

The Good Samaritan

Housing Those in Need

Clients are referred to us through the Coalition of the Homeless. Case managers proactively find the referred client wherever they are currently sheltering, explain the housing opportunity to them, and offer to help them gather all necessary documents for housing. Once accepted for the housing program, clients talk to a housing specialist, who determines what kind of income the client has and any specific needs the client may have. A background check is run for on-campus housing options, and once these steps are taken, the application for housing is processed. Clients who have been offered a voucher for a scattered-site unit begin the difficult hunt for an apartment.

We have on-campus housing and scattered off-site housing, where St. Vincent de Paul Louisville has a relationship with the landlord. If clients are scheduled for on-campus housing, the housing specialist identifies the available apartment and processes the paperwork that will provide supportive funds for the client for housing and other needs like utilities.



Housing Manager Priscilla Massey (left) with Housing Specialist Melanie Coleman (right)



Case managers assist clients who have a scattered site voucher in locating a unit in the community and in completing the landlord's application process.

St. Vincent de Paul Louisville receives funding from the government and through donations to provide assistance with rent, utilities, fees, and deposits. These funds pass from SVDP directly to the landlord/property manager or utility.

Each year, the housing specialists review a client's information to ensure that the client still qualifies for the housing they have. Changes in household composition might mean that the family needs a bigger or smaller unit, and increased income might mean the family is able to pay a part of their rent on their own.

Manager of Housing Priscilla Massey works tirelessly to get and keep our clients in their homes. Sometimes that means confronting either a landlord or a client about failures to honor the contract.

"A housing specialist acts both as a landlord and a tenant advocate. We are

on the lease, and if landlords don't fulfill their responsibilities, we have a duty to withhold the rent for a unit. I am there to ensure the client and the landlord are upholding their sides of the contract. Sometimes I must be the heavy on one side or the other, but I'm always working to help our clients stay housed," Priscilla explains.

The work can be difficult. There are times when emotions can run high. After all, this job can mean the difference between a client staying housed or losing that stability again.

When asked why she does this job, Priscilla says, "Handing someone the keys to their new home makes me so happy. Knowing I played a part in their journey makes it all worthwhile."

While government grants pay for rental assistance, many of our clients need help with utilities, rental deposits and fees, and more. Your donations help ensure that we can house those in need with compassion and dignity. Thank you for making a difference.



St. Vincent
de Paul
LOUISVILLE

The Good Samaritan

The monthly newsletter of
St. Vincent de Paul Louisville

Send correspondence to PO Box 17126,
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Visit us at 1015-C South Preston Street,
Louisville, KY 40203-2733

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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.

svdplou.org

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Fire Hits de Paul Apartments

On the evening of August 3, 2022, employees were preparing to go home from work when they saw smoke coming from one of the apartments at St. Vincent de Paul Louisville's de Paul Apartments. While one employee ran into the building to ensure everyone got out, another called emergency services.

Because of the fast thinking of FSC Program Manager Julio Anthony and Case Manager Brittany Sanderson, everyone got out of the apartments safely, and severe damage was limited to two of the 12 apartments. The Red Cross was contacted and arrived quickly. Families were fed, and we ensured that all 12 families had a safe place to stay for the night.

Restoration work has already begun, and most families will be back in their apartments soon. We are working with our insurance company to ensure that work on the two

damaged apartments will take place as soon as possible.

As we offered support to the families who had been displaced, time and again we were asked, "When can we go home?" It is important to remember that these apartments are not just places people stay. These apartments are their homes. We are now working as fast and safely as possible to get our families back in their homes and to replace the items that were lost in the fire.

If you would like to support our families and help them recover from this tragedy, please consider either a monetary donation or donations of items like diapers, shoes (specifically for the children), clothes for small children, bedding, and household items like towels, washcloths, dishes, and cooking items. And, of course, prayers are always appreciated.

We give thanks that no one was injured, and we are grateful, as always, for your kindness and generosity.



We are only one month out from our eighth time participating in Give for Good Louisville! The area's most generous day of giving hosted annually by the Community Foundation of

Louisville is set to return on Thursday, September 15th, 2022. This year, we are focusing on raising funds for our Family Success Center, and we need YOUR help to have a record-breaking giving day with a goal of \$40,000!

Interested in being a matching sponsor? Help us double the impact of every gift made. Please reach out to Makenzie Smith at msmith@svdplou.org or 502-272-2134 for more information or if you have any questions.

Visit the QR code (right) on Thursday, September 15th, not before or after, as all donations have to be made on this day to count in the totals for the Give for Good day. Mark your calendars to support St. Vincent de Paul Louisville in our mission to house, feed, and support those in need with compassion and dignity!



Focus Conferences: St. Bernadette

St. Bernadette Conference has 17 active Vincentians. The Vincentians serve the local community by providing financial help when a person is in need. Support can come through gift cards or vouchers for food, rental assistance, and help with health care costs like dental care.

There are many reasons to join the Vincentian community. Conference President Rebecca Najewicz explains her reasons. "I became a Vincentian 30 years ago when the Society first began allowing women to join. I learned what the Vincentians did, and I wanted to help with that work. I had known about the Society since I was a little girl and saw the men joining together at church. My name began with a 'de,' and that made me feel a connection with the organization," she shares.

"My first home visit was to a single mother who had just moved into an apartment. There was nothing in the apartment but a mattress on the floor. We were able to give her vouchers for food, formula, and more," she remembers.

Later, Rebecca came to live in Louisville, joined a parish that has since merged to become St. Bernadette, and found that the Vincentians provided an opportunity for her and her family to be active in the church.

When asked what being a Vincentian has taught her, Rebecca says it has taught her empathy and made her realize how easily one's circumstances can change.

"I've learned that 'there but by the grace of God go I', and it makes me thankful that I can offer support to others," she says.

When asked why someone would want to become a Vincentian, Rebecca explains, "You will make great friends, serve the community, and grow spiritually."

We thank our conferences for all their good work. It gives us hope.



Save the Date

UPCOMING EVENTS AT
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL LOUISVILLE



Give for Good

September 15th

Clubs & Cocktails

September 18th & 19th

Tour de Change

November 8th

Santa Shop

December 11th

Our thanks to Louisville Metro
Government for their support



Farewell to Brothers

Brothers Jeremiah and Samuel joined in the work at St. Vincent de Paul Louisville this summer. The brothers worked in the food pantry, kitchen, and with our children.

We appreciate the brothers' dedication, devotion to Christ, and their help this summer.



Brothers Jeremiah (left) and Samuel (right) with Director of Volunteers and Conference Affairs Donna Young



Our volunteer-led Food Pantry provides food to those in need on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. Foods include fresh fruit and vegetables, canned goods and fresh proteins.

Employee Profile: Case Manager Jessie Arnold

Jessie Arnold, a case manager at St. Vincent de Paul Louisville, has been with the organization for five years. In that time, she has helped many people improve their lives. She has a degree in sociology and a desire to help those in need.

Jessie started work here as an Americorps volunteer. In that role, she worked for six months with Julio Anthony at the Family Success Center, working with the children we serve, helping with lessons, guiding children in play, and helping Julio plan future educational opportunities.

After six months, a position for a case manager opened, and Jessie decided to apply. "I knew the case management was what I wanted to focus my attention on," she explains.

Jessie has deep compassion and empathy for those who have lost their homes. She, herself, has experienced homelessness in her life and has had family members who have been homeless. She says this lived experience brings her empathy for those she works with, and when her clients know that she's experienced what they are going through, they trust her and have hope.

When asked what keeps her coming back every day, Jessie says it's knowing she's making a difference. "Seeing the little successes, the breakthroughs, makes it all worthwhile," she explains.

Jessie recommends St. Vincent de Paul Louisville to any case manager considering working with the homeless. "It's a good organization. There are lots of training classes, and lots of opportunities to learn," she says. "And the leadership team makes a big difference. They've always been there for me if I have an issue."

We want to thank Jessie for her hard work and dedication to those experiencing homelessness. Your compassion and empathy for your clients is a blessing.



Join us
September 18, Dinner at The Olmsted
September 19, Golf at
Hurstbourne Country Club

Santa's Workshop Call for Volunteers

Calling on Santa's elves! St. Vincent de Paul Louisville's Santa's Workshop is Sunday, December 11. We're preparing for this special Christmas event already. Do you want to donate clothes for a child in need? Do you want to be one of Santa's helpers before or during the event? Call Director of Volunteer Services and Conference Affairs Donna Young, 502-301-8688.



Your Kroger purchases can help support St. Vincent de Paul Louisville.

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Visit [kroger.com/communityrewards](https://www.kroger.com/communityrewards) and enter organization number MI073