



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

Media Advisory

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 6, 2006

Giving hope, haircuts to the homeless

Valley barbers provide haircuts, Marie Callendar serves meal for homeless

Phoenix - Homelessness is not only the loss of a safe place to call home; it also means living without some of the most basic needs. Hot meals, regular showers and clean clothes are no longer guaranteed, but a rare privilege.

St. Vincent de Paul tries to provide one of those necessities for the homeless through the Haircut-A-Thon -- a special program that restores some hope and dignity to homeless families and individuals who have gone without.

"This event provides an opportunity to build self-esteem for those who have lacked it for so long," said Sharon Ashley-Robinson, president of Homeless Outreach Program Inc., which coordinates the Haircut-A-Thon. "It helps them to retain their dignity."

More than 30 barbers and stylists from the Arizona Barber Styling College and several local salons will be provide between 325 and 350 haircuts to homeless men, women and children at St. Vincent de Paul's Henry Unger Dining Room downtown on Sunday, December 10.

As a holiday treat, Marie Callender's will serve their famous pot pies, cornbread, salad and pie to homeless and working poor guests during the Haircut-A-Thon. For 15 years, Marie Callender's has provided this holiday meal at St. Vincent de Paul.

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WHAT: St. Vincent de Paul Haircut-A-Thon
WHEN: Sunday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
WHERE: St. Vincent de Paul's Henry Unger Dining Room, 119 South 9th Avenue, Phoenix
Photo Ops: 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. - Haircuts
11 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. - Lunch by Marie Callender's
11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Santa Claus giving away gifts to children at the dining room

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, the incarcerated and their families, medical/dental care for the working poor, charity dining rooms and general assistance for individual's in need.