



FATHER JOE'S
VILLAGES®

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San Diego International Triathlon Celebrates 25th Anniversary

San Diego, Calif. – It was 25 years ago when the gun sounded for the first San Diego International Triathlon. Since 1983, the sport of triathlon, which got its start in 1974 in San Diego, has grown up around this annual event.

On Sunday, June 29, 2008, when the starting gun sounds at the sold-out event for the 25th time, three people will be standing in the same spot as they were 25 years ago. Rick Kozlowski, event founder, triathlete and owner of KOZ Enterprises, a special events marketing and management company; Bob Babbitt, the Ironman who has participated in all 24 previous San Diego International Triathlons; and Father Joe Carroll, who created the event with Rick to benefit St. Vincent de Paul Village, also celebrating its 25th year.

The San Diego International Triathlon became one of the first fund-raising events for the St. Vincent de Paul Center in 1983 when Rita McNeely of St. Vincent's Ladies Guild introduced her son, Rick Kozlowski, to Father Joe Carroll. Over lunch the three created the San Diego International Triathlon. Since then, more than 30,000 triathletes have participated in an event that is sold out every year and has raised more than a half-million dollars for neighbors in need at Father Joe's Villages.

St. Vincent de Paul Village is a member of Father Joe's Villages, a San Diego-based nonprofit that helps homeless neighbors in need regain their lives through a unique life-changing program that is nationally recognized and modeled for its effectiveness. For more information about Father Joe's Villages and St. Vincent de Paul Village, www.neighbor.org

For more information about the triathlon, visit KOZ Enterprises Special Events Marketing & Management at www.kozenterprises.com.

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