



# GOOD SAMARITAN

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL | LOUISVILLE



August | 2014

www.svdplou.org

## Array of Services for the Poor Continues to Grow SVDP Adds Community Food Pantry to Campus

Client demand exceeded expectations in the first weeks of opening St. Vincent de Paul's new Food Pantry. The facility, housed in a former garage and warehouse in the southern half of the campus between the alleyway and South Preston Street, serves our existing clients as well as the homeless and residents in the surrounding Smoketown and Shelby Park areas.

Emergency food assistance as well as limited regular monthly groceries are available to patrons, who must sign in and provide basic information. Volunteers who staff the Food Pantry assist each person who comes through the pantry, helping them fill their shopping cart with a certain number of items from each category of goods, such as canned fruits and vegetables, peanut butter, pasta and dried goods, fresh produce when it is available, and frozen meats, poultry and bread items.

Dare to Care is a partner in the Food Pantry and makes regular food deliveries throughout the month.



Chuck Peters and his son, Eric, are the lead volunteers for our pantry project. A core group also includes SVDP board member Scott Haner and his wife, JoAnn, Jim Queenan, Ken Kirn, and SVDP staff members Robin Wickham and Donna Young.

Currently, the Food Pantry is open Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9am to noon, but hours will gradually increase to be open more days of the week.

Still, with these limited times, Chuck Peters estimates we will have served about 400 people since opening on July 1. Thank you to everyone who helped get this much-needed resource up and running!

*Top, from left: Eric and Chuck Peters, Robin Wickham, Scott Haner, Donna Young, Ken Kirn, JoAnn Haner and Jim Queenan. At left: A woman from the community shops for groceries. "I'm really glad this is here," she says. "It will help us a lot."*



## Learning and Recreation Enhance Summer Program

More than 20 school-aged children participated in St. Vincent de Paul's 2014 summer enrichment program, which began in mid-June and ended in late July.

Two master's-level teachers helped keep their academic skills sharp with classroom work tailored to their needs, as well as frequent visits to the Louisville Free Public Library, for reinforcement in reading.

Youth and young-adult groups led fun activities such as drama, games and sports, music and cooking. Teachers focused on reinforcing good manners, etiquette and social skills in the children, and addressed issues such as conflict resolution.

Among the volunteer groups helping out: St. Gabriel Youth Ministry, Crossroads, Bellarmine University's Kentucky Governor's Scholars, American Jewish Society for Service, St. Edward Catholic Church, Our Lady of Lourdes, and several local high schools.



### The Good Samaritan

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### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St. Vincent de Paul is a nonprofit charity dedicated to serving the poor and providing others with the opportunity to serve. St. Vincent de Paul serves people in need, including those who are homeless, living in poverty or who suffer from addiction and mental illness, as well as people who are in crisis or facing unexpected hardship.

Through a continuum of care that includes food, shelter, affordable housing, counseling and emergency financial assistance with rent and utility bills, St. Vincent de Paul assists people, regardless of their background or faith, with the goal of helping each person achieve self-sufficiency.





*Clockwise, from far left: Derek (at left) and Orion pose during a field trip; Lauren (at right) coaches Samya in reading at the library; Assyria (above) enjoys cotton candy at the Crossroads-sponsored cookout on the SVDP campus; and youths enjoy a field trip to the Ohio Riverfront.*

## Clients Find Gardening Therapeutic

Clients in Ozanam Inn men's homeless shelter's recovery program, as well as women who are in treatment at our St. Jude Women's Recovery Center, have been tending this year's summer garden on the SVDP campus.

While St. Jude clients have been watering the garden daily, about seven or eight men at the shelter have taken a keen interest in weeding, hoeing and carefully maintaining the garden.

Volunteer/donor Chris Freeman (far left) got a \$300 grant from his former employer, Yum!'s Creative Services' team, to buy the plants that went into the ground last spring. Now the zucchini, tomatoes, beans, peppers, okra and cabbage are thriving. Case manager Harrison Swadley (right), says they enjoy gardening and find it helpful to their sobriety.



*From left: Chris Freeman, clients Dave, Bob and Dave, and Harrison Swadley.*

## SVDP Hires Two New Case Managers

Lonnie Williams recently joined the St. Vincent de Paul staff to provide case management services to our veteran population at Ozanam Inn men's homeless shelter.

In addition, Williams will provide oversight to Ozanam's program aide staff.

Williams, who earned his undergraduate and master's degrees in social work at the University of Louisville, was employed by the Coalition for the Homeless before joining our staff.



Jasmine Collins has been hired as a case manager for our Follow Up program. Williams comes to SVDP from Maryhurst, where she was a youth counselor.



A 2013 University of Kentucky graduate, she has a bachelor's degree in social work with a minor in communications. Collins plans to pursue her master's degree in social work at a local university in the near future, she says.

## PLAN AHEAD

### SVDP THRIFT STORE TRUCK WEEKEND

August 23-24  
St. Agnes  
1920 Newburg Road  
Louisville, KY 40205-1400  
502-451-2200

### Sept. 7-8 SVDP's 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Charity Golf Event

6pm, Sept. 7 at Porcini  
&

1pm Shotgun Start Sept. 8  
Big Spring Country Club  
Download Registration Forms:  
svdplou.org

### Golf Scramble Raffle Tickets Now on Sale!

**\$25 EACH**

**FOR CHANCE AT \$5,000**

[You Need Not Attend Golf Scramble to Win]

**CALL TO ORDER YOUR TICKETS:  
PICK THEM UP, OR WE'LL MAIL THEM**  
502-301-8695

### Sept. 24-28 SVDP National Meeting Atlanta Marriott Marquis Atlanta, GA

Register @ svdpusa.org  
More info: 502-301-8688

Oct. 19  
Friends of the Poor Walk  
1pm Registration  
2pm Walk Begins  
Churchill Downs

**Save the Date:  
Sunday, Dec. 14**

**SVDP's ANNUAL SANTA SHOP**

## Simon Hall Clients Show Support for Their Former Case Manager



When Rene Yates (above, left) was recently promoted to the position of program manager for Roberts Hall, SVDP's off-campus

SRO for women, some of her clients at Simon Hall hated to see her go. To show their appreciation for her encouragement and support, they offered to paint her new office at Roberts Hall, 1032 E. Burnett Ave.

So one Saturday afternoon last month, that's what Dave (left) and Gary (standing) did. Giving back is just something they wanted to do, said the guys, who've now offered to paint the kitchen and other common areas at Roberts Hall.

## WANT TO HELP?

### 1. Donate canned CORN and GREEN BEANS to our Food Pantry.

- We can use all kinds of foods, but these are the items that are the first to be depleted from our shelves.

502-301-8688



### 2. Volunteer in our Food Pantry.

- Call Donna & we'll find a place for you! 502-301-8688;  
dyoung@svdplou.org

### 3. Help Fulfill Our Wish Lists.

**Roberts Hall:** Interior paint; newer dining room tables; activities or admission tickets for 24 women (i.e., museums, tourist sites, movies, sports events, etc.)

502-636-3549

**Personal Hygiene Items: Deodorant, shampoo, toothpaste, shaving cream, disposable razors, lotion.**

502-272-2140

### Diapers, Pull-Ups, and Depends:

Are needed in all sizes.

502-272-2140

**Open Hand Kitchen:** Chef Charlie would like to have a meat grinder.

502-301-8691

### 4. Purchase Raffle Tickets

**SVDP's 11th Annual Charity Golf Event** Sept. 7-8 includes a \$5,000 Raffle Prize. Only 750 tickets will be sold. Buy some for your friends and colleagues! You need not attend the Golf Event to participate.

502-301-8695

