

# The Good Samaritan

## Santa Shop a Success on 26th Anniversary

Delta knows exactly what her 9-year-old daughter's favorite Christmas present will be this year: roller skates.

"She's going to open them and start screaming about the skates. She'll be rolling on those things all day," Delta said.

Delta, who had some health complications that have affected her ability to work, was one of the many appreciative parents who shopped for their children at the 26th anniversary of St. Vincent de Paul Louisville's Santa Shop on Sunday, Dec. 11, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

"They said we were angels," commented Donna Young, Director of Volunteer Services and Conference Affairs.

With an army of 370 "angels," SVDP was able to serve 253 families and 702 children, who received clothing, toys, books, games and even stocking stuffers

at the mini-mall set up in the Family Success Center gym.

There were a variety of volunteers doing their part, including 25 University of Dayton alumni, a grandma and her grandson manning the jeans table together, three Boy Scouts from Troop 327, and more.

Becca, who has served at the Santa Shop for more than a decade, said there's no place she would rather be.

"It wouldn't be Christmas if I couldn't volunteer for this event each year because it's so rewarding for parents to have gifts for their kids to open on Christmas morning," Becca said.

One such mother needed someone to care for her children this Christmas, especially after a house fire in August has made it difficult to make ends meet.

Kia helped her cousin, Antonia, shop for her two boys, 10- and 7-years-old, saying, "You could tell the people that gave gifts cared and put love into their shopping."

And while many children were excited about what Christmas presents they were getting this year, one 10-year-old girl gave back. Karsen, who volunteered with her family at the Santa Shop, donated \$200 to SVDP. She is the youngest participant of the Broadway show "Hits! The Musical," and each cast member was given \$200 to donate to a nonprofit organization of her choice.

Thank you to everyone who gave financially or of their time to make the 26th anniversary of SVDP's Santa Shop such a success!



Santa Shop brought joy to all who gave and who received this Christmas season.

## Success Story: Donated Bike Helps Young Man Get to and from Work

Joyce Johnson is the Lead Program Aide at Waypoint, St. Vincent de Paul Louisville's Youth Transitional Housing Program. She is pictured with Chris and his new bike. Someone generously gifted a bike to Chris so that he could get to and from work. Ms. Joyce, as people at Waypoint call her, said, "Chris has been working hard to gain transportation to and from work and other places. He looks up to me as a grandmother figure and knows that he can come to me about any concerns and knows that I will make things happen." With his new bike, Chris was able to take another step forward in his journey, but now much quicker. Quentin Childers, Associate Director of Crisis Housing, said, "Chris was extremely happy to get the bike and we were happy for him."





St. Vincent  
de Paul  
LOUISVILLE

## The Good Samaritan

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.

## Support SVDP

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

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## The Generosity of Our Donors

On Thursday, Dec. 1, 2022, from 6 to 8 p.m., St. Vincent de Paul Louisville (SVDP) hosted a Major Donor Dinner at the Omni Louisville. We had almost 50 SVDP supporters come and connect with each other. CEO Dave Calzi and Director of Housing and Services Dominique Batts spoke about some of our recent successes, such as finding housing for 24 men from Ozanam Inn since last June. Makenzie Smith, Senior Development & Events Coordinator, said, "We were so thrilled to get together with some of our wonderful supporters of St. Vincent de Paul Louisville. Folks like them allow us to continue our mission to house, feed, and support those in need with compassion and dignity. It was an evening full of good food, laughter, reflection, and excitement towards our future."



## New Truck for Thrift Stores

St. Vincent de Paul Louisville purchased a new box truck last November for its Warehouse Operations and two Thrift Store locations: 2217 Hikes Ln. at Bardstown Road and 10280 Shelbyville Rd. at Dorsey Lane. SVDP was able to purchase this truck because of a generous grant of \$12,000 from the Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels last summer. With car maintenance issues to our other trucks, this box truck is a great asset to deliver quality items like furniture to our Thrift Stores. "This is a great addition because now we will be able to serve the community and complete our pickups in a reliable way for our customers," said Patrick Watts, SVDP's Director of Stores.



## Market St. Thrift Store Closing

St. Vincent de Paul Louisville's Thrift Store at 248 E. Market St. closed at the end of December. This location was SVDP's first Thrift Store and opened in the 1990s. It has been an honor serving the Louisville Metro for a number of years and we appreciate all of the community support at this Thrift Store. However, we believe this strategic decision will allow us to better use our resources to rally around our mission of feeding, housing and supporting those in need with compassion and dignity. In mid-December, SVDP sold this property to the University of Louisville Real Estate Foundation. "While we may consider another retail location in the future, customers are greatly encouraged to visit our other two locations: 2217 Hikes Ln. at Bardstown Road and 10280 Shelbyville Rd. at Dorsey Lane," said Patrick Watts, SVDP's Director of Stores.

## Save the Date

UPCOMING EVENTS AT  
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL LOUISVILLE

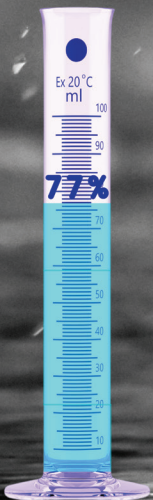


**Roses & Rose**  
April 29th  
**Clubs & Cocktails**  
August 6th and 7th

Our thanks to Louisville Metro  
Government for their support



St. Vincent de Paul  
LOUISVILLE



DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE OPPORTUNITY TO SUPPORT OUR RAINY DAY AGING BUILDINGS FUND. BECAUSE OF MULTIPLE DONORS' GENEROSITY, ANY DONATION TO THIS FUND WILL BE MATCHED - ALLOWING US TO RENOVATE OUR BUILDINGS THAT SO DESPERATELY NEED IT. THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS EFFORT TO ENSURE THE BUILDINGS WILL STAY AS STRONG AS THE PROGRAMS HOUSED WITHIN THEM.

RAINY  
**DAY FUND**

FOR BUILDING RENOVATIONS

**DONATE NOW**

## About Our Conferences: St. Patrick Catholic Church

In 2013, Julie Westhoff felt led to start the St. Patrick Vincentian conference, which has since grown to 15 members.

"I had been growing in my faith and wanted to put my faith into action," Westhoff said. "It has been extremely rewarding."

Westhoff's father was a Vincentian in Atlanta, Georgia, but she didn't know a lot about what that meant except for their trips to a St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store to purchase items for her college dorm.

While attending a small group at St. Patrick Catholic Church, Deacon Scott Haner encouraged her as she wrestled with how to tangibly put her faith into action.

At that time, there wasn't a conference at St. Patrick, so Westhoff said, "It sounds like God's calling me."

The St. Patrick Vincentians field phone calls, help pay rent or utility bills, including car repairs, and provide them with

resources to reach if they are unable to help. They partner with Eastern Area Community Ministries, which assists those dealing with an urgent need or crisis.

Before COVID-19, the conference would do a lot of home visits, but they have still found other ways to serve.

Recently, the Vincentians met with a homeless couple and were able to get them food and affordable housing. They then helped them secure a job opportunity. The couple called back and expressed their appreciation.

They also provided aid to a young mom who had two children and a newborn. They helped pay her rent and got a stroller, car seat and crib sheets for her baby.

We are so thankful to the St. Patrick Vincentian conference for their devotion to love those around them in tangible ways.

## St. Patrick Catholic Church Donates 1,000 lbs. to Open Hand Kitchen

The men's club concessions team of St. Patrick Catholic Church in Middletown donated roughly 1,000 lbs. of food to St. Vincent de Paul Louisville's Open Hand Kitchen on November 21, 2022. St. Patrick received almost \$2,000 in donations from its members and bought an assortment of foods ranging from turkeys and green beans to stuffing and mashed potatoes. Rich Flaherty filled his SUV to the brim and brought it just in time for OHK's Thanksgiving meal. They were able to feed 300 people.



## VITA at SVDP

St. Vincent de Paul Louisville (SVDP) is providing an opportunity for its clients to get their tax returns completed. In partnership with the Louisville Asset Building Coalition (LABC), SVDP will be hosting the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) services in the Family Success Center from Jan. 23 to April 10. The hours are Mondays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., as well as Wednesdays from 12 p.m. to 7 p.m. VITA services were created to help hardworking families capitalize on the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC) and other tax credits they are eligible for. The LABC works with the IRS and VITA to provide free income tax preparation for families with household incomes up to \$66,000. In addition, the Tax-A-Thon will be held at the FSC on Friday and Saturday, Feb. 3-4, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Julio Anthony, SVDP's interim Associate Director of Community Supports, said he's hoping to get as many people as possible to use these free services, especially those who can walk from a nearby neighborhood. "We have a huge block surrounding our St. Vincent de Paul Louisville campus, so I'm excited to get people in the door not only for the VITA and Tax-A-Thon services, but also connect them to our other great events and programs in the future," Anthony said.

## Thanks to Our Grantors January – December 2022

From January 2022 to December 2022, we received grants from the organizations listed below. We are so thankful and would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation to each entity for making our mission to house, feed and support those in need with compassion and dignity possible last year.

- WHAS Crusade for Children
- Gheens Foundation
- Good Shepherd
- KY Colonels
- Mildred V. Horn
- Pads for All
- Society St. Vincent de Paul
- Genentech
- Porcini Farmer Children's Foundation, Inc.
- The Gardner Foundation, Inc.
- William E. Barth Foundation
- Brown-Forman Corporation
- Team Kentucky
- Fifth Third Bank
- Independent Pilots Association