

The Good Samaritan

Feeding Those in Need

Angela Leavell will have worked at the Open Hand Kitchen for 12 years this July. She's seen a lot of changes in that time. One of the biggest changes occurred during Covid.

"Much of the staff got Covid, and we had to shut down for 14 days. It was the first time in all the time I've worked here that we had to shut down," Angela remembers.

Currently, the Open Hand Kitchen serves food to a slightly reduced number of people, 7,000 a month. "Some folks haven't come back to the Kitchen yet," Angela explains. "People are more cautious because of Covid."

However, with new protocols in place like masks worn while not eating and to-go containers, those who do come here for a meal can be assured that as much

as possible is being done to mitigate any chance of contagion.

The Open Hand Kitchen relies on donations of food to operate. "We get a significant amount from Dare to Care, but other donors help us provide a variety of food to our guests," Angela says. "That allows us to have not only nutritious meals, but different foods."

Food donations come from farmers, local grocery stores, and individuals. "Whether it is vegetables, fruit, or meat, we can find a use for it," Angela says.

In addition to food donations, Angela is always grateful for the volunteers who support the Kitchen during lunch and dinner.

"It's nice to see old faces again now that Covid levels are lower, and I am



Meals include both proteins and vegetables.

always thankful for the companies and church groups who take the time to help us," Angela smiles.

The kitchen is open for lunch at noon and for dinner at 5 p.m. The staff can accept food donations anytime between 9:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.



For most meals, volunteers help by serving the food.



Kevin, our Kitchen Manager, prepares lunch for our clients.

Success Story

John was a client at our men's overnight shelter, Ozanam Inn, who became homeless after the loss of his home due to a fire. John suffered from medical health issues and chronic severe mental illness. He was transferred to the Sanctuary Beds Program after an exacerbation of symptoms stemming from an inability to secure his medications. He had increased anxiety, depression, paranoia, severe nightmares, and a marked increase in blood pressure.

John was referred to the Mental Health/Substance Abuse program (MH/SU) where he was advised to seek a higher level of care via Our Lady of Peace out-patient treatment followed by one-on-one therapy from MH/SU staff and medications management from an advanced practice registered Psych Nurse at Phoenix Health Care. Through hard work and use of resources via Ozanam Inn Shelter, MH/SU staff, and our partner agencies, John was able to secure housing and was successfully discharged on April 29, 2022.



St. Vincent
de Paul
LOUISVILLE

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The monthly newsletter of
St. Vincent de Paul Louisville

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Our Mission

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

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Dinner Returns for Clubs & Cocktails!

We are so excited to welcome back the dinner portion of our annual Clubs & Cocktails event! In our 19th year, the dinner and auction will take place on Sunday, September 18, 2022, at The Olmsted, with the scramble following on Monday, September 19, 2022, at Hurstbourne Country Club. Attendees can expect a delicious buffet-style dinner, bourbon pull, wide selection of silent auction items, a live auction, words from some of our incredible staff, and more! You can find more information at <https://one.bidpal.net/clubsandcocktails22/welcome> or by scanning the QR code to the right.



Interested in putting together a foursome or donating an auction item or a bottle of your favorite bourbon? Contact Makenzie Smith at 502-272-2134 or msmith@svdplou.org. We can't wait to see you in September!



Enjoy auctions



Enjoy dinner



Enjoy golf



Enjoy friends



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Back to School Appeal

The Children's Summer Program is underway, and we are already gearing up for the coming school year! To provide the resources our children need both at school and after school, we need your help.

"Our parents don't have disposable income," explains Family Success Center Program Manager Julio Anthony. "Without the support of our donors, our children are unable to have the basic necessities for the school year. Pencils, pens, paper, folders, and more add up."

Your donations to the back-to-school appeal will provide students with school supplies, access to tutoring and homework support, and the support they need to be successful both in the classroom and at home.

"We are so grateful to those who support the kids," Julio says. "Without donor support, we couldn't provide all the supplies and services our kids need and deserve."

Won't you equip a child with the materials they need to succeed? Let's make this school year the best year yet! Give to the Back-to-School appeal.



Your donations will make school a more positive experience for the children we serve.

Save the Date

UPCOMING EVENTS AT
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL LOUISVILLE



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September 15th

Clubs & Cocktails

September 19th



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Focus on Conferences: St. Peter the Apostle

The Vincentians of St. Peter the Apostle are dedicated to helping provide the staples of life, food, electricity, heat, and clothing to individuals or families, thereby ensuring lives can be lived with dignity during times of need.

Bob Hagan, one of the 20 Vincentians at St. Peter the Apostle, explains. "Vincentians work to provide the necessities to those who need it the most."

While help with financial assistance is the primary focus, the Vincentians at this parish like to give back by completing projects for those in need. Bob describes the physical work as "good for the soul."

"There's something satisfying about going to a person's home and doing physical work and seeing the results when you're done," Bob explains.

The Vincentians also have two teams of volunteers who serve at the Open Hand Kitchen on the first and fifth Monday of the month. The teams alternate so each team works every other month.

When asked how Covid has changed things, Bob mentions the home visits. "We used to go on home visits regularly," he says, "but since Covid we've had to stop those. I hope we can get back to them."

Bob comes from a family of Vincentians. His wife joined the organization and he followed along, but his father had been a Vincentian as well. "Almost any Vincentian I know has relatives who are Vincentians, too," he relates. "It's kind of a tradition."

The most important thing Bob feels he gets out of working with the Vincentians is spiritual growth. "There's something about good works that feeds the soul and brings you so much gratitude for the life you have and the opportunities you have to give," he shares. "It brings me closer to God."



St. Peter the Apostle

Samtec Cares

We would like to thank Samtec Cares for helping to fund the following wrap-around services in 2021/22: Family Success Center, Mental Health/Substance Abuse support, and the Open Hand Kitchen. The generosity of the organization allowed children to enjoy field trips, those in need to receive food safely, and those in need of mental health services to be supported throughout the year.



Kentucky Colonels Gift

Thank you to Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels for graciously granting us funds towards the purchase of a new box truck for our Thrift Store and Warehouse Operations! Your support allows us to continue our mission to house, feed, and support those in need with compassion and dignity.



Your Recurring Donation Provides Support in Every Season

Whether it's White Flag in the extreme heat and bitter cold or Back to School in the fall, a recurring donation to St. Vincent de Paul Louisville provides support for our programs all year long.

When you make a donation online, be sure to check "Make this a monthly gift."