

The Good Samaritan

Four Ways to Feed Those In Need This Thanksgiving

As we prepare for the holidays, we pause to count our blessings. We are thankful that at St. Vincent de Paul Louisville, we can provide the support to so many in our community who are in need. Please join us in our mission this Thanksgiving holiday.

Looking for Ways to Help During the Holidays?

Calling All Hams

Visitors to the Open Hand Kitchen every Thanksgiving and Christmas are treated to traditional holiday meals. To make this year's holidays extra special, Angela Leavell and the kitchen staff have requested donations of hams. The hams will be the highlight of this season's holiday dinners for hundreds of guests.

Hams can be dropped off at the Open Hand Kitchen, 1026 S. Jackson St., from 8 am to 6 pm daily.

Serving Team Sign Ups

Join a volunteer serving team in the Open Hand Kitchen. On Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day we serve a special meal to diners in the Open Hand Kitchen and need a few more servers than usual. This is a great opportunity to meet the community we serve every day. For more information, contact Donna Young at (502) 301-8688 or send an email to dyoung@svdplou.org.

Food Pantry

Five years ago, Dare to Care approached St. Vincent de Paul about opening a food pantry that would serve the 40203 zip



A volunteer serves pumpkin pie in the Open Hand Kitchen on Thanksgiving day.

The food insecurity rate in Jefferson County is 15.8% of the total population, and the child food insecurity rate is 16.8%.

code. Volunteers stepped up and opened our client-choice food pantry that to this day serves more than 400 households each month. Through support from Dare to Care, local parishes, businesses and schools, our food pantry fills a desperate need.

According to Dare to Care, the food insecurity rate in Jefferson County is 15.8% of the total population, and the child food insecurity rate is 16.8%.

As we approach the winter months, your support is even more important. Please consider hosting a food drive at your parish or workplace or put together a team of volunteers to stock shelves or help clients shop. We are in desperate need of fresh meats as we recently lost a major supplier that had been making monthly donations of cold cuts, bacon, hot dogs and other meats. If you know a supplier that can fill this gap, please let us know.

Contact Donna Young at (502) 301-8688 or send an email to dyoung@svdplou.org to find out more about supporting this important neighborhood resource.

Thanksgiving Appeal

If you would like to support the mission at St. Vincent de Paul Louisville, please consider making a donation to our Thanksgiving Appeal. Just head over to svdplou.org/ThanksgivingAppeal and make a donation online.

Thank You

From our family to yours, we wish you the gift of faith and the blessing of hope this Thanksgiving. We thank you for your continued support of our mission to feed, shelter and cloth those that need it most.



Our client-choice food pantry is staffed solely by volunteers and serves more than 400 households each month.



St. Vincent
de Paul

LOUISVILLE

The Good Samaritan

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St. Vincent de Paul | Louisville

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Our Mission

St. Vincent de Paul Louisville partners with individuals and families in crisis and helps them navigate a path to stabilize their lives and reach their full potential.

Support SVDP

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

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Say Hello to Our New Director of Development



Rich Flaherty, St. Vincent de Paul Louisville's new Director of Development.

By Abigail Costello

St. Vincent de Paul Louisville would like to announce and give a warm welcome to the new Director of Development, Rich Flaherty. Rich and his wife, Joan just celebrated their 30th anniversary. They have two children, daughter Grace, who is living with her husband in Washington DC working for the Obama Foundation, and son Cullen, who will be graduating soon with a degree in criminal justice and plans to attend law school.

Rich is originally from the San Francisco area. As a teenager he spent his time coaching a swim team and working in his dad's gas station. Rich and his family moved to Louisville in 1992 for his wife's career. With no close family in Louisville, they started a family tradition almost 20 years ago having close neighborhood friends over for Christmas Eve dinner and attend mass.

In his spare time, he enjoys playing golf, collecting wine and cooking barbeque.

He spent the majority of his career working at Hewlett Packard and as VP of Sales in the healthcare industry. "After 33 years in Sales and Marketing, I made the decision to change careers and wanted to find a position where I could leverage my sales and marketing experience and do something fulfilling. Joan and I have been involved with St. Joe's Children's Home Picnic, running the Cake Booth for the last 14 years. Fundraising and helping those most vulnerable people in need is in my blood, and when I saw the Development position with SVDP, it was a perfect fit. I am thrilled to have found a great place to embark on this new direction."

He lives by the motto, "everything happens for a reason" and we look forward to the many great reasons and the expertise he brings to St. Vincent de Paul Louisville.

Shop AmazonSmile on Black Friday and Cyber Monday and Support SVDP

When you shop at Amazon this holiday season, please consider supporting SVDP by using our unique AmazonSmile address at smile.amazon.com/ch/61-0727110



It's easy, and for every eligible AmazonSmile purchase, the AmazonSmile Foundation donates a portion of that purchase to St. Vincent de Paul Louisville.

Halloween at the Family Success Center



Many thanks to Holy Spirit for sponsoring this year's Halloween Party at the FSC. The kids love it! There was pumpkin painting, stickers, a ring toss and lots of really cool costumes.



Success Stories

With many parents graduating from our housing program and kids moving on to their school's after-school program, the Family Success Center was able to accept kids from New Directions to fill the open spots. Our participants are engaging in our Chess classes that have been a major asset to the program.

At St. Jude Recovery Center, we had several clients complete our program despite facing many obstacles, including addiction. This month we are highlighting Kendra for her amazing progress on the road to recovery. Kendra came to us with significant health issues. Initially, we were concerned for her as the program is only two months long, but she obtained a sponsor quickly and built a positive support group. Through determination and hard work, Kendra recovered! She became a "big sister" in the house and continues to lead the women. Kendra applied for the Kitchen Manager position, and while we had many great candidates, Kendra was hired because she possessed the nurturing and kindness needed for newer clients. We are so proud of her and all she has done and will do!!

Quick Facts About Our VA Transitional Housing Program at Ozanam Inn

- We sheltered 58 Veterans
- 47% of Veterans were over the age of 55
- 43% of Veterans identified as racial or ethnic minorities
- 57% of Veterans disclosed that they suffer from a mental health issue
- 60% of Veterans disclosed that they suffer from a substance use disorder
- 47% of Veterans had a physical disability
- 66% of Veterans had multiple disabilities
- 16% of Veterans disclosed that they had experienced domestic violence
- 10% of Veterans were chronically homeless
- 77% of Veterans had income when they exited our program
- 36% of Veterans gained or increased their income while in our program, on average by \$1,630 per month
- 95% of Veterans who exited our program had health insurance
- 77% of Veterans exited to a positive housing destination (we helped 27 people move into permanent housing)

Stats for fiscal year ending 9/30/19

**PLEASE JOIN US IN HONORING
THOSE THAT HAVE SERVED**

Gifts from the Heart Program Seeks Sponsors



Each year, our “Gifts from the Heart” program requests donations of new gifts which will be organized into a mini-mall called Santa Shop in the Family Success Center. Last year, over 500 families were invited to make their own gift selections for their children. Parents have expressed joy and gratitude as they leave with their donated gifts.

When you sponsor a tree, we’ll deliver a table-top tree to your business or organization with hearts containing the age and gender of a child in need. On the back of the heart, you’ll find gift suggestions. We’ll return by December 11 to pick up the unwrapped gifts.

Toys are generously provided each year by Toys for Tots.

Parents are invited to attend Santa Shop on December 15, and, accompanied by a volunteer, can shop for clothing and toys for their children. They’ll finish out the day with free gift wrapping.

To volunteer, sponsor a tree, provide a new gift or make a donation, contact Donna Young at (502) 301-8688 or dyoung@svdplou.org.

If you’d like to shop at Amazon and have your gift shipped to us, we’ve put together a wish list at <http://bit.ly/SVDPSantaShop>. Don’t forget to sign up for AmazonSmile and make that gift go even further.

Shop the Wish List at

<http://bit.ly/SVDPSantaShop>

Jessie Arnold Completes Case Management Institute



The 2019 graduating class of the Coalition for Homeless Case Management Institute. Photo courtesy of Erin Rutherford, Coalition for the Homeless.

Jessie Arnold, Case Manager for Simon Hall and Tranquil House, has completed the Coalition for the Homeless Case Management Institute. The CMI is sponsored and funded by the Dona O’Sullivan Fund to Fight Homelessness. The fund, established in 2010, supports case managers who directly confront the challenge of homelessness in Louisville.

“Overall most topics covered I had knowledge in but it was a great refresher. The one topic I feel I learned the most about was Human Trafficking. It really opened my eyes up to how common it is and how difficult it can be to pick-up on as a case manager and the difficulties the victims experience,” Jessie said when asked about the experience. She added, “As with any training I feel it helps remind me to remain empathetic to those we serve. Also it reminds me to be thankful for where I am and remember that many are only one missed paycheck away from homelessness. I know we have to base our service on outcomes, but the real outcomes are forgotten. Some outcomes like a chronic homeless person staying in housing long-term or getting a job isn’t tracked as often/as well as final outcomes such as when a client exits a program into Section 8 or a rental of their own. All of these are great outcomes even the small ones! I hope to recognize and acknowledge the smaller outcomes for those we serve more often, and encourage them to continue on their journey to self-sufficiency.”

This year’s class was the largest ever with 30 participants. The class met at a different location each month in order to get to know other organizations. Topics for each session include Strengths Base Case Management, Mental Diagnoses and Stigma, Veterans Services, Youth Homelessness, Elder Abuse, and more.

Congratulations to Jessie and all the participants.



The following projects are funded in part by the Louisville Metro Government Office of Resilience and Community Services:

- Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) of \$57,000 for Ozanam Inn Emergency Shelter
- Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) of \$67,070 for Ozanam Inn Emergency Shelter
- Homeless Initiative grant of \$30,000 for Ozanam Inn Emergency Shelter
- External Agency Funds (EAF) of \$7,200 for the Family Success Center
- External Agency Funds (EAF) of \$10,800 for Open Hand Kitchen

We are grateful that Metro Government found resources to continue to support these vital projects despite a difficult budgeting year.