

The Good Samaritan

It Takes a Village

Support and Resources Help Betty Find Her Way to Sobriety

Betty came from a family with a history of alcoholism and mental health issues. She suffered numerous traumas early in life, including rape, the murder of her mother, and domestic violence. The pain of this trauma led to drug abuse and prostitution. When Betty first began trying to turn her life around, she was introduced to St. Vincent de Paul Louisville, where she was able to find an apartment that she shared with her 13-year-old son.

“St. Vincent de Paul was the beginning of my efforts to start my life over,” says Betty.



Betty visiting campus to share her successes.

While at SVDP, Betty received her GED, took parenting classes, and worked at a fast-food restaurant. She found support for her children and for herself with the other women living at St. Vincent de Paul.

“We were definitely a family,” she explains. “We all felt like this was a safe place, filled with support and a lot of positive influences.”

The staff played a big role in Betty’s recovery as well. She remembers a support person from SVDP, Robin, who helped her get her GED. “Robin was tough, but she’d listen to you and support you,” explains Betty. “Even when I didn’t think it was worth it, Robin encouraged me to get that GED.”

Betty’s life wasn’t perfect after leaving St. Vincent de Paul. She had many obstacles in her life and fell back into addiction. But through work with places like St. Vincent de Paul and the Healing Place, she was able to find her way back to sobriety. She now works as a peer support specialist at Seven Counties, helping others navigate through the obstacles that mental health issues and substance abuse throw in their way.



Betty lived at DePaul Apartments while at SVDP.

She is still close to many of the women she met at St. Vincent de Paul and calls them a part of her village that help keep her and her children loved and supported.

“I have a lot of strong women in my life now, and several I’ve known since St. Vincent de Paul,” she smiles.

The Village also allowed Betty to expand her family. While living at DePaul Apartments, her son met a child of another client who he later fell in love with and married. He and his wife, Ashley, are expecting their fourth child. And that love story started at St. Vincent de Paul.

Mayor’s Give a Day

We want to give a huge thank you to UPS, Republic Bank, and Mayor Fischer for assisting in our 2022 Mayor’s Give a Day project! These incredible volunteers raked leaves around our campus and cleared out Simon Hall so we can begin renovations. We couldn’t do the work we do without you!





St. Vincent
de Paul

LOUISVILLE

The Good Samaritan

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St. Vincent de Paul Louisville

Send correspondence to PO Box 17126,
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Our Mission

We house, feed, and support
those in need with
compassion and dignity.

Support SVDP

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

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Celebrating Motherhood:

Roses & Rosé Success!

We want to thank the over 140 guests who attended Roses & Rosé on Saturday, April 30. The event included a meal, wine tasting, silent auction, vendors, and time to celebrate motherhood.

The brunch opened with welcomes from our Board Chair, Carleen Herde, Executive Director Dave Calzi, and Chief Operating Officer Jennifer Clark. Former Metro Council Member Barbara Sexton Smith then spoke about women and motherhood. Prior to the meal, Donna Koenig said grace.

We are grateful for all who attended our record-breaking event, and we would like to thank the following sponsors for helping to make the event possible:

Zoeller

Today's Woman

Scarlet & Olivia Boutique

The Law Offices of Nellie Draus
Stallings

Rivertowne Liquors

St. Bernadette Parish

St. Edward Parish

St. Stephen Martyr Parish

Our thanks, too, to all those who donated items for the silent auction:

Pinot's Palette

Viva Art

Speed Art Museum

Beth Haendiges

Total Wine & More

YogaST8

Kendra Scott

The Urban Market

Old 502 Winery

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Earth and Spirit Center

St. Joseph's Orphanage

Nellie Stallings

Jim Erwin

Louisville Public Media

Bee Sweet Designs



Over 140 guests were in attendance on Saturday, April 30.

By the Numbers October 2021 - February 2022

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

- 404 people were served since October 1, 2021.
- Of those 404, 115 are individuals, the remaining 289 are part of 82 families
- 177 of these people were children.
- 89% of those who exited our program did not return to homelessness.

Ozanam Inn Shelter

- 254 men served since October 1, 2021.
- 23 people exited to stable housing

VA Program

- 32 men have been served since October 1, 2021
- Since October, 67% of men served have exited to permanent housing

Tranquil House

- 15 people served since October 1, 2021
- 70% increased or maintained mental health services
- 70% increased their participation in the community, attending events, group counseling, or other social/emotional activities.

Family Success Center

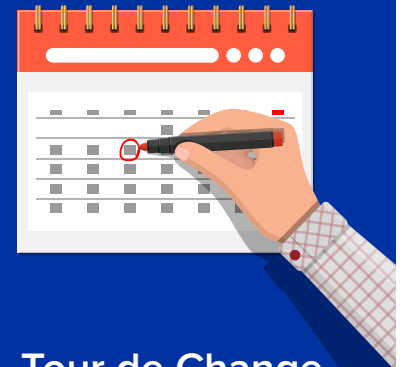
- 30 Students registered for the after school program for the 2021/22 school year. The average attendance has been 17.
- 81% of students have improved their site word skills in reading.
- 87.5% of students are now reading at grade level. (Our goal is to be at 90% by the end of the 2021-22 school year.)
- 100% of students have demonstrated increased STEM skills and knowledge.

Mental Health and Substance Use Program (Clinical Services)

- 173 households have been served since October 1, 2021.
- 233 crises have been resolved, with a 99% success rte.
- 96% of participants in individual counseling report making progress on a therapeutic goal.

Save the Date

UPCOMING EVENTS AT
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL LOUISVILLE



Tour de Change

May 10th

Give for Good

September 15th

Clubs & Cocktails

September 19th

Planting Trees for the Future

TreesLouisville planted trees around the St. Vincent de Paul Louisville campus in March this year. TreesLouisville works to protect and expand Louisville's urban forest through tree planting, public awareness, education, and collaboration.

By planting on our campus, TreesLouisville will provide shade for our residents and connect them with nature. The trees will also work to reduce the overall temperatures of the Shelby Park neighborhood.



TreesLouisville volunteers planting a tree near Tranquil House.



Our thanks to SOS International for donating gloves and masks to our Open Hand Kitchen to ensure the safety of our staff, volunteers, and those in need.

Thanks to their generosity, our kitchen is well-equipped to maintain our safety protocols.

Supporting Families: Case Manager Brittany Sanderson



Case manager Brittany Sanderson supports families at DePaul Apartments and other housing sites.

Brittany Sanderson has been with St. Vincent de Paul Louisville for two years. She first came here as a practicum

student, working on her undergraduate degree in social work. She was hired immediately upon graduation. Brittany started working at DePaul Apartments, but she has increased the number of families she works with to 20. As families transition to permanent housing, Brittany remains with them, supporting in whatever capacity until she and the family determine they are ready to manage on their own.

“The goal of our program is to help ensure the family never returns to homelessness,” explains Brittany. “Families can stay as long as they need to learn the skills needed to be self-sufficient.”

At SVDP, case managers help families with all the paperwork needed to stay in housing. From helping with health insurance forms to filling out rental

agreements, case managers are there to answer questions and ease the concerns many clients have. In addition to helping with paperwork, case managers ensure that families know about all the resources available to them, both on campus and throughout the city.

“Families often need resources that extend beyond the nuclear family,” Brittany shares. “Being able to refer extended family to resources like Ozanam Inn or the Open Hand Kitchen can ease the worry and stress our families experience.”

From the moment they enter our subsidized housing program, case managers like Brittany work to make a family’s life more manageable. Case managers help clients make sense of a world of paperwork and rules. They help clients gain independence.

Focus on Conferences: *St. Raphael*

St. Raphael’s Conference has 25 active Vincentians who work within the parish to serve those in need. A group of 7 members work the phones each week, offering support with rent, utilities, food, and more. The conference works with community ministries and other parish conferences to support those in need both in their own zip code and in others like 40218.

Each year in February, the conference works to collect diapers for St. Bernadette’s diaper bank. During Lent, the conference supports Open Hand Kitchen by providing fish for Friday meals. Between Thanksgiving and Christmas, the conference makes Christmas food baskets for 70 families and gathers over 7,000 food items that are distributed to the SVDP Food Pantry and food banks at Sister Visitor, Highland Ministries, and St. Ignatius.

The Vincentians at St. Raphael also serve at the Open Hand Kitchen once a month, and several of them work at the SVDP Food Pantry every week.

“We are fortunate to have the full support of our pastor, Father Shane,” says Vincentian John Raque. “Father Shane dedicated a section of enclosed storage in the church’s narthex to St. Vincent de Paul, and now our parish brings in food, toiletries, and more to the church every week.”

The St. Raphael Conference also tries to host a cookout at SVDP’s Robert’s Hall every year. Because of the pandemic, this annual event was put on hold, and other events took its place. In 2021, the Vincentians hosted a Christmas dinner at the hall, serving the women who live there.

When asked why he is a Vincentian, John explains, “it’s an opportunity to give back. We are a blessed parish who are called by Christ to serve and show compassion and the will to help others. We hope we are making a difference in the lives of our neighbors.”

We are grateful to St. Raphael Conference for all they do for the community and to help support St. Vincent de Paul Louisville.



A space in the St. Raphael Narthex dedicated to St. Vincent de Paul and used to drop off food and toiletries.