



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Ascension St. Vincent's to break ground on new St. Johns County hospital** *Facility to be named 'Ascension St. Vincent's St. Johns County'*

**Jacksonville, Fla.** (December 03, 2020) – Ascension St. Vincent's will break ground on its new hospital in St. Johns County on Friday, December 4. The facility will be located in the northeast quadrant of I-95 and County Road 210, part of a mixed-use development known as Fountains North. The hospital, which is expected to be completed in 2022, will be named Ascension St. Vincent's St. Johns County.

The health system is investing \$115 million and creating approximately 600 new jobs with the investment in the hospital. It will be 150,000 square feet and have 56 beds initially, including 8 ICU beds. The facility will include all of the services a general hospital offers, including but not limited to emergency services, hospitalization, cardiovascular care, orthopedics and musculoskeletal care, general surgical services, laboratory and imaging services, and it will be built to grow right along with the community.

"We're excited to begin physical work on Ascension St. Vincent's St. Johns County, which will be an important addition to the healthcare landscape in the county," said James Machado, regional president of Ascension St. Vincent's Southside and the new hospital in St. Johns County. "Our research has shown that there's a great need for this level of care in the area, and we believe our community deserves to have convenient options for receiving high-quality, compassionate care close to home."

The health system based the location for Ascension St. Vincent's St. Johns County on a data-driven analysis of where hospital services are most needed. According to Claritas Demographics, St. Johns County is the fastest-growing county in Northeast Florida. It is also currently the largest county in Florida with only one acute care hospital. The county also has the second-highest population-to-acute-care-bed ratio in the state, meaning residents are having to leave the county to receive inpatient hospital care too frequently.

The health system will take all appropriate COVID-19 safety precautions at the limited groundbreaking ceremony, including social distancing and universal masking.

Members of the media are invited to join us for the groundbreaking ceremony, which will begin at 10 a.m. on December 4 at the construction site located at 10120 Ce Wilson Road, St. Johns, FL 32259.

As a precaution, members of the media must properly wear a mask and must be prepared to maintain social distance at all times.

To learn more about Ascension St. Vincent's, visit [www.jaxhealth.com](http://www.jaxhealth.com).

**About Ascension St. Vincent's**

Ascension Florida and Gulf Coast includes Ascension St. Vincent's based in Jacksonville, Florida, Ascension Sacred Heart based in Pensacola, Florida, and Ascension Providence in Mobile, Alabama. Ascension Florida and Gulf Coast operates nine hospitals and more than 100 other sites of care, employing more than 13,000 associates. Across the region, Ascension Providence, Ascension Sacred Heart and Ascension St. Vincent's have served North Florida and South Alabama communities for more than 165 years. In fiscal year 2020, Ascension Florida and Gulf Coast provided more than \$237 million in community benefit and care of persons living in poverty. Ascension is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As one of the leading non-profit and Catholic health systems in the U.S., Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. Nationally, Ascension operates more than 2,600 sites of care – including 146 hospitals and more than 50 senior living facilities – in 19 states and the District of Columbia, while providing a variety of services including clinical and network services, venture capital investing, investment management, biomedical engineering, facilities management, risk management, and contracting through Ascension's own group purchasing organization. Visit [www.ascension.org](http://www.ascension.org).

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