

GOOD SAMARITAN

St. Vincent de Paul | Louisville, KY

www.svdplou.org

January | 2013

Case Managers Encourage Client Success



SVDP Staffing Changes and New Hires: Shown here in front of SVDP Homes' Family Apartments are (left to right): David Tarullo, Harrison Swadley, James Fitzpatrick, Robin Wickham (seated), Leah Campbell, Paula Wolf, and Cory Bledsoe. (Read their bios on the back page.)

In the past year since completing a campus expansion, St. Vincent de Paul has welcomed 54 new households into apartments for families and individuals. In an effort to better serve those new and existing clients, staffing changes and two new hires were recently announced.

Cory Bledsoe was named director of programs. On staff since 2008, he had previously served as associate director

of programs and as program manager for Ozanam Inn men's homeless shelter. "Cory brings a unique blend of business acumen and a deeply personal commitment to serving those in need," says Ed Wnorowski, SVDP's executive director.

Case manager David Tarullo replaced Bledsoe as program manager at the men's shelter, and Harrison Swadley, a former part-time program aide at the shelter, was

promoted to a full-time case manager.

In addition, case manager James Fitzpatrick, who has worked at the shelter for eight years, acquired the additional responsibility of supervising the shelter's program aides.

Two women were hired to work with the clients in St. Vincent de Paul Homes' 20 new family housing units.

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*St. Vincent de Paul
Extends A Heartfelt
'Thank You' To Everyone
Who Helped In Any
Way With Our 2012
Christmas Outreach.*

*Have A Happy New Year
in 2013!*



For Seventh Consecutive Year, SVDP Assists in Giving Away Thousands of Donated Coats



A young mother was grateful to receive free coats for her children, including Gabriel (red hat), who was celebrating his 5th birthday.

Makenzie's Coat Closet, in partnership with St. Vincent de Paul, held a free coat giveaway several weeks ago at the Open Hand Kitchen.

For the past seven years, Makenzie Smith, now 13, has collected and given away more than 10,000 coats to men, women and children in need.

This year, Makenzie and her team collected 3,205 coats. As in previous years, her family enlisted SVDP to help distribute the coats to the poor and homeless in our community.

In addition to SVDP clients receiving coats, representatives from other local homeless shelters, social service agencies, and public schools were invited choose coats for their clients. The event was also open to the public.

Thanks to Makenzie's parents, Kevin and Carrie Smith, and the entire Smith family for their inspiring ministry to the poor and homeless!

Upcoming Events

Attention, Vincentians!

- If you have not yet registered for this month's Ozanam Orientation, please do so today.

The training is scheduled for 9am to 1pm Saturday, **Jan. 12** at SVDP's Administration Building, 1015-C S. Preston St., Louisville, KY 40203.

- Next month, new Vincentians will be inducted in a ceremony on Sunday, **Feb. 10** at St. Patrick Church, 1000 N. Beckley Station Road, Louisville, KY 40243.

A Mass will begin at 11am, followed by brunch.

For more information and to register for the orientation, please contact Donna Young at (502) 301-8682 or dyoung@svdplou.org.



Preparations Pay Off for 16th Santa Shop

St. Vincent de Paul's 16th annual Santa Shop was a festive and meaningful highlight of the recent holidays. More than 200 volunteers showed up to assist at the Sunday afternoon event in the Open Hand Kitchen.

Hundreds of children received free Christmas gifts from among the thousands of toys, clothing items, accessories and stocking stuffers that were donated by businesses, individuals, churches and schools.

Parents from more than 300 families in need were invited to come to the event and select items for their children at no cost. Wrapping paper was also included so that the mothers and dads could wrap the Christmas presents themselves.

A new floor plan and overhead signage helped improve efficiency of this year's Santa Shop, as the shoppers and their "elves" (volunteer helpers) threaded their way through the bustling Open Hand Kitchen.

Special thanks, as always, to long-time Santa Shop coordinator and volunteer Paul Carmony and to SVDP board member Dick Scherrer for their countless hours of hard work in organizing this happy celebration of the season.



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Cory Bledsoe
Director of Programs

Previous Position:
SVDP Assistant
Director of Programs,
Program Manager
Ozanam Inn

Education:
Bachelor's degree in
Sports Management,
University of West
Georgia

Currently pursuing
a Master's degree
in Communications
and Nonprofit
Management at
Spalding University



David Tarullo
Ozanam Inn
Program Manager

Previous Position:
Case Manager,
Ozanam Inn

Education:
Graduate Student
and Bachelor's
degree, University of
Louisville Kent School
of Social Work



Harrison Swadley
Case Manager,
Ozanam Inn

Previous Position:
Program Aide,
Ozanam Inn

Education:
Bachelor's degree in
Christian Studies
North Greenville
University, South
Carolina

Currently a graduate
student at Southern
Baptist Theological
Seminary



James Fitzpatrick
Case Manager and
Program Aides
Coordinator
Ozanam Inn

Previous Position:
Case Manager,
Ozanam Inn

Education:
Bachelor's degree in
Psychology,
Tennessee State
University, Nashville



Leah Campbell
Program Manager,
SVDP Homes
Family and Children
Services

Previous Experience:
Attorney; Education,
Nonprofit
Administration,
Operations Analysis

Education:
Bachelor's degree in
Linguistics and
Cognitive Science
(double major),
Macalester College

J.D. from University
of Louisville



Robin Wickham
Program Manager,
DePaul Apartments,
Case Manager for
Tranquil House and
SVDP Homes' 1-BR
Apartments

Part-time Events
Coordinator for SVDP
Development Dept.

Education:
Bachelor's degree in
English,
University of Louisville



Paula Wolf
Case Manager, SVDP
Homes/Families

Previous Experience:
Volunteer at Jefferson
County Public
Schools' Youth
Services Center

Education:
Bachelor's degree
in Biology, Western
Kentucky University
Master's degree in
Microbiology,
University of North
Carolina, Charlotte

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Leah Campbell, an attorney, has begun managing family and children's services and developing programs and enrichment experiences for the parents and children in the family apartments.

Assisting her is Paula Wolf, who is using her extensive contacts in the community to help build partnerships that support new initiatives for families, especially the children.

Robin Wickham, program manager for DePaul Family Apartments, will continue to serve as a case manager for Tranquil House and SVDP Homes' 1-bedroom apartments. She will also join SVDP's development department in a new role as part-time events coordinator.

"We have a diverse group of talented people who, as a team, bring valuable perspective and experience to St. Vincent de Paul,"

says Nancy Naughton, SVDP's associate executive director.

"All have a strong passion to help others."

With the major campus expansion, the nightly population of our campus has increased to 300 individuals, including 60 children. These men, women, and children require varying levels of coaching and support.

Case management is at the heart of our services to help people achieve independence.

It is a rewarding but complex task to effectively case manage adults who are struggling to overcome extreme poverty, homelessness and other barriers to self-sufficiency.

Although SVDP's case managers always remain compassionate toward clients, these skilled professionals must also enforce rules

and responsibilities. In addition, they must hold clients accountable for meeting goals and objectives as outlined in each client's case management plan.

For families as well as clients in our shelters and other supportive housing programs, case managers offer resources and encourage clients to pursue higher education, develop skills, or advance their careers.

The ultimate goal after stabilizing homeless clients is to present them with opportunities for growth and personal fulfillment as they work toward sustainable financial independence beyond St. Vincent de Paul.

Do you have an idea for a class or a program that might benefit our clients? We'd love to hear from you! Call us at (502) 584-2480.