



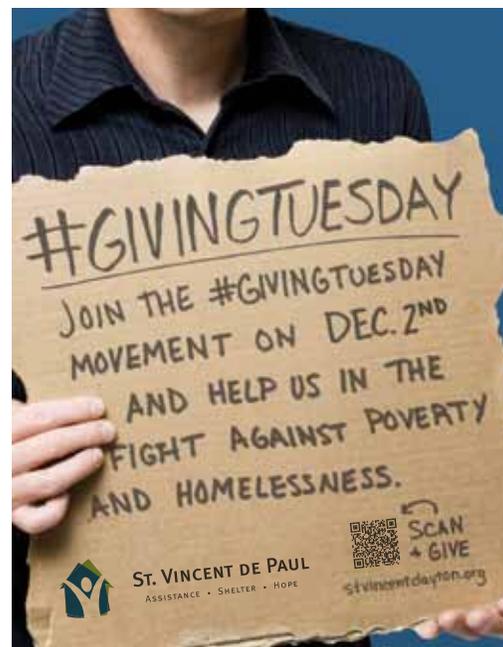
Join the Social Media Challenge! #GivingTuesday

St. Vincent de Paul has joined *#GivingTuesday*, a global initiative that harnesses the collective power of charities, families, businesses and individuals—to transform how people think about, talk about and participate in, the Thanksgiving and Christmas seasons. Coinciding with the Thanksgiving holiday and the kickoff of the Christmas shopping season, *#GivingTuesday* inspires people to take collective action to improve their local communities by giving back to vital charities and causes; to help create a better world.

#GivingTuesday takes place on December 2, 2014 – the Tuesday after

Thanksgiving. Using the power of social media, challenge your friends, family and followers to join this global moment around the holidays dedicated to giving, similar to how Black Friday and Cyber Monday have become days that are, today, synonymous with holiday shopping.

Will you join us in this movement and encourage your social media friends to join you in supporting those who need our help? Your support is needed for those who are living in poverty or who are homeless. Click and give on Tuesday, December 2nd, by going to our website at www.stvincentdayton.org.



St. Vincent's First Mission Gala: A Resounding Success



By any measure of success – planning, design, execution, visibility, attendance and financial performance – St. Vincent de Paul's first-ever Mission Gala, on September 20 was an outstanding success. More than 300 persons attended the gala, which netted over \$48,000 to support the work and mission of St. Vincent de Paul in our community.

The success of our event would not have been possible without the generosity of our sponsors and in-kind sponsors. We want to extend a special thank you to:

Hope Sponsor – Scott Family McDonald's®

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From the Executive Director

November 2014

Dear Friend of St. Vincent de Paul:



As detailed elsewhere in this issue of The Vincentian, the number of children-at-risk in our community is growing alarmingly.

More children are homeless. If current trends continue, we will serve more homeless children in 2014 than any other year in our history.

More children are hungry. Through October of this year, our food pantry served over 12,000 children between the ages of one and seventeen. SVDP Conference members who make home visits regularly report on households with empty cupboards – and children with empty stomachs.

All of these children need confident and capable parents. We find that many parents benefit from information and guidance on how to nurture and care for their children.

At St. Vincent de Paul, we have the honor and privilege of serving these children – in the Gateway Shelter, in our housing programs, at the food pantry, at our Community Store, and in our tutoring programs.

And so please dig a little deeper this holiday season. Help us bring to the children we serve both the wonder and delight of Christmas and additional support for the services they and their parents need, 24/7, every day of the year.

God's blessings to you and your family.

David Bohardt
Executive Director

So Many Children, So Many Ways to Help

On six days during August of this year, we sheltered more than 100 homeless children at the Gateway Shelter for Women and Families.

Prior to that, going all the way back to the first night we opened our first shelter on Fifth Street in December 1985, we had never sheltered 100 homeless children on any night, let alone six.

Never.

“We don't have an explanation for this explosion in the number of families and children coming to us for shelter,” said SVDP Executive Director David Bohardt,

“but we are doing our very best to give them the care and support they need.”

Bohardt said there has been a sharp increase in the number of guests served at both shelters since July of this year, with more than 24,000 nights of shelters provided in August and September alone. On an average night during these two months, St. Vincent served 80 homeless children.

“We don't have an explanation for this explosion in the number of families and children coming to us for shelter,”

“Our donors support us for many reasons,” said Bohardt, “but I would suspect that our shelter and care of homeless children would be among the most important.”

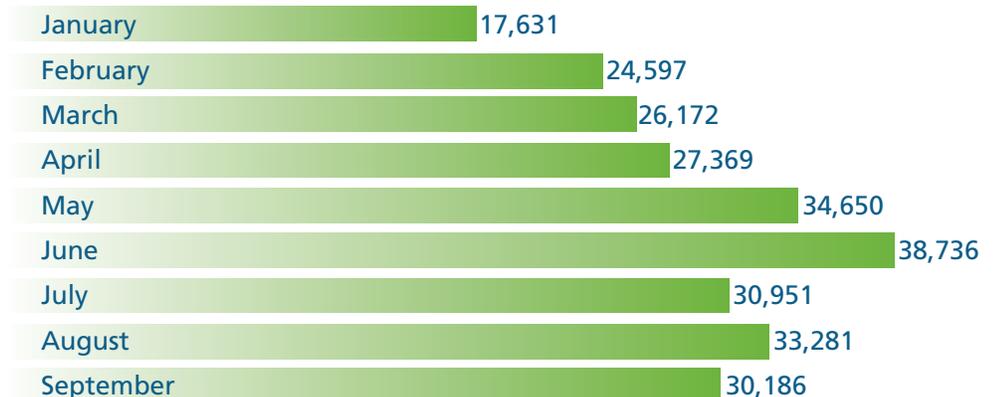
Hunger Continues to Stalk Families in the Dayton Region

St. Vincent de Paul's food pantry on Edwin C. Moses Boulevard has been serving record numbers of clients this year.

“There are a number of contributing factors,” says pantry manager Krysa Davidson, “but the bottom line is that St. Vincent and other food pantry operators in the Dayton area are experiencing an unprecedented demand for food.”

Davidson reported that through September, the food pantry had served more than 29,000 persons (8,000 households) and distributed more than 263,000 meals.

“We are in particular needs of high protein items,” said Davidson. Persons with boxed or canned goods, or other food items should call 937-222-5555, option 2.



Archbishop Schnurr Lauds the Work of the Dayton District Council

In September of this year, Cincinnati Archbishop Dennis Schnurr wrote a letter to all the parish pastors in our service district, lauding the work of the Dayton District Council and encouraging the formation of SVDP Conferences in those parishes that presently do not have one. Here are some excerpts from the letter:

“As you seek ways for your parishioners to witness Christ in the world around them, please consider the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a very special ministry that offers our parishioners rich opportunities for spiritual growth through personal service to others.

“St. Vincent de Paul has been active in the Archdiocese of Cincinnati since 1869. Over the years, the Society has spread to 122 parishes and four high schools and colleges in our Archdiocese. Vincentians visit struggling families in parish neighborhoods, bringing emotional comfort, spiritual support and practical help with food, rent, utilities, medicine, clothing, household items and more.

“In addition to home visits, St. Vincent de Paul offers many other programs and opportunities for involvement. For example, in Dayton, the We Together Campaign is helping raise awareness and support for the Society’s shelters, the two largest in Montgomery County...

“... St. Vincent de Paul members come to know Christ in a new and deeper way through service to others. While there are many charities providing physical assistance to the needy, few offer so many opportunities for our parishioners to grow in their own faith. Every encounter with a person in need brings the opportunity to witness God’s presence in the hopeful faces of those who seek our help.

“I realize there are many demands on your time and attention. Ultimately, the conference can be an excellent resource to deal lovingly with the calls for help received by every Catholic parish ...

“Thank you for the many ways you support St. Vincent de Paul. If you do not have a St. Vincent de Paul Conference in your parish, please consider either starting a conference or supporting this beloved charity in other ways. If you would like to discuss this further, please contact Gary Horton at 513-562-8841 ext. 234. God bless you for all you do to further the kingdom of God.”



Community Dentists Brighten Smiles and Children’s Lives

Drs. Louis & Dominic Vitangeli, through the Crown Council’s annual Smiles for Life campaign, raised \$1944.50 for the St. Vincent de Paul Tutoring Program that focuses on engaging homeless children in constructive activities that instill life skills and academic achievement.

Dr. Louis and Dr. Dominic remarked, “While it’s rewarding to see the beautiful smiles of our patients after their teeth are whitened – it is even more fulfilling to see the smiles of the children whose lives are changed by these contributions.” Bonnie Vitangeli, the office manager and a member of the St. Rita/St. Paul SVDP Conference stated, “This is the second year our practice has donated to this worthwhile program.” On behalf of the children, St. Vincent de Paul is grateful for this gift.

“We Together” Campaign Reaches More than 75,000 in Our Community

On August 23rd-24th, St. Vincent de Paul launched its first community awareness campaign, We Together, to create a greater understanding of our mission and the people we serve. The campaign was launched in 58 churches of all denominations as well as clubs and organizations.

We have shared the message of St. Vincent de Paul with over 75,000 people through both the churches and through print advertising. Many people approached our speakers and expressed gratitude for learning more about who we are and what we do. One woman in

particular said she had been supporting another organization for many years and never knew about the scope of the work of St. Vincent de Paul; she said she would be switching her donations to St. Vincent de Paul! The campaign will continue to raise awareness and funding for our mission with presentations set for November and January.





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Mission of the St. Vincent de Paul, Dayton District Council

The Dayton District Council of St. Vincent de Paul, growing in spirituality and friendship, provides Christ-inspired person-to-person support in an empowering effort to improve the lives of those in personal, spiritual, or material need.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
 ASSISTANCE • SHELTER • HOPE
 (937) 222-7349

University of Dayton Athletics Supports SVDP!

Throw-In-The-Towel Game – donate a towel to SVDP
 Saturday, December 20, 2014, 7:00 p.m.
 Men's Basketball @ UD Arena

Donate 2 canned foods for a \$2 Game Admission
 Sunday, January 4, 2015, 3:30 p.m.
 Women's Basketball @ UD Arena



DAYTON FLYERS

