



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL OF SEATTLE | KING COUNTY

IMPACT

REPORT

2021-2022

MESSAGE FROM SVDP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends, Supporters, Volunteers and Partners in Mission:

For the past 10 years we have worked alongside each other, with a common purpose and a shared vision, and in doing so, we have grown and strengthened our Network of Care.

Inspired by the lives and convictions of our Vincentian founders, we have continued to respond to the diverse needs in our communities. Together we have funded new programs and helped sustain other core services.

Renewal has been our theme for the past 10-years, and we have been faithful to that vision. Thanks to the work of my predecessor, our board of directors, staff, volunteers, Vincentian members (present and past), and the support and care of our donors and partners in mission, our impact is noticeable, and our future is full of Hope.

Please take a few moments to read through our report. This is a snapshot on our vast impact across King County.

In the last 10-years, our staff has grown in size and diversity, better representing the communities we serve.

We have ushered a new era of competitive salaries and benefits and implemented a retirement plan with a company match.

We added resources for staff retention with new opportunities for career growth and development. And tripled grant funding to diversify our revenue income stream to grow, expand and sustain our programs.

We have also embraced new technology across the organization improving communication and data collection.

Please join me in celebrating a decade of renewal and a future full of Hope!

Hope is alive because of caring and compassionate people like you! Thank you for your generosity, support, and commitment to our mission. Because of you, SVdP will continue to serve as a Beacon of Hope for every neighbor in need that calls in their greatest moment of vulnerability.

Together we are strengthening communities and building a caring network of friends.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mirya Munoz-Roach".

Mirya Munoz-Roach
Executive Director
Society of St. Vincent de Paul Council of
Seattle | King County

**" PLEASE JOIN ME IN
CELEBRATING A DECADE
OF RENEWAL AND A
FUTURE FULL OF HOPE!"**

A DECADE OF RENEWAL

What people value about St. Vincent de Paul is its ability to change and renew itself to meet the growing challenges of our diverse and changing society. For the last decade, SVdP in Seattle | King County has adapted and responded to the dramatic cultural shifts occurring in our society. As you will see in this report, we have continued to thrive and make significant impacts in our organization and in the lives of our neighbors. Here are a few highlights:

- In 2013, we established Centro Rendu after recognizing demographic changes in the region and in the Catholic Church. Drawing inspiration from Blessed Rosalie Rendu's work with children and families, Centro Rendu provides Spanish-based programs that empower parents to meet the needs of their families and support children with early learning opportunities.
- We grew our commitment to Case Management: To address the complex issues many people face when confronting poverty, we have added trained Case Managers and Intake Specialists to our staff who connect thousands of neighbors a year to the Network of Care within and outside of SVdP.
- We embraced technology: From professional updates to our website, the implementation of a SharePoint intranet site for staff communication and document sharing, as well as data collection and virtual trainings.
- We began making major shifts in our funding model: Moving away from reliance on income from thrift store sales, progressively more of our operational budget comes from grants, property leases, partnerships, and fundraising events like the Blue Dress held each spring. Our ability to seek competitive grants has grown exponentially.
- We aligned our compensations and benefits with industry standards: This includes improved on-boarding, on-going employee learning and development opportunities, and programs that recognize and celebrate employee contributions and milestones to a new retirement program with company match.



**COMMITMENT
TO DIVERSITY,
INCLUSION &
EMPOWERMENT**

OUR MISSION

Compelled to action by the convictions of our founders, St. Vincent de Paul of Seattle|King County joins the community to listen, engage, and build relationships that assist and advocate for individuals and families to meet basic needs and achieve stability and self-sufficiency.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

KEY MOMENTS IN A DECADE OF RENEWAL

2012 • New Website! - ushering new technology and new programs

2013

- Centro Rendu program is established with input from the Latino community of S. King County.
- First site opens inside the SVdP store in Kent.

2015

- Case Management program is recreated to better support the work and mission of Vincentians and to more effectively respond to our neighbors' journey to self-sufficiency

2017

- Community Connector program is established to support neighbors served by our Georgetown Foodbank.
- Conference Renewal program is developed

2020

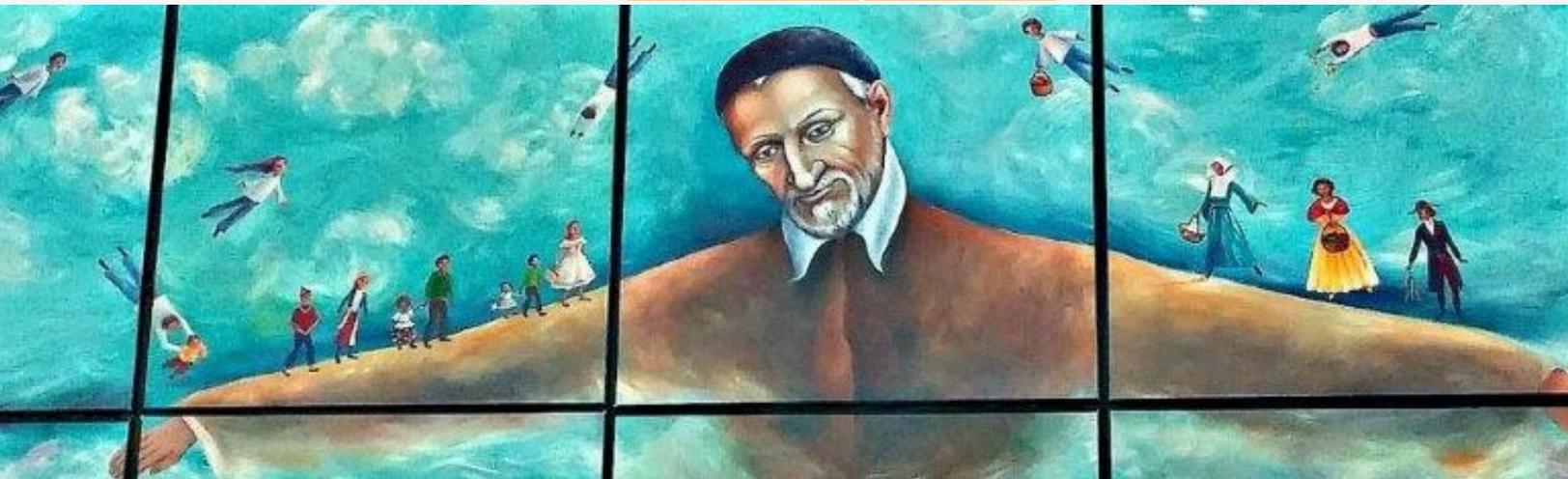
- Centennial Celebrations - at our stores
- Centennial Mass at St. Benedict's in January
- COVID hit's - stores operations shut down
- Emergency Fund Campaign launched
- Calls to our Helpline increased exponentially

2021

- Georgetown Foodbank & Community Center sees a new era of collaboration with community partners, SVdP case managers, and Helpline services.
- Intranet SharePoint deployed
- Employee benefits expanded and improved

2022

- Our Network of Care expanded to serve the diversity of needs and to respond to the impacts of a post-pandemic community
- Centro Rendu opens in Pierce Co.





**SVDP Case Managers
support & collaborate
with Vincentian
volunteer members to
serve a highly diverse
and complex behavioral
needs of our neighbors**

**IMPACT IN
2021 - 2022**

SVDP VINCENTIAN MEMBERS

HELP NEIGHBORS LIKE JAY & HIS WIFE

I cannot find the words to express how much St. Vincent de Paul has changed our lives. My husband Jay and I had spent the last three years living off & on in our car. I was diagnosed with MS in 2019 and we had decided to move back to the west coast for the health care that comes with Jay being a Union construction worker. Soon after moving, COVID-19 ravaged the world and we found ourselves unable to access basic necessities.

After making every phone call and going to numerous assistance organizations, we made the one that would change our lives. We told the St. Vincent de Paul volunteer who responded to our call about our struggle and the frustration we were feeling. We felt like SVdP actually listened and understood our dire situation and was truly looking for a long-term solution. More than that, they talked with us and treated us like equals.

Ron, the SVdP volunteer, provided the name of a safe parking nonprofit that had showers, laundry and food available. Then, when our car overheated on the highway on our way back from visiting our case worker to apply for section 8 housing, Ron brought us transmission fluid to get our car back on the road and offered to buy us dinner while the car's engine cooled. Rather than leave us to languish while waiting for access to a mechanic, Ron used his AAA membership to have us towed to a repair shop that could check out our car, and SVdP provided us with a motel room while it was in the shop. Unfortunately, we got bad news- the needed repairs far exceeded the value of the car.

Working in partnership with others, SVdP helped facilitate the path forward and identified resources that would help us get back on our feet. SVdP worked with us to get a running vehicle, to find Jay a job, and to connect us with resources to get into an apartment! But the compassion didn't stop there. Once we moved into our new place, SVdP also helped with furniture for our apartment.

Not only did working with SVdP change our lives, but it also changed our relationship. After struggling to survive for so long, we found peace and happiness with each other that we were not sure was still there. And, we made a friend for life! SVdP gave our lives back to us.



THE HELPLINE IS OUR FIRST RESPONSE

The Helpline Center serves as St. Vincent de Paul's "front door" for people who are in need of assistance in Seattle and King County. Our staff and volunteers are equipped with listening skills while handling calls with compassion and dignity. People call us when they are in dire circumstances such as the threat of eviction, utility shut off notices, hunger, and other basic needs. Single mothers and children are often the most impacted.

The Helpline Center connects those in need with our neighborhood volunteer groups, called Conferences. Our Conferences follow up with the individual or family with a personal visit.

\$2,213,300

Rental Assistance
and Eviction
Prevention

88,739

Requests to our
Helpline

\$1,127,962

Given in Additional
Aid to Neighbors

VINCENTIANS ARE THE HEART OF OUR MISSION

Neighborhood group volunteers that belong to our Conferences are called Vincentians, serving neighbors through person-to-person visits. Vincentians carry a special gift within, that calls them into loving service of our neighbors. The visits they engage in gives them a truer assessment of the needs of the individuals and families requesting help. Our Vincentian work requires that we see and listen deeply to the needs of our neighbors and respond with compassion.

Vincentians are the soul of SVdP. We have 50+ neighborhood-based groups with over 1,200 volunteers providing neighbor-to-neighbor assistance. We help people avoid eviction by providing rent and utility assistance as well as vouchers for gasoline, food, and other basic supplies. We also refer neighbors to our case management or partner agencies for other services when necessary. A combination of donations from caring people like you, as well as grants and other funds raised by our Conference Parishes, and our thrift store revenues fund this direct and life-saving assistance.

33,662

NEIGHBORS
HELPED BY
VINCENTIANS

ST. ANTHONY'S PARISH CONFERENCE

RENEWAL THROUGH DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

St. Anthony SVdP Conference in Renton serves in one of the most diverse communities in our region. As their public page says, "St. Anthony Church is a culturally rich, engaged parish that evangelizes and forms disciples by nurturing an encounter with Christ." True to its mission, they were able to help and support many of their members with their different programs, particularly home visits.

To reach more members, they need volunteers to join them in their home visitations, so the Conference held a Ministry Fair on the weekend of August 20th and 21st in the parish. An information desk was set up to receive members for inquiries. Rocio Fabela, SVdP's Latino Engagement and Vincentian Support Coordinator together with other Vincentians: former Conference president Suzanne Donnelly, Katherine Bilanko, Ernestina Arvizu, Karen Suave, and Grace Magbaleta were at the reception. They handed out brochures to introduce the different SVdP programs, provided the number for the SVdP Helpline to those in need, and discussed other available sources of assistance. They were also able to discuss some volunteer opportunities.

Members who approached and visited the table were in awe learning what St. Vincent de Paul does to help community members. There were four English-speaking individuals and two bilinguals (English and Spanish, who signed up in the programs

One of the volunteers, Maria (Lolis) Velasquez, said: "I had a wonderful experience at our Ministry Fair, it was joyful and satisfying. The Vincentians who came to our table participated with enthusiasm and love for the service."

St. Anthony Church is one of the 50 Conferences that serves SVdP Seattle | King County and is a spiritual home for 5,200 members in downtown Renton, WA.

To learn more about how this Conference embraced a process of renewal leading to its growth in diversity and new member recruitment, follow the link below:

Learn more by reading 'Open to All' written by St. Anthony's Conference President, Judy Schoeder at svdpseattle.org/open-to-all/



Members of St. Anthony Conference

svdpseattle.org/open-to-all/

VOLUNTEERS IN SVDP PROGRAMS

JOIN OUR NETWORK OF FRIENDS

PROGRAM
VOLUNTEERS &
VINCENTIAN MEMBERS
SERVICE HOURS

82,647

St. Vincent de Paul volunteers play a huge part in our mission work towards helping neighbors who need it most. Although the mask mandate is over, the aftermath of the pandemic and economic loss is still affecting many families, especially those considered low-income.

Thanks to the help of our SVdP volunteers, we were able to serve food and other items to over 4,500 households from our St. Vincent de Paul Georgetown Food Bank and accumulated over 8,000 hours in volunteer service.

SVdP has various volunteer opportunities to choose from -- Georgetown Food Bank, Warehouse (Donation Center), Centro Rendu, Helpline, and Thrift stores.

For over 100 years, we have been able to call on our volunteers to help us serve those who need it most. Our hearts are filled with gratitude for our volunteers!

AN SVDP STORE VOLUNTEER HAS A LOT TO SAY!

We count on our volunteers to support the work at our thrift stores, whether they come from AARP, local school districts, or are completing community service hours. After interacting with them over the years as an employee at SVdP, Kenmore Store Manager Carroll Tyler noticed that some volunteers come in simply because we are St. Vincent de Paul of Seattle-King County.

One particular volunteer this year that stood out to Carroll was a retired gentleman who had endured the COVID lockdown and recently lost his wife. After working together on several volunteer shifts, Carroll realized this volunteer was there because he was starting a new journey in his life.

As days passed, this gentleman was really enjoying his service. "I became aware that not only is all we do at SVdP good, but to some we are a beacon of light, the lighthouse in a stormy sea," Carroll noted, and added, "I can stand here and truly say how proud I am to be a part of this organization."



SVdP volunteer working at the Kenmore Thrift Store



2,339

**Unsheltered
Neighbors Served**



2,600

**Boxes of Food &
Other Goods Served
to RV Residences**



582,627

**Total Pounds of
Food Distributed**



22,881

**Total Amount of
Assistance Given
at the Food Bank**



Volunteer serving at the Georgetown Food Bank

The SVdP Georgetown Food Bank is more than a foodbank; it is also a community resource center that welcomes and serves all neighbors with not only healthy foods, but also free clothing, health assessments, hygiene kits for homeless individuals, benefits access, and case management. Our own pipeline of household goods, clothing, books, and other necessities is augmented by generous in-kind donations from various sources. Our strategy for our Georgetown site is to meet our neighbors' immediate needs in one location.

The milieu of the foodbank includes SVdP's direct service professionals who have formed a cohesive team with the Georgetown Food Bank core staff. SVdP added a Veteran case manager, along with housing and health services support and job referrals from case managers, that when added to the Georgetown Food Bank's Community Connector, provide a continuum of varied expertise. They are a social service core team that seeks observations from their fellow teammates, shares information, assists in referral services, and often confer about complex cases when needed. They have all been trained in de-escalation strategies, reflective listening, and motivational interviewing. It's a dynamic group available for the benefit of the neighbors who come for food and supportive services.

CENTRO RENDU OF SVDP

In 2023, Centro Rendu will be celebrating a decade of serving the Latino immigrant community across King County!*

6+

Over half a dozen prevention programs for the whole family, including Adult Literacy, Early Learning, Youth Mentoring and High School completion



4

With four locations across S. King County and including a new site in partnership with SVdP Tacoma/Pierce County

Centro Rendu has served over

15,000

Families Since 2013

*We are presently planning our 10-Year Anniversary Celebration. Visit our website for future updates.

www.centrorendu.org

JOIN OUR NETWORK OF FRIENDS !

You are vital to our mission of accompanying our neighbors who are facing challenges in Seattle and King County. Because of you, we are able to meet people where they're at, provide a listening ear, offering help, compassion and hope.



- **Make a one-time gift**
- **Sign up to be a Monthly Donor!**
- **Include SVdP in your will or living trust**
- **Recommend a gift to SVdP in your Donor Advised Fund**

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WE THANK YOU
FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT OF
OUR PROGRAMS