

The Good Samaritan

The SRO Changes Name, Opens to Homeless Youth

“What does SRO mean?”

We get this question a lot. SRO stands for Single Room Occupancy and is named for the HUD program and the fact that it houses multiple dwelling units. Each floor has single dorm-style rooms with common areas like the kitchen and living room.

In January, the program at the SRO changed. In partnership with Home of the Innocents, we began providing transitional housing to homeless youths aged 18–24. With the change in programs, we thought it was a good time to change the name of the building.

The SRO is now called Waypoint House. It is a fitting name for a program designed to be a step in the journey of a young person who’s experienced homelessness.

About the Program

In 2016, led by The Coalition for the Homeless, a group of providers, advocates, and formerly homeless young adults sat down to try and understand youth homelessness and began work on a plan to address it. This plan was ultimately approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). In July 2018, Louisville was one of 11 communities awarded a grant for the Youth Homeless Demonstration Project (YHDP).

Fast forward to June 2019 and Home of the Innocents, in partnership with St. Vincent de Paul Louisville, became one of six local agencies selected for funding from the YHDP grant. The funding supports transitional housing for 24 homeless youth and young adults at Waypoint House and case management provided by Home of the Innocents. Rapid re-housing assistance is also provided as they transition to permanent housing.

How We’re Helping

According to the Louisville Continuum of Care, in 2019, 909 youth in Louisville identified as homeless. Of that 909,



In 2019, there were 909 youth who were identified as homeless through the Louisville Continuum of Care. Source: Louisville, Kentucky’s Coordinated Community Plan to Prevent and End Youth Homelessness

Photo by Jesús Rodríguez on Unsplash

10% were pregnant or parenting, and a similar number were fleeing domestic violence.

In the past, the programs available to these young adults were short-term services, unless they were in a housing program. Housing is a must if we’re to improve their chances of long-term success.

Our involvement in the YHDP is to provide safety and stability while these young people work

with their case manager to find jobs, enroll in school, or cope with substance abuse issues. Ideally, someone in the program will be with us for about 90 days and then move on to their own apartment. Like so many other things, the shutdown to curb the coronavirus’s spread slowed the move out process. “Landlords were not showing properties,” said Quentin Childers, or Q, as we call him. Q is the program manager at Waypoint House.

“Due to the corona, it was a challenge. We only had one move out (during the shutdown), and they got permanent supportive housing, which was amazing. This couple had been homeless for years. I was actually their case manager at another agency, two or three years ago, and they were on the streets then. And now they’ve obtained permanent supportive housing together and were the first to move out.”

“A few weeks later, when things started to reopen, clients finally started to get housed, so it’s been a much faster process. There have been five other move-outs with more expected to move out soon.”

It goes without saying that stable housing is only one of the challenges this age group faces. We take for granted what we learn as children and young adults. Some of the most fundamental skills are entirely foreign to kids that have been living on the streets for years. Living and getting along with others, self-care, and meal preparation are just a few. “They’re happy to be housed, but they’re not happy with each other because

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St. Vincent
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LOUISVILLE

The Good Samaritan

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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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Save the Date and Support Our Mission



**GIVE FOR GOOD
LOUISVILLE**
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF LOUISVILLE

**GIVE BACK!
9.17.20
12AM TO 12AM**

On September 17th, we're participating in Give For Good Louisville, a city-wide fundraising event. As a strong supporter of St. Vincent de Paul Louisville we'd love for you to help us by sharing your story with your friends and family as to why you support our organization as much as you do! If you would like to participate you can sign up at giveforgoodlouisville.org/organizations/st-vincent-de-paul-louisville or contact Abigail Costello at (502) 272-2134 or acostello@svdplou.org.

What is Give For Good Louisville?

Hosted by the Community Foundation of Louisville, Give For Good Louisville is our community's biggest day of local giving! For 24-hours, our community comes together with gifts big and small to give back to the nonprofits which are helping change the world around us. The Community Foundation invites everyone to tap into their potential to be a force for good when this year's giving day returns on September 17, 2020!

What is a P2P (peer to peer) Fundraiser?

A P2P fundraiser is a supporter who rallies around your cause to fundraise on your behalf. These supporters create their own fundraising page as a spin-off of your main Give For Good Louisville profile. Your fundraisers will share that page with their network to expand the reach of your cause and bring in new donors. These individuals are passionate about the work you do, and use their voice to make a difference!

If a donor is a Community Foundation of Louisville fund holder, how can they make a gift?

Community Foundation of Louisville fund holders can use their funds at the Foundation to participate in Give For Good Louisville. Fund holders will be able to designate grants to participating nonprofits August 1 through September 17 by using a link which can be accessed when logged into their online donor portal.

It's Fun and Easy

If you've never fundraised before, don't worry! After signing up as a P2P fundraiser, you will be provided with a host of fundraising tools. We'll even have a messaging timeline you can reference when talking with your friends and families. Help us reach our goal of raising \$15,000 to support the many important programs at St. Vincent de Paul Louisville.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Abigail Costello at (502) 272-2134 or acostello@svdplou.org

Success Stories

Cal, with the help of his case manager, Brian Scully, personnel from the VA Mental Health/Substance Use (MH/SU) Program, and his own personal efforts, was able to adapt and overcome a devastating loss, a history of substance use and homelessness. The payoff of this hard work is stable housing, medications management, advancement in the work place, and improved relationships.

While Cal was living in Kentucky attempting to make a better life for his family that was living out of state, he suffered the loss of his wife of 30 years. Cal suffers from depression and anxiety due to grief and loss which led to self-medication, interference in activities of daily living, financial hardship, and homelessness.

Cal was admitted to St. Vincent de Paul Louisville's VA Program and participated in individual therapy as part of our new Mental Health/Substance Use program. Cal was in regular attendance to one-on-one sessions and appointments with his psychiatrist at VA, leading to the identification of triggers and positive vs. negative coping skills, resulting in elimination of self-medication and healthy processing of loss.

Cal also sought assistance from VA groups, the veterans housing liaison, and attended to health and dental issues at University of Louisville Hospital. This led to increased confidence, motivation and interpersonal relationships skills. He then reconnected with estranged family members and received a promotion at work.

Cal exited our VA and MH/SU programs and moved into a local apartment. He continues his one-on-one and group therapies and looking for an addition to the family with the adoption of a dog.

Warren is a client who has severe delusions and other mental health issues. He arrived at Ozanam Inn in March 2020. With his delusions and paranoia, he was hesitant to talk to anyone over the phone and distrustful of staff. Due to restrictions in place because of the pandemic, it was difficult to get Warren connected with WellSpring's ACT (Assertive Community Treatment) program.

With the arrival of DeMond Bush, our newest case manager, we had a breakthrough with Warren. DeMond was able build a rapport with Warren and gain his trust. In turn, Warren trusted the process and met with WellSpring's ACT program. As Warren was without health insurance, DeMond worked with him to get the needed health insurance, which enabled him to get into the ACT program.

Warren is now a client at Ozanam Inn and WellSpring. His medications have been adjusted, delusions less severe, and can hold meaningful conversations, all of which will further his self-sufficiency. Warren will also have a housing voucher in the very near future.

We gave away 50 bikes in June and July. Clients are using them to get around campus and town, and are very appreciative. Big shout out to Mark Doll and Terry Luckett! Mark and Terry collect used bikes, refurbish them and then give them out to people in need.

HOMELESS YOUTH

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they're young. They don't have the appropriate social skills, so I've had to teach them a lot of social skills," Q said.

Q is enlisting others to help too. "I reached out to Angela Leavell, the program manager at the Open Hand Kitchen, about cooking classes. Local organizations have reached out and offered help to teach other life skills and take them on field trips."

Addiction issues are a common concern too. 35% of the 909 homeless youth identified in Louisville reported drug and alcohol abuse. Q said, "We're working with a young man to reduce his substance abuse. What he would do is go to work for a temp agency and then spend the money on drugs. Then he doesn't have any money to spend on hygiene products like shampoo. I made a deal with him that the next time he comes to me, he must have a bottle of conditioner, a bottle of shampoo, and a bottle of body wash—big bottles. We shook on it to make sure he has the supplies to take care of himself and worry about the drugs later. We're trying to cut down his usage and make sure he's clean and presentable to be able to get a job. An actual permanent job. We're working on things like that with a lot of clients."

This work is hard, but sometimes it's as simple as showing these young people that we care about them. Q adds, "He's made a big turnaround from when he came in. I tell him all the time I'm proud of him. I think that's important to say when you talk to these young adults. I think it feels good to them to know that somebody's proud of them, taking the time to check on them and make sure they're doing alright and progressing as a person. I think they appreciate things like that."

Want to Know More About Our Mission? Join Us for a Virtual Tour

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 **August 24th at 2 pm** and **August 27th at 7 pm**. 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.

Sponsorships and Teams Still Available for the 2020 Clubs & Cocktails



The 2019 Clubs and Cocktail golf scramble at Hurstbourne Country Club.



Clubs & Cocktails
BENEFITTING
St. Vincent de Paul Louisville

While so many things have been canceled this year, outdoor fun isn't! We will be hosting the 2020 Clubs & Cocktails Golf Scramble. The golf scramble is on Monday, September 21 at Hurstbourne Country Club with an online auction and raffle.

There are still sponsorships and golf teams available! This is a wonderful opportunity for you to share in the reward that comes from knowing you're helping the thousands of men, women and children served each year by St. Vincent de Paul Louisville's shelters, recovery programs, supportive housing programs, out-of-school time programming, and the Open Hand Kitchen.

We hope you'll join us this year as we continue our mission of service to the poor of Louisville. Contact Abigail Costello for more details at acostello@svdplou.org or (502) 272-2134.

AmazonSmile customers can now support St. Vincent de Paul Louisville in the Amazon shopping app on iOS and Android! Simply follow these instructions to turn it on and start generating donations.

1. Open the Amazon Shopping app on your device
2. Go into the main menu and tap into 'Settings'
3. Tap 'AmazonSmile' and follow the instructions to complete the process

AmazonSmile donates to St. Vincent de Paul Louisville every time you shop, and at no cost to you! Thank you for your support. Every single donation helps.

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