

The Good Samaritan

Coronavirus Threat Still Looms, but SVDP Continues to Serve

While we're still not in the clear, solid planning and a stellar staff continue to serve St. Vincent de Paul Louisville well during this worldwide pandemic. We'd like to give you a brief update on what's happening on campus.

With facilities like the Open Hand Kitchen and day shelters closed, finding restroom facilities has become a challenge for the unsheltered population so we rented portable toilets for the south side of campus. We were unable to find a companion hand-washing station, so the maintenance department repurposed an old desk and sink to create a homemade hand-washing station next to the portable toilets, complete with running water, soap, and hand sanitizer. Necessity is the mother of invention.

The Open Hand Kitchen staff, program managers, case managers, program aides, Food Pantry volunteers, and our maintenance team risk exposure daily but continue to serve our clients.

The Open Hand Kitchen continues to serve take-away meals two times a day to anyone that needs lunch or dinner. No date has been set as to when dine-in service will resume.

Unlike other parts of the country, our food pantry inventory is better than normal thanks to the folks at Dare to Care. Thankfully, neighborhood residents are using the food pantry often as the loss of wages is sure to be contributing to the risk of food insecurity.

Dare to Care has also provided food boxes that the St. Vincent de Paul Conferences can deliver on home visits.

Our case managers have started to work from campus on an alternating schedule so that Healthy at Work protocols can be followed, allowing for some direct client contact and case file updating.



Program Manager Julio Anthony has implemented safety procedures like checking the temperatures of each participant before they enter the building this summer.

In partnership with Phoenix Health Care for the Homeless and Bluewater Labs, we were able to offer free COVID-19 testing to Ozanam Inn guests and staff late last month. We hope to provide more frequent testing and expand to include all clients in the near future.

Thrift Store donations resumed on May 20 and the response has been overwhelming. Thank you. The stores opened their doors to shoppers on May 26, breaking a record for one-day sales.

During the downtime at the Family Success Center, Program Manager Julio Anthony developed a summer program that would keep the kids safe and help prepare them for the fall school year, however that may look.

Thank you to all the donors, volunteers, staff, first responders, medical personnel, and partner agencies that have been there for us so that we may continue to serve those that need our help more than ever.



Nurses from Bluewater Labs tested staff and Ozanam Inn guests for COVID-19.



The Food Pantry continues to have a strong turnout each Tuesday and Thursday and Dare to Care keeps the shelves stocked.



**St. Vincent
de Paul**
LOUISVILLE

The Good Samaritan

The monthly newsletter of
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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Sign Up and Bid on Family Fun Packages

We hope you are staying healthy and safe this summer! You may have postponed or canceled travel plans and like you, we have had to cancel events, but let's not let the fun be canceled!

We have some great packages in the state of Kentucky for you! This online auction benefiting St. Vincent de Paul Louisville has something for everyone. From golf around the state to family fun packages, check out auction items at the link below. Other packages include dining, overnight stays, wine, bourbon, relaxation, and jewelry. Funds raised will go toward the important programs supporting those living in poverty in the Louisville community.



Benefitting St. Vincent de Paul Louisville

Visit bidpal.net/summerfunky4svdp to Start Bidding

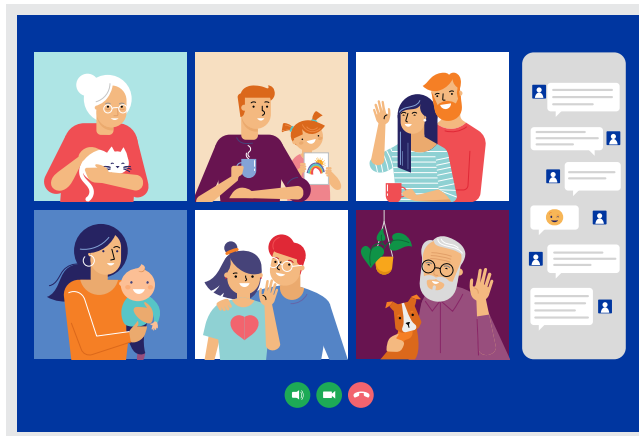
Join Us for the Next Tour de Change

Grab your favorite beverage and join us for our next Virtual Tour de Change. This is a great way for you to learn about St. Vincent de Paul Louisville and our programs and mission, all from the comfort of your home.

Our next tours are scheduled for July 23rd at 6 pm and July 28th at 11 am. We will meet

on Zoom and you'll hear from our staff about the impact of our work, as well as take a virtual tour of our campus.

To attend the virtual tour, go to svdplou.org/events or contact Jon Wysong at jwysong@svdplou.org or (502) 301-8695.



2020 Roses & Rosé Canceled

Fundraising events are critical to the work we do at St. Vincent de Paul Louisville so it is with much regret that we are canceling the second annual Roses & Rosé event. Last year's event was a huge success and we were looking forward to building on that success and growing the event.

In the meantime, save next year's date, May 8th, and watch for other ways to support our mission, like Summer Fun in Kentucky.



— 2020 —

St. Vincent de Paul Louisville by the Numbers

Permanent Housing Programs (All scattered site, all on-campus apartments except Tranquil)

- 315 people have been served since January 1, 2020
- We served 53 families and 112 individuals
- We served 130 children
- 100% of exits were positive

Ozanam Inn Shelter

- 283 men have been served since January 1, 2020
- 56 people exited to stable housing
- 42 people were engaged in case management in April

VA Program

- 29 men have been served since January 1, 2020
- Since January, 47% of men served have exited to permanent housing
- 92% of clients with a goal to be in recovery are successfully in recovery

Tranquil House

- 11 people were served since January 1, 2020
- 67% increased or maintained mental health services
- 45% got a new resource in the community from their case manager

Family Success Center - After School Program

- The FSC was closed in May and June.

Mental Health and Substance Use Program (Clinical Services)

- 172 Households have been served since January 1, 2020
- 99% of crisis were successfully resolved. We have had 55 incidents of crisis intervention since January 1. These included suicidality, self-neglect, domestic violence counseling and other mental health crisis.
- 158 clients have been served in individual counseling and 97% of clients surveyed report progress in therapy

Pilot Project

- A random survey was conducted campus wide with 50 participants.
- 30% stated that they did not have problems with alcohol or drugs, and that they did not use alcohol and drugs.
- 70% of participants indicated that they in fact do use alcohol and drugs to some extent with many comments that they would like help with their substance use
- 24% answered yes to all questions indicating that they had a substance use problem.
- Since beginning the pilot program on July 1:
- Two persons have gone to treatment or some type of stabilization and one is currently referred.
- Six clients have started individual counseling with the CADC for substance use disorder and out of the six, three have been continuing weekly.
- There will be a group started at Ozanam on 7/16/20, and also a group will be started at the SRO program on 7/14/20.



THRIFT STORE UPDATE

Donation Pickups Resume

As Gov. Beshear begins to lift restrictions in place because of the pandemic, we have resumed our donation pick up service, but with a few exceptions.

- Pick ups will be scheduled for Tuesdays and Thursdays only
- We will pick up furniture only. No add-on items allowed.
- All items must be outside the home when the drivers arrive. Items can be placed on your porch or patio, driveway or garage.
- Drivers will NOT enter homes to pick up items.
- Donors should be present when items are scheduled for pick up.

As always, if you have questions or would like to schedule a pick up, please call Wanda at (502) 589-7837.

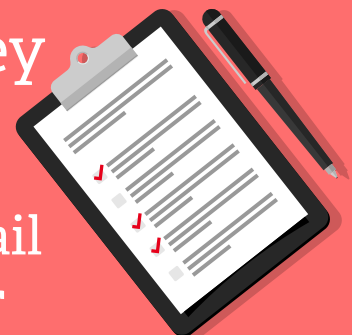
Don't forget that all three stores have new hours, including special hours for donation drop offs. The new hours at Dorsey Plaza and Market Street are Tuesday — Saturday from 9 am to 5 pm. Hikes Lane is open Tuesday — Saturday from 9 am to 6 pm. Donations accepted at all three locations Tuesday — Saturday from 11 am to 3 pm. All locations are closed to shopping and donations on Sundays and Mondays.

These new procedures and hours may change as we adapt to the new normal. We truly appreciate your patience. Please check our website the most up-to-date information.

Your support of our thrift stores directly funds the mission at St. Vincent de Paul Louisville. We couldn't do this without you.

Donor Survey is Coming

Watch Your Mail This Summer



The Voice of the Poor Needs Your Support

By David Dutschke

St. Vincent de Paul Louisville Board Member

These are seminal times. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul has been, and is, involved in the times, the public forum. I just finished reading about the life of Frederick Ozanam in 18th century France.* It sounds much like 20th century USA.

Our society has many opportunities to connect our rich Catholic faith with those neighbors of ours who live on the margins. We call them poor. They are people who have need of help in our busy and complex world.

The Voice of the Poor is one such opportunity. From the svdpusa.org website, "Voice of the Poor is the advocacy arm of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. With members representing every section and demographic of the nation, we identify those issues that are critical to those living in poverty and need, and help bring attention to them so communities and our elected representatives can help develop strategies and tactics that will provide the most effective and efficient means to reduce or eliminate poverty." The society has a national committee and there are regional groups. We belong to



Photo by Nina Strehl on Unsplash

the Mideast group—Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Kentucky.

Because public policy directly affects those persons we aid in our programs and in our conference home visits, we are able to see the effects of bad public policy as well as good public policy. We have a very important view to humanize the trials that our neighbors experience. And at the same time we recognize that the major assistance to persons in need comes from our government—local, state, national. Programs like SSI, SSD, SS, food stamps, Section 8, utility assistance far outdistance what we can do. But what we have is personal contact and listening and stories.

The Voice of the Poor collaborates with our Bishops, with Catholic Charities, and others of good will in speaking to our officials. It also educates us to the nuances and often poorly reported issues that affect our neighbors in need.

In Kentucky we have formed an organizing committee here in Louisville and are attempting to get representation from the three other Councils to create a Kentucky voice of the poor website.

Here is what I am asking you to do.

1. Sign up for VoterVoice at VoterVoice.net/SVDPUSA/Home
2. Sign up for the Frederic's E-Gazette at <http://bit.ly/1GKXYJ6> to stay informed about society events and news.
3. Know that you can get a manual from SVDPUA by visiting the website at svdpusa.org.
4. Visit svdpusa.org/members/Programs-Tools/Programs/Voice-of-the-Poor and see the position papers that have been produced over the years.

**Apostle in a Top Hat: The Inspiring Story of Frederick Ozanam, founder of the worldwide Society of St. Vincent de Paul by James Patrick Derum*

Success Stories

Chuck has been in the VA Per Diem program for a year. He has worked several jobs to support his family and save for his apartment. In June, he successfully moved into an apartment.

Amy was able to secure housing, supplemental income and follow up services with the assistance from a case manager at Robert's Hall and Mental Health and Substance Use programs. The case manager collaborated with Seven Counties/Centerstone to secure additional therapies. Amy was struggling with recent trauma and only a short time in sobriety.

Greer Hannan a Guest on New NPO-focused Podcast

On June 15, Greer Hannan, Grant Compliance Coordinator for St. Vincent de Paul Louisville, appeared on the Common Good Hour podcast, hosted by Drew Reynolds, to discuss the new HUD grant we received that will serve victims of domestic violence. Greer also provides insight into how we prepare successful HUD grant applications.

Visit commongooddata.com/podcast and you can find Greer's interview in Episode 4, just around the 27:00 minute mark. The podcast is available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Google Podcasts.

