



Society of St. Vincent de Paul, 420 W. Watkins, Phoenix, AZ 85003

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact: Norma Salas, Communications Manager
Office: (602) 850-6755, Cell Phone: (602) 421-9543, E-Mail: NSalas@svdp-phx-az.org

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Society of St. Vincent de Paul thanks community, agriculture industry Prepares 3,000 meals for Ag Day festivities

PHOENIX, AZ – In a gesture of appreciation to the community and to the agricultural industry for helping it carry out its mission to serve the poor, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will prepare 3,000 lunches for Ag Day festivities. Ag Day is scheduled for 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., on March 23 at Heritage Square, located at 113 N. Sixth Street in Phoenix.

The Society's kitchen, one of the largest in the state of Arizona, prepares more than 3,500 meals every day to feed the homeless and working poor at five dining rooms across the Valley. The capacity of the kitchen to prepare a large number of meals, along with its proximity to downtown, made the Society an obvious choice to prepare the meals, which will be sold for \$1.00. Thirty volunteers will assist in preparing the food, which will be in addition to the 3,500 it prepares for its own dining rooms.

The Ag Day meal will include more than 1,000 pounds of pork and more than 1,600 pounds of beef for barbeque sandwiches. Participants will also receive regular, chocolate, or strawberry milk, pinto beans, cole slaw, a hard boiled egg, an orange, honey sticks, and a veggie bag. All items are grown or produced in Arizona and are provided by members of the agriculture industry. St. Vincent de Paul will donate cookies for the meals.

Ag Day was initiated to increase public awareness about Arizona agriculture. There will be wood stove cooking demonstrations, coffee grinding, butter churning, and other traditional farmhouse activities.

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The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a non-profit organization, dedicated to serving the poor and providing others with the opportunity to serve. Programs include services for the homeless, medical and dental care for the working poor, five charity dining rooms and general assistance for individuals in need.