



**For Immediate Release**  
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**SACRAMENTO KINGS LEGEND VLADE DIVAC TO PARTNER WITH  
RIVER OAK CENTER FOR CHILDREN FOR THE BENEFIT OF AT-RISK YOUTH**

SACRAMENTO, March 20, 2009 – Because of their common mission to provide services to the most disadvantaged of children and help them find the path to success, River Oak Center for Children and Sacramento Kings legend Vlade Divac, through his Divac Children’s Foundation/Humanitarian Organization Divac, have joined together to brighten the lives of Sacramento youth who have had a difficult start to life.

On March 29, 2009, Mr. Divac will help kick off the opening of River Oak’s new Youth Development and Education Center’s gym. Mr. Divac will give an inspirational talk to 20 at-risk teens receiving treatment and services at the new facility, followed by a game of basketball. On March 30 Mr. Divac will provide a private room where River Oak children can meet and bowl with current and former Sacramento Kings players – including Divac, Chris Webber, and Peja Stojakovic, among others – as part of the Humanitarian Organization Divac’s Charitabowl fundraiser. Finally, on March 31 twenty River Oak youth will participate in Mr. Divac’s jersey retirement ceremony during half-time at the Kings’ game.

“We are deeply touched by Vlade’s generosity towards our children,” said Mary Hargrave, President and Chief Executive Officer of River Oak. “By taking time out of his busy schedule to meet with our kids and make them feel special, Vlade will make an invaluable impression that will last a lifetime. His personal stories of his own challenges growing up in Serbia and how he has become so successful in life will resonate greatly with our youth, who struggle daily with their behavioral and emotional challenges. We have no doubt that each child who meets Vlade will be moved and inspired by his message of a promising future.”

Since 1966, River Oak Center for Children ([www.riveroak.org](http://www.riveroak.org)) has been a safe place where low-income, ethnically diverse children and youth with emotional and behavioral challenges can heal, grow, and work to realize their dreams. Each year, River Oak helps close to 2,000 at-risk children and families through innovative and research-based mental health and social service programs that guide children to success by helping them build skills necessary to manage life’s challenges. On a daily basis, the agency’s early intervention and prevention, intensive in-home, and outpatient mental health programs touch the lives of 900 children and their families at four sites across the Greater Sacramento area.

Founded by former Sacramento Kings player Vlade Divac, the Divac Children's Foundation is a division of the Humanitarian Organization Divac (HOD) that focuses on children. Its mission is to provide care, education, and a healthy environment for children who suffer from isolation, poverty and displacement, without regard for politics, race, ethnicity or religion. Vlade Divac and his wife also have sponsored basketball camps for underprivileged children around the world and have created a special "You Can Too" program to encourage children to succeed. To learn more about HOD and the special events that will happen in Sacramento March 29-31, please check [www.divac.org](http://www.divac.org).