



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
ASSISTANCE • SHELTER • HOPE

the
VINCENTIAN

Winter/Spring 2011

DID YOU KNOW?
Our Gateway Shelters
serve 20,000 meals
each month.

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A COMMUNITY RESPONDS TO ITS CHALLENGES

For a representation of how current economic conditions are affecting our citizens and how our community is responding with assistance, one needs to look no further than St. Vincent de Paul.

Certainly 2010 was another year of record numbers of those turning to our emergency shelters, supportive housing programs, food pantries, community stores and neighborhood conferences. But, our supporters continued to join with us to meet the needs of their neighbors through financial gifts, in-kind donations and by volunteering. "They tell us they recognize our efficiencies to be good stewards of their gifts and in mobilizing volunteers to compassionately deliver person-to-person assistance to the poor and homeless of our community," said Leigh Sempeles, Executive Director.

We continue to identify ways for our programs to work collaboratively. All of our supportive housing program case managers, providing comprehensive support for their men, women and families, now work together at the St. Vincent DePaul Center, 15 S. St. Clair Street. This new arrangement enables them to work more effectively as a team and share expertise in developing strategy and identifying resources to best assist their clients. And, our curriculum of life skill classes and private personal finance counseling are also at this central location.

We enjoy our role of being a conduit for the community to help the community. By working together through the St. Vincent de Paul Dayton District Council, our staff, board, volunteers and donors collectively served over 100,000 people across the Miami Valley. Together we fed the hungry, sheltered the homeless and put lives on paths to self-sufficiency. What a remarkable accomplishment that is for all of us.

Thank you so much for your part in providing assistance, shelter and hope to those in need.

With your help during 2010:

- Emergency homeless shelters served 3,945 homeless guests including 860 children
- Community Food Pantry provided 271,521 meals to 30,169 people
- Community Store gave at no charge, two changes of clothing, a coat and a pair of shoes to 1,046 clients in our programs including 500 children; and free furniture to 870 households
- Supportive housing programs gave 93 men, 67 women and 105 children, who were formerly homeless, hope for a new life through comprehensive case management and life skills training
- Neighborhood conferences assisted 82,497 people struggling to meet their basic needs

GATEWAY FOR WOMEN & FAMILIES RECEIVING UPDATES

Construction zones will be a common sight through the spring at the St. Vincent de Paul Gateway for Women & Families at 120 W. Apple St. as several areas in the building are being remodeled.

Our project is focused on the renovation of all bath and shower areas, the creation of laundry rooms in both the single women and the family day shelter spaces for guests to do their personal laundry, and the addition of a new program room.

The program room will be utilized by the shelter's guests participating in tutoring programs and life skills training, and also to meet with partner agencies who can assist them with their needs.



FROM THE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends,

We have eight Core Values to which all of us at St. Vincent de Paul adhere and display in our daily actions with clients, volunteers and staff. Because our Core Values are so defining of who we are, beginning with this edition of the Vincencian I will be focusing on each of them through an eight-part series.

As a provider of assistance to some of our community's most downtrodden members, our Core Value of **RESPECT** is so important to those seeking our help. Whether they are experiencing a short-term crisis or have lived a lifetime of poverty, our clients' journeys have often made them feel demoralized, angry and/or hopeless. At St. Vincent de Paul, we believe that everyone has value as a child of God and should be treated with the dignity we all deserve.

At the Gateway Shelters, our staff and volunteers treat our guests with the highest regard. Through their words and actions, they demonstrate that all of us choose to serve at St. Vincent de Paul because we believe our guests have worth and value to our community — regardless of their current status. And, the clients in our supportive housing programs learn to not only respect themselves, but to exhibit to others that same respect they desire.

Thank you for all you do to enable us to show God's love and mercy.

Sincerely,

Leigh
Leigh Sempeles
Executive Director

CORE VALUES

RESPECT

Demonstrated by the belief that all people have dignity because they are children of God

EMPOWERMENT

Demonstrated by helping people be and become their best

TOLERANCE

Demonstrated by sympathy for and indulgence of beliefs or practices differing from or conflicting with our own

STEWARDSHIP

Demonstrated by prudent use of all resources, respecting the wishes of donors

SPIRITUALITY

Demonstrated by our faith in God, hope for our future, and love of all people

COMPASSION

Demonstrated by empathy, understanding, and ministries of hospitality

ADVOCACY

Demonstrated by support for issues affecting those who are homeless or in poverty

COLLABORATION

Demonstrated by partnering with organizations that share and complement our mission

DLM GOOD NEIGHBOR CLUB

Thanks to all of you who have enrolled in Dorothy Lane Market's "Good Neighbor Club" on behalf of St. Vincent de Paul. This program raises a significant amount of funds for our special works, as DLM rebates a percentage of the purchases. If you shop at Dorothy Lane Market, please be sure to enroll in the program for 2011 and select St. Vincent de Paul as your designated nonprofit organization. Even if you were enrolled for 2010, you must re-enroll for 2011.

St. Vincent de Paul Hotel's Good Neighbor Club number is #378.



VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM

St. Vincent de Paul accepts donations of most cars, trucks, vans, fleet vehicles, trailers, boats, motorcycles and RVs — even if they don't run. Proceeds from the sale of the vehicles directly support our programs and services. Donating is quick and easy. Just call (937) 222-5555 or complete the donation form on our website, at www.stvincentdayton.org.

Our team will make all the arrangements and pick up your vehicle, typically within 24 hours.

BEDS AND MATTRESSES NEEDED

The Vincentian volunteers who are members of our network of 35 conferences often find their clients, who reside in homes and apartments, are in need of basic household items. The most challenging of those for us to fulfill are their requests for complete beds (mattresses, box springs and frames), especially twin- and full-size.

Some may have a couch or a table, but there are many who have no furniture at all and are sleeping and eating on the floor. Twin- and full-size beds are most needed because clients are generally in older homes which have much smaller bedrooms and narrower staircases than those constructed in the last 50 years.



We have been so blessed by recent large donations received from the University of Dayton Residence Halls, the Hope Hotel located on WPAFB and the Comfort Inn and Suites on Yankee Road. All were undergoing renovations and contacted St. Vincent de Paul to arrange for donations of the beds, linens, dressers, desks and chairs they were replacing.

We also have a resource from where we can purchase refurbished mattresses and box springs with bed frames at a cost of \$91 for twin sets and \$103 for full-size. However, our budget funding for this program is limited.

State law requires that we treat all donated furniture, including mattresses, with Steri-fab, a disinfectant effective against odor causing bacteria as well as insects, fungus, mold and mildew. Once treated by our trained staff, the furniture is then tagged which assures our clients that their furniture has been sanitized and that we are in compliance with the Ohio Department of Commerce.

Our current wait list contains requests for 150 beds and mattresses — 50 twin and 100 full.

If you have beds or any other furniture you can donate please call us at (937) 222-5555 or visit www.stvincentdayton.org to arrange for a free pick-up or bring your donation to our Community Store at 945 S. Edwin C. Moses Blvd. We also appreciate our supporters' help in advocating for us and sharing our needs with anyone you know who can help us in providing assistance, shelter and hope.

SPECIAL WORKS

A DAY IN THE LIFE AT A GATEWAY SHELTER

There is no typical day for those serving the homeless population at St. Vincent de Paul. With an ever-changing guest list, meal plans adjusting based on donated foods, and the assortment of volunteers that assist us each day — flexibility is the key to success. And, we are blessed with a wonderful, patient and resilient staff at both shelters who work each day to make our operations run seamlessly.

So that you may gain a sense of the flow throughout their day, we've composed a timeline of a recent weekday at the St. Vincent de Paul Gateway for Women & Families at 120 W. Apple Street.

6:00 AM

Guests begin rising and making their beds and breakfast service begins. School busses begin arriving and taking children to the school in which they were enrolled before their family became homeless. Other guests begin leaving for school, work or appointments and are provided with a sack lunch if requested.

7:00 AM

Linens are gathered and taken to the laundry room and the housekeeping staff begins the day by cleaning the sleeping areas and shower areas.

7:30 AM

Volunteers begin arriving to sort donations, launder towels and bedding, prep for meals and tend to guest needs at the reception desk.

8:30 AM

Homefull's housing-focused case managers begin the days' appointments working with guests to assist them in finding suitable housing.

10:00 AM

A transport van leaves to take lunch supplies and requested linens and clothing for our single male guests at the Gettysburg Gateway for Men. The Gettysburg Gateway has only a warming kitchen so all meals are prepared and delivered twice daily to their site.

10:30 AM

Volunteers arrive to serve lunch at 11:00 AM to the single women and at noon to the families who are remaining on site that day in the day shelter spaces.

1:00 PM

A steady stream of volunteers continues coming and going through out the day. Restocking pantry shelves, sorting donated personal care items, answering the phones and providing mail and messages to guests are among the many services they provide.

2:30 PM

Children begin arriving from school and rejoining their families.

4:00 PM

That evening's volunteer dinner team arrives to serve the guests. Tonight's group arrives with chicken casseroles, mashed potatoes,



DID YOU KNOW?

Operation efficiencies and in-kind donations have reduced the cost to shelter and feed a guest to \$16.38 per day.



salad and fresh fruit. Wright State University Conference Members and a professional teacher arrive to tutor school children in a structured program that is open Monday–Thursday during the school year.

5:00 PM

Dinner is served to families and then to the single women at 7:00 PM.

6:00 PM

The transport van makes a second trip to the Gettysburg Gateway for Men to deliver the evening meal and any other requested supplies.

7:00 PM

Nightly showers begin with towels, washcloths and needed personal care items given to guests. While waiting their turn, other guests enjoy games, TV, reading and conversation.

9:00 PM

Lights out for both the family and single women sleeping areas. Guests who wish to stay up later may do so in the upstairs lounge areas. Housekeeping finishes their day by cleaning the day shelter areas downstairs. Guest Attendants remain on duty throughout the night to attend to guests' needs including medications, diapers or a friendly word. They are also there to greet and provide late meals to guests arriving later from work or night school.



BED & BREAKFAST PROGRAM

We know the adjacent story of a “Day in the Life” is of particular interest to a special group of our donors — members of the Bed & Breakfast Program.

Bed & Breakfast donors make regular donations throughout the year to support our emergency shelter programs for the homeless people who turn to St. Vincent de Paul in their time of need. Through a monthly envelope or EFT program, they make ongoing donations throughout the year so that our guests have a clean, safe place to sleep, can take a warm shower, do their laundry and receive regular meals.

“Many of the Bed & Breakfast Program donors tell me they love this program because each time they make their gift to provide basic necessities to someone else, it gives them the opportunity to reflect on how blessed their own lives are,” said Terry Williamson, Development Programs Manager.

If you would like to become a member of the Bed & Breakfast Program, please contact Terry at (937) 222-7349, ext. 419, twilliamson@stvincentdayton.org.

SHEETS, TOWELS & BEYOND

Sheets and towels are a never-ending need for the Gateway Shelters. And, we do everything we can to communicate our need for these an in-kind donations — new or used — saving us the expense of purchasing. The University of Dayton annually asks fans to “Throw in the Towel” at a men’s basketball game, and MIX 107.7 and LITE 99.9 regularly ask listeners to donate a specific item each month to us and promotes our need for sheets and towels.

Marc Flory, Operations Manager for the Gettysburg Gateway for Men recently began contacting area hotels and motels. “I approached them with the philosophy that our operations are quite similar and we would be grateful to receive sheets, towels and other items they may be replacing that have become overly worn for their guests,” said Marc. “I was overjoyed when one day four box trucks from Homewood Suites arrived loaded with sheets, pillowcases, bedspreads, mattress covers, towels, wash cloths and shower curtains. And, the Marriott on Patterson drops off donations on a monthly basis.”

For donation details, see our Wish List on page 7.

SUCCESS STORY

OZANAM SOCIETY

If you are considering including St. Vincent de Paul in your estate plans, please contact us so that we may be aware of your plans and document your wishes. It would be our honor to be included in your legacy. Our official name, for insertion in your will or as a beneficiary of life insurance policies or other financial instruments, is St. Vincent de Paul Society, District Council of Dayton, Ohio, Inc.

We have just introduced the Ozanam Society, named for our Society's founder Frederic Ozanam. St. Vincent de Paul's Ozanam Society honors those who have included St. Vincent de Paul Dayton in their estate plans. In addition, we have established a partnership with The Dayton Foundation to provide legal and financial expertise to assist our donors in developing their estate plans.

To share your legacy gift plans with us, please contact Lisa Glandon, Director of Development & Marketing, at (937) 222-7349 ext. 411 or at lglandon@stvincentdayton.org.

DID YOU KNOW?

One in seven Americans live below the poverty level.

2009 US Census

HEALTHY BODIES BUILD HEALTHY MINDS

Physical exercise provides as much benefit to our brain as it does for our heart and muscles. When done properly, aerobic activity and weight lifting improves our thought process, our memory, our mood and our confidence. Clients at St. Vincent de Paul's Safe Haven housing program for men with mental health diagnoses are experiencing that firsthand by participating in a weekly exercise program at the YMCA.

Once a week, on Wednesday afternoons, the men work out at the Y and enjoy pumping iron, swimming and basketball. "Socialization is also an important benefit of our workouts," said Mike Goebel, LSW, LCDC III, Safe Haven's Program Manager. "Being invited by others to join them in a pick-up game of basketball or to spot someone while they are lifting weights, is especially meaningful to men whose illnesses have often isolated them from traditional male bonding activities."

One of the program objectives is for the clients to take the motivation and discipline gained from exercise and apply it to other areas of their comprehensive case management program including maintaining their shared residence, taking their medications on schedule and completing career training goals.

The men would like to be able to add bicycling to their exercise program. If you can donate a bicycle for an adult male, please contact Mike Goebel at (937) 277-9610.

SUCCESS FOR PETER

For "Peter," simply building the courage to come inside the Gettysburg Gateway for Men was something he could not do. His childhood had consisted of foster homes where he was subjected to continual abuse. Stability, safety and nurturing were absent from his life. Mental health issues deepened his despair and hampered his ability to seek help. Alcohol, cocaine and heroin were his escape and methods of self-medication. Suicidal and fearful of others, he lived in a field until an outreach worker convinced him to at least visit St. Vincent de Paul's Safe Haven. After visiting the program and meeting staff, he agreed to try the program.

St. Vincent de Paul's Safe Haven program offers supportive housing for up to 13 homeless men who have mental health diagnoses and who are referred by outreach

workers or the Gettysburg Gateway for Men. Program clients receive housing in a residential environment, comprehensive case management and training in life skills.

Social workers utilized the harm-reduction model and Peter is successfully maintaining his recovery from his drug addictions and has significantly cut back on his use of alcohol. He has established new goals with his case manager including full-time employment, getting back into shape and continuing to cut back on his use of alcohol. His latest accomplishment is passing the placement test and being accepted at Sinclair Community College. Peter has achieved many milestones on his journey towards being an engaged and contributing member of our community. St. Vincent de Paul and his Safe Haven family are proud to spotlight Peter and his success.

ONLINE REGISTRATION OPEN FOR 4TH ANNUAL FRIENDS OF THE POOR® WALK

Planning is now underway for our annual Friends of the Poor® Walk to take place on Saturday, September 24. Last year, \$54,000 was raised by sponsors and over 600 walkers for St. Vincent de Paul's local emergency shelters, supportive housing programs, community store, food pantries and network of neighborhood conferences. Our goal this year is to raise \$100,000.

Online registration is now available on our website, www.stvincentdayton.org/walk. By registering online, you can send e-vites to friends and family members to sponsor your walk and offer them the option of paying via credit card.

“St. Vincent de Paul’s 3.5K stroll along the Great Miami River is a fun, family-friendly way for school, church and work groups and individuals to join together to raise funds and awareness for a great organization in our community that annually serves over 100,000 people in need,” says 2011 Walk Chair, Christine Rauch.

Teams that raise \$500 or more and turn their dollars in by Friday, September 10 will be recognized at the event by emcee K99’s Nancy Wilson and with a placard along the walkway. Sponsorship packages ranging from \$500 to \$1,000 are available through Terry Williamson, Development Programs Manager, (937) 222-7349, ext. 411.



WISH LIST

St. Vincent de Paul’s Special Works programs serve a wide variety of needs as we offer assistance, shelter and hope. The high-priority items listed here are things that are always needed, but often in short supply.

Donations can be dropped off at:

- The St. Vincent de Paul Gateway for Women & Families
120 W. Apple Street
- The St. Vincent de Paul Community Store
945 S. Edwin C. Moses Blvd.

Donated items will be routed to the program sites where the need is greatest. You may also call us at (937) 222-5555 to arrange for a pick up.

More extensive wish lists for each of our Special Works programs are available on our website, at www.stvincentdayton.org.

- Apple/orange juice
- Breakfast cereal
- Butter
- Cheese
- Cleaning supplies, cooking pans, dishes, glassware and silverware (for welcome baskets provided to guests moving into housing)
- Coffee
- Deodorant (especially large spray cans for men)
- Dinette sets
- Dressers and chests
- Fresh fruit/vegetables
- Laundry detergent
- Mattresses, box springs and bed frames (twin and full sizes)
- Socks, pants, shoes and undergarments (especially men’s larger sizes)
- Non-prescription medications including aspirin, acetaminophen, ibuprofen and antacid
- Pajamas, men’s/women’s/children’s
- Paper towels/napkins, paper cups, plates and plastic flatware
- Razors, men’s/women’s
- Sheet sets (especially twin, twin extra long and full) and pillowcases
- Toothbrushes/toothpaste
- Towels

St. Vincent de Paul, Dayton — Administrative Office
1133 S. Edwin C. Moses Blvd., Suite 300
Dayton, Ohio 45417
(937) 222-7349

St. Vincent de Paul Gateway Shelters Office
120 W. Apple St., Dayton, Ohio 45402
(937) 461-7837

St. Vincent de Paul Center
(937) 222-3661

St. Vincent de Paul Transitional Housing
(937) 222-1869

St. Vincent de Paul Kettering Commons
(937) 630-3950

St. Vincent de Paul Safe Haven
(937) 277-9610

St. Vincent de Paul Community Food Pantry
(937) 630-3940

**St. Vincent de Paul Community Store
and Deconstruction Depot**
945 S. Edwin C. Moses Blvd., Dayton, Ohio 45417
9:30 a.m.–5:30 p.m. Mon.–Fri. | 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Sat.
Store: (937) 222-7795
Office: (937) 630-3940
Schedule a Pick-up: (937) 222-5555

www.stvincentdayton.org

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**St. Vincent de Paul, Dayton District Council
Privacy Statement**

Your privacy is very important to us. We do not sell, rent, loan, or in any other way share your personal information with anyone.

Mission of the St. Vincent de Paul, Dayton District Council

Inspired by Gospel values, the members and staff of the Dayton District Council, through its Conferences and Special Works, grow in spirituality by providing person-to-person emergency assistance and supportive services to the poor, homeless and unemployed populations of our community, as well as to people who need assistance during unexpected life crises.



- WALK—SEPTEMBER 24
 - FRIENDS OF THE POOR
 - SAFE HAVEN SUCCESSSES
 - GATEWAY SHELTER
 - A DAY IN THE LIFE AT
- INSIDE:**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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