

At a grand opening ceremony in June, the University of the Incarnate Word (UIW) officially dedicated the Bowden Eye Care and Health Center. The center is named for community leader and pioneering educator Artemisia Bowden. The \$8 million, 30,000-square-foot modern public healthcare facility will address the vision care needs of residents on the Eastside of San Antonio and surrounding areas. Patients will be served by eye doctors and interns from UIW's Rosenberg School of Optometry.

The center's focus is providing access to eye care for vulnerable populations, particularly children, the elderly and the uninsured. Patients will be accepted regardless of their ability to pay. The need for the facility is substantial. Only one private optometry office is located on the Eastside, a community of 120,000 residents. In addition, vision-destroying diseases such as diabetes and glaucoma are over-represented in the populations who form the majority of the Eastside and neighboring communities.



UIW President Dr. Louis J. Agnese, Jr., and Dr. Adena Williams Loston, President, St. Philip's College, unveil a plaque dedicated to community leader Artemisia Bowden.