

VINCENTIAN *NewsFlash*



Special Features

DONOR SPOTLIGHT
THE BUTLER FOUNDATION

CONFERENCE SPOTLIGHT
ST. PAUL

CLIENT SPOTLIGHT
SAMARITAN CAR CARE CLINIC

CAMPBELL COUNTY STORE
COMING SPRING 2021





MESSAGE

FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR KAREN ZENGEL
AND COUNCIL PRESIDENT CASEY GUILFOYLE



IN THE NEWS

Goodness and beauty abounds!

Despite the heightened challenges during much of 2020, we have witnessed the goodness and beauty of a community that has responded to hardships with a strong and steady spirit of compassion for our neighbors in need. Daily, we have the opportunity to see:

- The response of our Vincentian volunteers answering the many calls for assistance with a listening ear and open heart.
- The generosity of our donors who have made it possible to meet unprecedented economic needs.
- The dedication of our St. Vincent staff to keep our mission thriving through uncertainty.

In short, we have seen the goodness and beauty of our entire St. Vincent community coming together – our Vincentians, our donors, our staff. This vision of the good and beautiful shining through the darkness that we see on a regular basis is what we choose to celebrate with thanksgiving and joy. Acknowledging the good and the beautiful generates optimism as surely as this ministry paves a path of hope for those in need.

There are clearly problems in this world – poverty, hunger, racial inequality, addiction. In fact, this year has brought many of these issues to the forefront like never before. We do not deny these issues. However, we also know and see everyday that there is good in this world. We want to focus on the good – the good shows there are solutions to the problems. We will work hard to make sure that good grows.

We want you to know about the good and to recognize that you are part of the good. Every rent request, every bag of groceries, every bed for a child in need, every voucher to help someone with clothing or furniture – every bit of good we are able to share comes from our entire St. Vincent community. You are an integral part of this community! We could not do these things without your time, your gifts or your prayers.

This year we are making a commitment to communicate the good. We look forward to sharing newsletters, personal notes, emails and phone calls so that we can share with you the good we have the benefit of seeing every day. Your time, talent and treasure matter and we want you to know that.

**Thank you for being neighbors
we can count on.**

HOPE is the message that we convey to those in need every day at St. Vincent de Paul. And for us, nothing demonstrates HOPE more than planning for the future. We are excited to announce that a new thrift store and food pantry to serve our neighbors in Campbell County will be opening in Cold Spring in Spring 2021.

It is our intention that this new location across the street from St. Joseph Catholic Church will offer a choice pantry after recovery from the pandemic, allowing our neighbors seeking food assistance to choose for themselves what products they receive. The location is also on the bus line offering more accessibility for those who are faced with transportation challenges.

The opening of a Campbell County location to better serve the community has been a goal in our strategic plan since 2018. The thrift store will provide our Campbell County neighbors needing clothing, housewares or furniture a closer location to redeem their vouchers, and offer affordable merchandise for the community at large. It also provides a central location for our Campbell County donors, making it easier for them to share their material donations. Renovation to the space will begin in January. We will share additional details in early 2021 regarding the grand opening for this new location.



**CAMPBELL COUNTY
STORE COMING
SPRING 2021**

“MAKE IT A PRACTICE TO JUDGE PERSONS
AND THINGS IN THE MOST FAVORABLE LIGHT
AT ALL TIMES AND UNDER ALL CIRCUMSTANCES.”
-ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



COAT DRIVE
AND
DISTRIBUTION

Our **Coat Drive and Distribution** kicked off in October and extends through the end of January. Our goal is to provide a warm winter coat to everyone who calls into our Call Center or comes into our thrift stores in need of a coat. In the past, coat distributions were held during two weekends in December but due to current restrictions on gatherings as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, distribution of coats looks different this year.

This year, we are asking those in need of a coat to call our Assistance Helpline. Coat vouchers will be mailed to the family and can be redeemed in our thrift stores. We are working with partner organizations and agencies to make sure that those who cannot make it to our thrift stores will still receive a coat through their extended outreach.

Our coat drive has fewer donation drop off locations this year but we are still accepting coats at various fire stations and city buildings throughout Northern Kentucky and at all three thrift store locations. If you would like to donate coats, or donate money to help purchase new coats, please visit our website at www.svdpnky.org for more information. We continue to partner with Gold Star Chili this year and instead of collecting coats for distribution, they are collecting monetary donations at their restaurants. These funds will be used to purchase new coats.



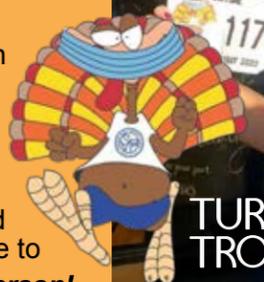
400 MEALS
DISTRIBUTED

Our annual **Christmas dinner distribution** was another great success this year with **400 meals being distributed** to our neighbors in need with the help of our Vincentians. A generous donor has consistently provided these meals for the last several years. We are grateful for this generous support!

The **FOX 19 and Kroger Food from the Heart** campaign kicked off this past November and ran until January 1st. All proceeds benefited our St. Vincent de Paul pantries in Greater Cincinnati and Northern Kentucky. This year, instead of asking for food donations at Kroger stores across the tri state, supporters were asked to consider making a donation via Fox 19's website. Donations are used to help keep our pantries stocked for the remainder of winter. We are very appreciative of the support from the community to help keep families fed, especially during the ongoing pandemic.

Our **13th Annual VIRTUAL Turkeyfoot Trot**, presented by Commonwealth Bank & Trust Company and Payroll Partners Inc., proved to be a great success, as we raised over \$35,000 to support our local conferences throughout Northern Kentucky. All proceeds help our neighbors in need with rent/utilities, food, clothing, and furniture. The virtual event allowed participants the flexibility to choose where and when to run/walk their 5k between November 12th through November 22nd.

This year we added a fun twist, a Scavenger Hunt Challenge, where participants could hunt for Turkeyfoot Trot signs at sponsors' businesses and were entered into a drawing for 65 prizes. Participants shared their photos on social media to get additional entries into the prize drawing. We are thrilled that we could host the family fun event again this year, even if we weren't able to "trot together" in person. **We look forward to resuming next year's race in person!**



TURKEYFOOT
TROT

HELPING NEIGHBORS OVERCOME TRANSPORTATION BARRIERS TOGETHER

Collaboration is one of the reasons we are so successful in our mission of giving back.

For many of the people we serve, reliable transportation to living wage employment is a challenge. Even if a struggling neighbor is fortunate enough to own a car, the cost of maintenance is often deferred when making the choice between paying the rent and changing the oil in their car. The end result can be more costly repairs that threatens their ability to meet their basic obligations.

Enter Samaritan Car Care Clinic, a newly established non-profit partner, whose mission is to ensure that those struggling to make ends meet can have the transportation they need to support their families. We are excited to share our new collaboration with Samaritan Car Care Clinic.

Samaritan Car Care Clinic began in 2008 as an extension of the outreach provided by Madison Avenue Christian Church. Bruce Kintner, founder, started the clinic because many of the people who came to dinner at the church would talk about how they couldn't afford car repairs. The pastor at the church overheard these conversations about the broken down cars. Knowing Bruce's understanding and enthusiasm for properly caring for cars, he approached him for help. Bruce convened a small team and started with free oil changes a few times a year. That team has grown, now providing free or low cost repairs, for those in need four times a year.

Through mutual connections, Bruce and Karen met and began to discuss ways to help the Clinic grow to serve more people in need of reliable transportation. In its most basic form, the partnership involves the Clinic accepting referrals from SVdP NKY, providing free or low cost repairs to neighbors who have called our helpline in need of support for car repairs. However, the opportunity

has proven to be much larger in some cases where we've come together to provide a reliable car to someone who does not have transportation at all. Here's an example of how this has been possible:

This year, a Vincentian of our own, Phyllis Ramsey, was donating a car through our Car Donation program, but heard there was a case with a neighbor in need of a reliable car. Marla Kelly with St. Paul Conference was assigned the case, where the neighbor, Tom, was desperately in need of transportation to help him get to regular medical appointments to address critical health issues. His car had so many problems that it wasn't financially smart to fix it.

With knowledge of the Clinic, SVdP asked Bruce to take a look at the car Phyllis planned to donate to see if minor repairs could make the car a viable solution for Tom's transportation to his appointments. Bruce found the car to be in good shape and his team was able to get the car in safe working order with minimal work compared to the care that his former car would require. In the meantime, the St. Paul Conference connected with Deacon Mike Lyman of our Microloan

program to determine if Tom qualified for a Microloan to help him purchase the car for the cost of the repairs and also receive financial mentoring as part of this program. The week before Christmas, Tom received his "new" car.

In addition to Tom's case, we've been able to help three other individuals obtain reliable transportation through a combination of donated cars, the Clinic's work and our Microloan program to help cover the cost of the parts and a nominal garage fee. The financial mentoring that these individuals experience is the cherry on top! Bruce is "excited for this new adventure with St. Vincent de Paul and is ready to scale up. The hope for the future of Samaritan Car Care Clinic is to be able to be a training site for those looking to become a mechanic and to have their own repair shop."

Over the next couple of months, we will be working with the Clinic to establish a manageable process to refer neighbors in need of car repairs. In the meantime, Vincentians working with someone in need of help with their transportation should contact the assistance office to make the connection. We are thrilled to have this opportunity to help meet a long underserved need in Northern Kentucky.



ST. PAUL CONFERENCE SPOTLIGHT



St. Paul is one of the many parish conferences in Northern Kentucky. Marla Kelly, president of St. Paul conference, shared great insight into their outreach and partnerships. Located in Florence, Kentucky, this conference has been in existence for over 20 years and continues to grow in Vincentian volunteer membership. "Our conference has been very successful in building relationships with businesses, other organizations, and schools in the community to better serve our neighbors in need," commented Marla. St. Paul works closely with its parish and school. The parish gathers Christmas gifts every year for those in need and the school often hosts canned food drives to help with the conference's onsite food pantry.

This year has proven to be difficult due to limitations as a result of COVID-19, but St. Paul has worked around the hardships and convenes Zoom meetings with their conference volunteers so that they can work together to best serve the neighbors in their community. St. Paul has a unique partnership with Remke Markets in Florence, where neighbors in need can shop for fresh produce, milk, eggs, and bread using St. Vincent de Paul food vouchers. This partnership does require extra work especially on Remke's end, but the outcome is phenomenal as it allows our neighbors to stay fed with fresh and healthy food, especially since so many have lost jobs due to the ongoing pandemic.

Marla shared a heartwarming story that she recalled from her 10+ years as a St. Paul conference member and Vincentian. A homeless father suffering from chronic health conditions had been in and out of the hospital. In the midst of his struggles, he was fighting to keep his daughter safe. He had little to no money, and the money he could scrape together he paid his friends to keep his daughter housed and fed. St. Paul was assigned to his case after he contacted the St. Vincent de Paul Assistance Helpline requesting any support he could get.

Their conference was able to pull resources together to find him an affordable apartment, secured a down payment for rent, provided him groceries, and his daughter returned to live with him. Marla shared, "Stories like this one are the reason I became a Vincentian in the first place. Being able to give hope to someone that lives in my own community is just amazing." Many people know that there is a need for help, but they don't realize that the need is all throughout Northern Kentucky, not just in the inner city areas. This is why we have parish conferences located throughout Northern Kentucky who are called to help year round. Marla commented that many Vincentians would give their own money out of their pocket or clothes off their back to help anyone who was in need. **These Vincentians are truly one of a kind and have a special place in our hearts.**



Our annual canned food drives with St. Xavier High School in Cincinnati and Notre Dame Academy in Park Hills, were a huge success again this year. These two schools go above and beyond to literally collect tons of nonperishable food items for our food pantries in Erlanger and Falmouth. The effort and excitement that the students have for helping their neighbors in need truly bring us joy. Together, St. X and NDA collected over 31,000 pounds of food! This year, St. Xavier High School also collaborated with St. Mary, St. Therese, St. Cecilia, St. Thomas, St. Paul and Blessed Sacrament conferences to provide food for their individual food pantries at their parishes. We are so happy to partner with these young men and women every year and know that they will go on to do great things!

THANK YOU ST. XAVIER
AND NOTRE DAME
ACADEMY

REMEMBERING & HONORING

Donations received through November 2020

IN HONOR

Danielle Dupps
Shellie Werff
Casey Guilfoyle
Marc & Susan Neltner

Robert Hegge
Steve Hegge
Cole Hetzel - Guinness Book of World Records
Stephen Britcher
Charles Hetzel

Fr. Dan Vogelpohl
Dave & Marianne Meyer
Peter & Teresa Manczk's 35th Wedding Anniversary
Elizabeth Mastriani

IN MEMORY

Jeffrey W. Abramis
Ted & Jerri Abramis
Thomas John Anderson
Chas H Bilz Insurance Agency Inc.
Don & Rose Ann Beckmeyer
Citizens Federal Savings and Loan Assoc. of Covington
Jenny Corken
William & Pamela Farrell
Bob & Angie Johnson
Ronald & Ellora Pegg
JoAnne Schuler & Judy Hellmann
David & Susan Schroeder
Jack Stansel
Kathy Summe
Edward & Carol Ann Whitehead
Richard & Peggy Ziegler
David Zirkelbach

Mary Bratu
Leon & Leslie Clifford
Joanne Deters Byrne
Theresa Schuler
St. Vincent de Paul, Council of Cincinnati
Roger & Sarah Andrews
James Dressman
Karen Elfers
Ann Franxmann
Tony & Janet Pemberton

Clyde Corken
Betty Corken

Joseph & Helen Dames
Robert & Beth Dames

Bob, Marie, & Cindy Dunham
Christie Dunham

Lou Hellman
Christopher & Christine Lonneman

Shirley Hoffmann
Robert Hoffmann

Cliff Johnson
Deborah Bailey

Ralph Kaelin
Charles Hardebeck

Betty Lyons
Frank & Jo Ann Benke

Angelica Moreno & Cristina Cruz
Ivelisse Caro Rinaldi

Paul Mueller
Mary Ann Mueller
Harry & Louise Muldoon and Hugh & Francis Bond
Stanley & Rita Bond
Cindy Ripberger
John Ripberger
Will Ritter
Ellie Ritter
Mark Sanford
Peggy Romes
Louise Schulte
Jerry & Carol Lux
Tom Thompson
Judith Shields
Joseph & Helen Wagner
Margaret Riley
Patricia Whitton
Margaret Ackermann
Martin & Cheryl Beyer
Blomquist, Murphy, Wlodkowski, Egeter & Murphy Families
John & Linda Brandenburg
Ferdinand & Susan Grau
Leo Kremer
Thomas & Elizabeth Maile
Aloysius Meese & Terry Winterberg
Janice Meinhardt
Charles & Teresa Ryan
Leslie Schaufert
Ruth Wilkes

We remember and honor these Vincentians that have recently passed away. May their souls rest in heavenly peace.



Janet Jehn
St. Barbara
SVdP Conference



Robert v
Mother of God
SVdP Conference

We sincerely apologize for any omissions or spelling errors.

Thank you to all who chose to honor and remember friends, family and loved ones by gifts to St. Vincent de Paul.

Christmas can be one of the most troubling times for the neighbors we serve and even more so this year with the ongoing pandemic. Our seasonal assistance program, **Adopt A Family**, allows families to have a joyful Christmas morning with their loved ones, with the help of generous individuals, families, and businesses in the NKY community. We receive calls from families in need who are looking for assistance with Christmas gifts. We gather details on the children's age, gender, and interests. Then we match the family in need with a generous donor who will "adopt" the family and shop for their Christmas gifts. This program relieves a burden for families who are struggling to get by, ensuring they have the opportunity to celebrate the joy of giving on Christmas morning. **We appreciate our generous donors who show up year after year to support this special program.**



Vincent's Angels is a newer program that allows our overflow of families to still get assistance from us even when they can't be "adopted" due to the program being at full capacity. The families still need help with Christmas gifts. We put these families on a special list and ask for the children's age and gender. We then ask our generous community for donations of new toys and gift cards. This year we made pre-filled bags with gifts, wrapping paper and gift bags for the families in need. Last year, we had a toy shop for parents to "shop" for gifts for their children and a gift wrapping station, but due to current circumstances, we couldn't offer it.

We hope to be back next year with our personalized experience!

DONOR SPOTLIGHT: THE BUTLER FOUNDATION

This edition of the Donor Spotlight features The Butler Foundation. The Butler Foundation has generously supported our ministry, providing funding at key times to help us expand programming in both traditional and new ways.

The mission of The Butler Foundation is to help those in need, as directly as possible. Following a successful real estate career from which locally based Corporex was built, Bill and Sue Butler established a family foundation as one way to meaningfully give back to the Northern Kentucky community. They originally named it "The Robert M. Butler Foundation" in honor of Bill's late father—who was himself a Vincentian, and is still fondly remembered for helping disadvantaged neighbors in Covington. Bill's brother, attorney Martin Butler, chairs the Foundation; and a third generation of family members are also active on the board. Today, the Butler Foundation offers help and hope to people who struggle with poverty, disability, lack of education or social support, and other hardships.

The missions of The Butler Foundation and St. Vincent de Paul are closely aligned in addressing the full spectrum of needs in our community, from emergency financial assistance to the goal of self-sufficiency among the less fortunate. Loving our neighbors is central to these efforts. Over the last two years, The Butler Foundation provided funding through a challenge grant to help SVdP NKY increase staffing; strengthen long-term development

efforts; and establish the Microloan and Partners for Prosperity programs, in conjunction with the Life Learning Center. With this support, the Microloan program has now helped 16 individuals recover from an unexpected life expense while also providing coaching to help these neighbors take steps to achieve financial stability. Partners for Prosperity has helped SVdP and Life Learning Center partner more closely to support individuals who have made a commitment to achieve self-sufficiency. In addition to funding, we are also grateful to The Butler Foundation for challenging us to think strategically about our future. Due in part to their support and partnership, we've seen our retail stores flourish, setting the stage for future expansion of our outreach.

"Our family connection to St. Vincent de Paul NKY goes back six or seven decades, to when our father was a Vincentian" said Foundation Chairman Marty Butler. "Through his work with St. Vincent de Paul, he modeled for us what our faith teaches: to love and serve others without counting the cost. We consider it a privilege to support SVDP's efforts today. You are truly the hands and feet of Christ to our neighbors in need."





**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
COUNCIL OF NORTHERN KENTUCKY**
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SVDP NORTHERN KENTUCKY

\$10 off when you spend \$50 or more!

VALID THROUGH FEBRUARY 2021

ERLANGER | FLORENCE | FALMOUTH



EVERY PURCHASE YOU MAKE HELPS YOUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED!