



St. Vincent de Paul
 ASSISTANCE • SHELTER • HOPE
 St. Vincent de Paul Social Services, Inc.
 124 West Apple Street
 Dayton, Ohio 45402-2617

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DRIVE DAYTON FORWARD

The Vincentian Newsletter - Spring 2026



Your gift of goods helps your neighbors!

Your donations of toiletries, clothing, household items, and furniture are sorted and prioritized to meet the most urgent needs of your neighbors: shelter guests, families moving into new homes, and households assisted by our neighborhood ministries. Items not needed by neighbors are sold in our CityThrift store, where all sales go directly back to supporting our ministries.

Drop Off Donations at CityThrift

945 S. Edwin C. Moses Blvd.
 Mon. – Fri. 8:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.
 Sat. 9:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Due to construction at the Apple St. shelter, the donation dock at 120 W. Apple St. is CLOSED. We apologize for any inconvenience!



St. Vincent de Paul

#GIVINGTUESDAY

GIVING TUESDAY GRATITUDE

Thanks to all who gave on Giving Tuesday in December! You helped us raise \$10,810 for new kitchen equipment, and a total of \$16,850. Your generosity allowed us to purchase a new fryer, griddle, sandwich/salad prep table, and warming/cooling stations to better prepare meals for guests staying at the shelter. Thank you for improving the lives of your neighbors with your compassion!



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The VINCENTIAN

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A Brand New Life

You gave Larissa a home and the support she needed to bring her baby into the world.

When Larissa became pregnant, she was unable to take her mental health medication. She moved back in with her mom, hoping that the familial support would help reduce her stress. However, after a couple months, her mom's partner kicked her out of the house.

"I lost my job, and a lot of things happened at once," she said. "I came to the shelter because I didn't have any support."

That's where you came in. Your generosity ensured that Larissa and her unborn child had shelter, food, clothing, and support when they needed it most.

Larissa spent three months in the shelter and then, thanks to you, she made a new home in St. Vincent de Paul's supportive housing. You gave her stability and support when she needed it most – just in time for her to give birth to a healthy baby boy.

She is grateful for the support she receives both to care for him and to find her own healing as she continues to improve her mental health.

"They are supportive here," she said. "They work with you and listen to you. They care." But, she added, "I wouldn't have been able to get through anything without God."

Thank you for allowing God to work through you by supporting St. Vincent de Paul.



Larissa is thankful for the support she has received in St. Vincent de Paul supportive housing.

From the Executive Director

Dear Friend of St. Vincent de Paul,

Love One Another!

The ministry of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is one of encounter. We are committed to an encounter with the people we serve in a person-to-person way, forming relationships based on trust and friendship. In this way, we can truly BE the face of Christ and SEE the face of Christ. This encounter is not a one-way proposition. I hear from our employees, volunteers, and Vincentians that many times they feel that they are receiving more than they are giving. Truly, we grow in holiness through our service to our brothers and sisters.



Larissa's story is a reminder that while you help us provide shelter, food, and clothing, it is your compassionate support and care that make the biggest impact in someone's life. This is true no matter our state in life – when we feel truly seen and heard, we can start to move past pain or anxiety and into hope and comfort.

Thank you for your prayers, financial support, material support, volunteering, and for sharing the good news of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul with your family and friends!

Yours in Christ,

Angie Grilliot, Executive Director
St. Vincent de Paul Society, Dayton District

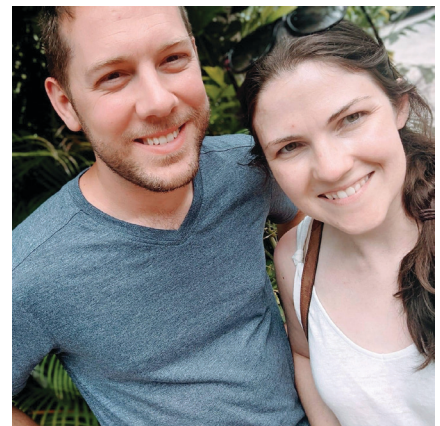
Will You Join Josh and Vicky as a Steadfast Friend?

Your monthly gift will ensure your neighbor receives help when they need it most.

Steadfast Friends are donors who give regular, monthly financial gifts to St. Vincent de Paul. Josh and Vicky began giving monthly because they recognized that regular gifts provide critical stability for emergency services, like St. Vincent de Paul's shelter.

"It is intensely rewarding, because you know exactly where the money is going," Josh explains. "It has a direct impact on our neighbors and our community, and it aligns with our values."

With a gift of \$40 a month, you can give a hurting neighbor one night of shelter, food, and clothing when they need it most. A gift of \$120 per month can provide a family of three with the shelter they need in a moment of crisis. No matter what you can give, your gift will make a difference!



Josh and Vicky's steady support ensures their neighbors receive assistance when they need it most!

Will you become a Steadfast Friend?

You can scan the QR code to set up a simple, automatic recurring gift, or visit <https://stvincentdayton.org/friends/> to learn more. Thank you for being a friend to your neighbors in need!



A Place to Belong

You helped Sarge learn how to give – and receive.

“Jesus came to be with the broken. I felt such a sense of belonging amongst the broken. It became my duty to be with them.” Sarge, pictured bottom right with Shelter Director Joe Gebhart.



On a lifelong journey of seeking God, Sarge never quite felt like he belonged anywhere.

He described years of pain and loss, service in the Marine Corps, becoming a teenage father and husband, five years in prison, the loss of a child, a remarriage. Then, about 15 years ago, an illness very nearly killed him - until he experienced what could only be described as a miraculous healing.

Two months later, after he had fully recovered, he said, God led him to work at St. Vincent de Paul’s shelter for men. “After all I’d been through,” he said. “I finally found my place. I’d been in the streets in my alcohol and drug years and spent time in shelter. But I never imagined it would be there that I felt such a sense of belonging among those men. All of the hurt, the suffering, the addiction, the isolation and loneliness, having nobody. It was right there. Jesus came to be with the broken. I felt such a sense of belonging amongst the broken. It became my duty to be with them.”

He did his duty well, giving everything to the men over the years, listening to their stories, caring for them, and letting them know they were not alone.

He had been working at the shelter for more than 11 years when he also became the primary caretaker of his wife. His own health began to decline, and he had to stop working. “It was a

result of not taking care of myself,” he said. “I was taking care of everything else but myself.”

He ended up in the hospital after having a stroke, and while there, his wife passed away. The grief of that loss is one he is still processing.

When he was discharged from the hospital, he needed a place to rehabilitate. He couldn’t return to the home he had shared with his wife. And there were no openings in a nursing home where he could recover.

So, he returned to the place where he knew he belonged – this time as a guest of St. Vincent’s shelter. In his grief, he was reunited with his St. Vincent family – his fellow co-workers and the men he cared for. This time they cared for him.

Thanks to you, Sarge found a place where he belonged. With your support, he cared for his brothers when they had no one else to turn to, and he received that care in return when he needed it most.

He spent one week in the shelter while St. Vincent’s veteran services found him a place to recover. Now he has his own home where former shelter guests stop by to see him.

“Even though I can’t work anymore, I still try to be encouraging and show them I care,” he said. “They are my people. I know their pain. I’ve been there, and God brought me through this.”