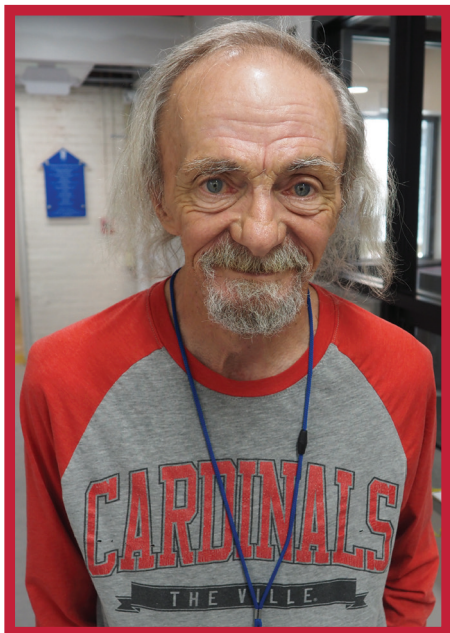


The Good Samaritan

A Veteran's Redemption: "From Where I Was to Where I Am Now"



To this day, Kenny Snow still talks to his Navy shipmates.

"The Navy was great. It was the wildest experience I've ever had in my life. I learned so much and I got to see the world," said Snow, now 67 years old. "I loved every minute of it. The comradery. The ship I was on for six years."

In the Navy from 1981 to 1988, Snow traveled to Australia, Singapore, Thailand, Korea, Hawaii, and the Philippines. He oversaw ship-to-ship and ship-to-shore communications across the Indian and Pacific Oceans. His ship was called the USS Flint (AE-32) (see photo).

After the Navy, Snow married and moved to Louisville in 1999 because his wife's father became sick. During this time, Snow held jobs at the Galt House, Marriott, and was a security guard for 15 years at Churchill Downs (leaving after physical challenges).

After nearly two decades together, his wife was unfaithful. The judge awarded the house and car to her. Snow was blindsided and became homeless for the first time. He spiraled into depression and drugs.

"I had nothing," Snow added. "I slept under the bridge by Wayside for a little over two months. It was scary. I never experienced anything like that and don't ever want to again."

Following a brief stint back in his hometown in Kansas, Snow called Veterans Affairs (VA) to return to Louisville. They told him there was a bed available with us.

In Feb. 2024, Snow started in our Veterans Transitional Housing Program, where we provide 20 beds for Veterans in private rooms inside Ozanam Inn Men's Emergency Shelter. Through our Mental Health & Substance Use Program, Snow also received counseling.

"It was a Godsend getting into St. Vincent de Paul. It got me back on the right track. At that time, I was depressed from the divorce," he said.

A few months later, Snow was able to move into a studio apartment with a balcony, only a block and a half from our Shelby Park Campus. The VA helps pay a portion of his rent. He enjoys sitting outside and watching Ohio State Buckeyes football on his big screen TV.

At the beginning of this year, Snow was hired as an Ozanam Inn Program Aide.

"It was a beautiful moment. It was me giving back. Every time I go down to that basement, it reminds me of where I was to where I am now."

"It's a gift having Kenny on staff at Ozanam Inn. His commitment to the mission is infectious, and he's always working to make the shelter a better place to stay for the residents. Kenny uses his lived experience to make tangible improvements for the program," added Sam Schreier, former Ozanam Inn Sr. Program Manager.

Snow says he loves serving our clients.

"Forty years ago, I wouldn't have thought about doing anything like this,"

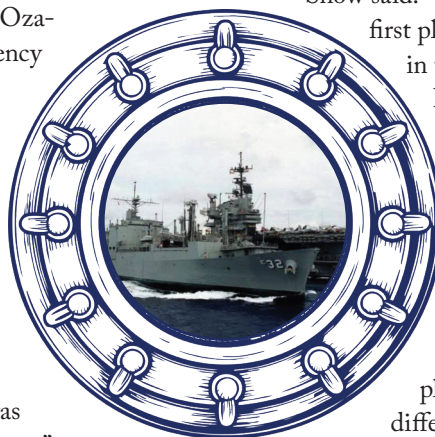
Snow said. "It was being here in the first place that got me started in this direction to where

I am now because I learned so much when I was here. I learned responsibility and how to help people. That's the most important thing."

Snow believes this place makes a lasting difference in the community.

"This is the number one facility in the city, and has the possibility to be the number one facility in the state. We've got work to do, but we're getting there," Snow added.

The Veterans Transitional Housing Program has served 40 men ranging from 25 to over 65 years old (see graphic below).



★ Our Commitment to Veterans: Serving Those Who Served Us ★

Stats for Oct. 1, 2024 - May 31, 2025



Veterans served in our Veterans Transitional Housing Program



counseling to 39 Veterans, including two weekly Veterans counseling groups



of Veterans exited from transitional to positive housing destinations



meals offered daily to Veterans on our campus



St. Vincent
de Paul

LOUISVILLE

svdplou.org

The Good Samaritan

The monthly newsletter of
St. Vincent de Paul Louisville

Send correspondence to PO Box 17126,
Louisville, KY 40217-0126

Visit us at 1015-C South Preston Street,
Louisville, KY 40203-2733

Jennifer Clark
CEO & Executive Director

Pam Evans
Sr. Director of Advancement
and Community Relations
pevans@svdplou.org

Tony Nochim
Communications & Public Relations
Coordinator

Send comments and change
of address notifications to
tnochim@svdplou.org

Our Mission

We house, feed, and support those in
need with compassion and dignity.

Support SVDP

To find out more about our work or
make a donation, visit our website.

svdplou.org



[svdplouky](https://www.facebook.com/svdplouky)

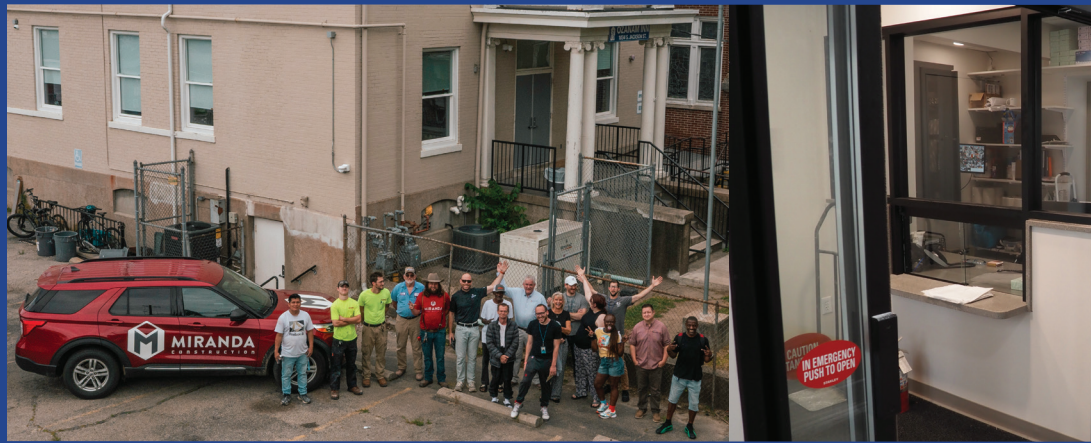


[svdplouky](https://www.instagram.com/svdplouky)



St. Vincent de Paul Louisville

MISSION ACCOMPLISHED: "Seeing where



A shelter is more than a stepping stone. It should be a place that puts you on the right path and reintegrates you into the fabric of society.

With major renovations now complete at Ozanam Inn Men's Emergency Shelter, it offers a more accommodating space for those we serve.

"In Louisville, we believe that every individual deserves dignity, safety, and a place to call home. Providing secure and compassionate shelters is not just about offering a roof, it's about creating pathways to stability, opportunity, and hope. Thank you to St. Vincent de Paul for their commitment to ensure that our city remains a place where empathy and action go hand in hand in serving people who need us the most."

—Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg

With the help of a grant from Louisville's American Rescue Plan Funds (ARP), city officials allocated \$2.1 million to us for major repairs at Ozanam Inn. We partnered with Miranda Construction to complete this project.

"Community has always been one of the core values of Miranda Construction, and we believe everyone in our Louisville

community deserves a place that feels safe, dignified, and welcoming," said Patrick Jacobi, Superintendent at Miranda Construction. "It was an honor to help bring that vision to life at St. Vincent de Paul's Ozanam Inn, supporting their mission to uplift and care for our unhoused neighbors in Louisville."

The 24/7 facility boasts an all-new design, necessary electrical upgrades, additional dorms and private rooms, new bathrooms, showers, and windows, including an improved entry way with an accessible ramp and safer security check-in.

"Seeing where we started to what it is now is amazing," Jacobi added. "I have witnessed how the staff handles situations, especially during the high tension of construction, and they have done phenomenal to keep the needs of residents above our own, but able to maintain a safe and productive workspace. There have been tough times during this construc-

New
Plumbing



Accessible
Ramp



New
Windows



re we started to what it is now is amazing"



tion, but I feel everyone was willing to work with us to lift this place up and get it into a much better living condition."

Ozanam Inn has 40 emergency shelter beds for single men, often those who have experienced chronic homelessness, and 20 private rooms for Veterans in our Veterans Transitional Housing Program.

Electrical Upgrades



As a resident in our VA Program, Mark arrived at Ozanam Inn in Jan. 2024

shortly after his wife of 27 years passed away (see photo below).

With the loss of her disability income, Mark tried to work two jobs to keep up with the bills. He was eventually evicted.

The 69-year-old is thankful for the little things.

"There have been a lot of upgrades like plumbing, wiring, the Wi-Fi system, and more security cameras," said Mark, who served in the Army as a military police officer. "They put in water fountains that also fill up water bottles. It's great."

Over 40 years ago, Ozanam Inn opened in the former St. Paul School building, when it was gifted to us. It has three floors dedicated to housing men, whether in a congregate setting or private rooms. There are shared restrooms and free laundry facilities.

"The transformation of Ozanam Inn has been about more than just design, it's been about creating a safe, secure, and dignified space for our Louisville neighbors lacking permanent housing," said Chris Manzo, AIA, founder and principal of design firm SNDBX. "Through thoughtful planning and continuous collaboration, we've worked to build something lasting that will serve SVDP's mission and the residents of Ozanam Inn for decades to come."



UPCOMING EVENTS at ST. VINCENT DE PAUL LOUISVILLE

SAVE
THE
DATE



You're Invited! National Assembly

August 27 - 30

Give for Good

September 18

Clubs & Cocktails

September 21 and 23

Our thanks to
Louisville Metro
Government for
their support



SVDP Monthly Podcast

This podcast shares stories of people, partners, and programs in the Louisville community and across the country who care about our mission. You can watch or listen today at www.svdplou.org/svdp-podcast



Save the Date
Clubs & Cocktails



Honoring Heritage, Embracing Change



Photo Courtesy of SVDP National

For the first time in 16 years, we are the host city for the SVDP National Assembly. It is an incredible opportunity to gather with nearly 1,000 SVDP Conference Members nationwide for fun, fellowship, and formation.

"I'm so excited to join Vincentians from across the country for our National Assembly in Louisville," said

Michael J. Acaldo, Chief Executive Officer of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul USA. "Friendship is a core pillar of our Vincentian spirituality, and the Assembly is a phenomenal opportunity to deepen those connections—both old and new—while growing together in faith and service."

The 2025 National Assembly is from Wednesday, Aug. 27 to Saturday, Aug. 30. The theme is "Honoring Heritage ... Embracing Change" and focuses on the SVDP Conferences' charism of spirituality, friendship, and service.

To register, you can scan the QR code or visit <https://ssvpusa.org/national-assembly/>. Pricing varies.

"I am thrilled, honored, and blessed to welcome Vincentians from across the nation to Louisville for the 2025 National Assembly. This will be our fifth time hosting since 1897,"

said David Neill, Louisville's SVDP Conference President.

The National Assembly will include a powerful lineup of nationally-known keynote speakers, workshops, a spiritual retreat with Archbishop Bellisario of the Archdiocese of Anchorage-Juneau, the Host City Event at the Muhammad Ali Center, and more.

Speakers include Author Greg Colburn of "Homelessness is a Housing Problem," Dr. Andrew Abela, and Author Stephanie Land of "Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother's Will to Survive."



Nicky Peck joins SVDP Team as Volunteer Engagement Coordinator

We are excited to announce that Nicky Peck is our new Volunteer Engagement Coordinator.

"I'm thrilled to welcome Nicky to SVDP Louisville. Her passion for our mission and excitement to help others is contagious," said Pam Evans, Sr. Director of Advancement.

A 2024 graduate of Bellarmine University, Peck has recently returned to Louisville from Cincinnati, where she worked as

the Formation and Service Learning Coordinator at SVDP – Cincinnati. Prior to that, she served in Bellarmine's Campus Ministry Office and interned for Sister Visitor Center in the Portland neighborhood.

"I really wanted to do social justice work because it's a huge part of my faith identity," Peck said. "I studied theology in college and that degree was all about the intersection of faith and justice ... I think our faith life calls us to a radical way of reimagining the world in which we see every single person as our neighbor."

If you would like to check out our individual or group volunteer opportunities,

visit www.svdplou.org/volunteer. You may contact Peck directly at npeck@svdplou.org or (502) 301-8685.

Our Mission

We house, feed, and support those in need with compassion and dignity.

