided the funding for the baseball field at Alazan-Apache.”

In addition to Valero, numerous businesses and organizations in the community supported this year’s event. Volunteers from Last Chance Ministry provided countless hours of support by helping organize and execute the event.

Central Med immunized children, dental screenings were provided by Tooth Time Community Outreach and Haircuts from the Heart provided free haircuts. Over 20 businesses and organizations were also on hand to educate attendees on year-round resources available to them as well as providing goodies such as door prizes.

Several mascots entertained attendees throughout the event including the HEB mascot, Buster from VIA and the Spurs Coyote. Several musical acts and a drama show provided additional family-fun.

“This event is a great example of many businesses and organizations working together to help enhance the quality of life for San Antonio residents,” says Valenzuela. “We’re proud to be a part of it.”

“Any opportunity to improve the life of a child is very fulfilling for Valero volunteers,” says Kiesling.

SAHA owns and manages approximately 6,400 public housing units and 3,200 affordable housing units. SAHA also administers nearly 12,000 Section 8 vouchers, all with a \$130 million annual operating budget and more than \$300 million in assets.

Valero Energy Corporation is a Fortune 500 company based in San Antonio with approximately 22,000 employees and 2007 revenues of more than \$95 billion. The company owns and operates 16 refineries throughout the United States, Canada and the Caribbean with a combined throughput capacity of approximately 3.1 million barrels per day, making it the largest refinery in North America. Valero is also one of nation’s largest retail operators with approximately 5,800 retail and branded wholesale outlets in the U.S., Canada and the Caribbean under various brand names including Valero, Diamond Shamrock, Shamrock, Ultramar and Beacon.