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VINCENTIAN CONNECTION

Spring 2017 Volume 53, Number 1 Newsletter of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Phoenix Diocesan Council stvincentdepaul.net



Urban Farm

PROVIDES FOOD FOR THOSE IN NEED

Story on page 4



The Society of **Creating a future legacy**



New building to be located on the northeast corner of Watkins Rd. and 3rd Ave. See Page 10 and 11 to learn more about SVdP's growth and expansion!

As a native of Phoenix, I remember a smaller, less complicated Phoenix. There was less traffic and I was able to travel anywhere in the city in a short time frame. But even in those early nostalgic days, there was significant poverty in Phoenix. As such, several individuals gathered together to start St. Vincent De Paul in Phoenix in 1946. As the city grew, so did the poverty and correspondingly, St. Vincent de Paul also began to expand to meet this increasing demand for its services.

Today in 2017, Phoenix is the 6th largest city in the United States, and St. Vincent de Paul has grown to a size that couldn't have been imagined in 1946. Due to continuing community support, we were able to meet the ever-increasing demand for our services. In our continuing effort to meet the needs of those in poverty, we are again ready to expand our facilities. Again, we are turning to our community to ask for your support and prayers, so that we can meet the ever-increasing demands for assistance.

We are looking for ways to expand our Medical and Dental services and at the same time we need to find a new location for Ozanam Manor, our transitional housing shelter, which is now located 1730 E. Monroe in Phoenix. This shelter is for adults with disabilities and those ages 50 and older. Our plan is to build a new two-story facility on property that we own next to our main campus south of downtown Phoenix (see Page 10 and 11 for more information). The new building will be built on the northeast corner of Watkins Rd. and 3rd Ave. The second floor will house Ozanam Manor residents and the first floor will be used to provide several of our homeless outreach ministries to homeless and working poor individuals and families. This move to the first floor of the new facility will allow us to expand our Medical and Dental facilities at the same location where they are today.

Just as in 1946, our founders saw people in need and they moved forward to meet those needs. Today in 2017, we see a need to expand our services and we are moving forward to meet these new demands. We ask you all for your support and your prayers.



Frank M. Barrios, *President*
Phoenix Diocesan Council

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The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is an international non-profit organization dedicated to serving the poor and providing others with the opportunity to serve. The Phoenix Diocesan Council has been assisting central and northern Arizona families since 1946. Programs include services for the homeless, medical and dental care for the working poor, charity dining rooms, thrift stores, a transitional housing shelter and general assistance for individuals in need through 85 parish conferences of charity.

If you have a change of address, please call (602) 850-6914.

stvincentdepaul.net

COMMUNITY CORNER

The Arizona Diamondbacks

Build a Stronger Arizona with St. Vincent de Paul



Arizona Diamondbacks staff members attend the St. Vincent de Paul Urban Farm Groundbreaking event.
From left: Kelly Watrous, Megan Rowe, Paulette Purnell, Baxter the Bobcat, Tara Trzinski, and Graham Rossini.

"...we were blown away to learn that the farm will produce 80,000 lbs. of food this year alone."

For over 70 years, St. Vincent de Paul in Phoenix has been working to feed, clothe, house, and heal those in need throughout our community. The Arizona Diamondbacks and the Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation have been a proud and fortunate partner in that impact since our inception in 1998, helping support initiatives like their literacy campaigns in their Dream Center, providing meals in their Family Dining Room and for their annual holiday Turkey Tuesdays and, most recently, providing funding for a D-Baxter-themed Bobcat loader to be used at their Rob and Melani Walton Urban Farm.

We recently attended the groundbreaking of that wonderful and much-needed outdoor facility, and we were blown away to learn that the farm will produce 80,000 lbs. of food this year alone. Most of it will head to the St. Vincent de Paul dining rooms to provide families and the homeless with nutritious dinners, while some of it will be packed into food boxes and immediately delivered to people who need it most. And the Bobcat – the piece of equipment, not our energetic team mascot – will accelerate the process of composting and assist local businesses with waste-diversion options.

In 2017, the Arizona Diamondbacks Foundation will surpass $50 million in all-time community giving. Our commitment to our fellow Arizonans is what differentiates and defines us as an organization, so while we compete for wins on the field, we are honored and grateful for the opportunity to work alongside a dedicated partner like St. Vincent de Paul who helps us achieve wins off it.

Join the D-backs and St. Vincent de Paul in helping all of us build a stronger Arizona community.

Derrick Hall
Arizona Diamondbacks President and CEO

URBAN FARM to get NEW LOOK and INCREASED HARVEST

Groundbreaking celebrates generous gift and new development



St. Vincent de Paul staff and community partners pose for the official groundbreaking photo during the ceremony. From left: Tony Kasowski, Frank Barrios, Jerry Moar, Kerry Hunsley, Baxter the Bobcat, David Smith, Melani Walton, Rob Walton, and Steve Zabilski



Rob and Melani Walton Urban Farm development plans

It was a beautiful and sunny afternoon in Phoenix, and there was a palpable buzz of excitement in the air as guests put on construction hats, sampled hors d'oeuvres from our kitchen and walked through the Urban Farm. It was a day of celebration with several local partners and donors as we officially broke ground thanks to community support and a generous gift from the Rob and Melani Walton Foundation.

What was once a dirt lot just a few short years ago is now a thriving, one-acre urban farm located on our main campus. Most of the harvested produce is used in our main kitchen to be cleaned, prepped, cooked and served in our five dining rooms to those who need it most. Thanks to generous community support, we are now expanding the Rob and Melani Walton Urban Farm and its vision.

The groundbreaking opened an exciting new chapter, which will include:

- Public gathering spaces
- Educational programs
- Lectures and demonstrations that aim to enhance the environments, economic, food and psychosocial sustainability of our community
- Water recycling system (including four underground water retention vaults) and more!

These enhancements will not only promote community sustainability, encourage volunteerism and provide educational opportunities, but they will ultimately increase production and access to fresh local produce to feed more in our community.



Arizona Diamondbacks mascot Baxter the Bobcat, David Smith, St. Vincent de Paul Urban Farm Director, and Melani Walton, of the Rob and Melani Walton Foundation, break ground in the farm during the ceremony.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to our partners who are helping to make this development possible, including our principal supporters, the Rob and Melani Walton Foundation, as well as the Arizona Diamondbacks, Arizona State University Walton Sustainability Solutions Initiatives, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Arizona, John Augustine, Logan Simpson Design, Inc., McCarthy Building Companies, Inc., Sunrise Engineering, Associated Fence & Empire Fence, SPS+Architects, Wright Engineering, Oldcastle, Rainbird, Terracon, and Creative Environments.

Volunteers Make it Possible

Thanks to the hard work of hundreds of volunteers and St. Vincent de Paul's farm team, thousands of pounds of nutrient-rich fruits and vegetables have been grown using permaculture and natural farm methods!

We couldn't do the work we do without the help and support from all involved, ranging from professional athletes, to community groups, businesses, and individuals. **Take a look at who has visited us in the farm…**

Are you interested in helping us grow and harvest food to feed hungry families and individuals in our community? We would love to have you join our family of volunteers. Email volunteer@svdpaz.org or call (602) 261-6886 to sign up today!

















1 Students from Paradise Valley Community College and Carrington College volunteer in the farm prepping, harvesting and planting.

2 Arizona Cardinals' players Frostee Rucker and Drew Stanton spent a Saturday morning in the Urban Farm working alongside other volunteers and SVdP staff. Rucker is a passionate proponent of access to organic, chemical-free produce, particularly in underserved communities that suffer from food insecurity.

3 Jayson Khademi, co-owner of local food truck Saffron Jak, rents nine garden beds in the farm to grow fresh produce for his menu. He also volunteers regularly to help plant and harvest produce that is used in our five dining rooms.

4 Maricopa County Health Department interns joined SVdP's Family Wellness Program staff to compost pumpkins in our farm, helping to create future farmland.

5 Dining room guests and volunteers from our Mesa Dining Room work together to grow and harvest fresh produce to serve in our dining rooms.

6 From left: A group of homeschooled children (and siblings!) Sahar, Selah, Saitara and Serenity Muhammad pose for a photo in our downtown dining room Urban Farm during one of their classes. All four students completed the curriculum in our farm to become certified as Junior Master Gardeners.

7 Toyota Financial Services employees and family spend a day in our Urban Farm harvesting 100 pounds of chard and kale. From left: Angelina Neaves, Erica Neaves, Tamara Newman, Robert Neaves and Laura Noreus.

8 During the Phoenix Suns Week of Service, several volunteers, players and even the Suns' Gorilla worked in our Urban Farm next to our downtown dining room.

Facebook search reunites homeless Ozanam Manor resident with family

AFTER 45 YEARS



Since the creation of sites like as Facebook, the world has become a much smaller place, and it has connected many people who otherwise may not have ever seen or spoken to each other again. This was the case for Jack, a former resident of SVdP's transitional shelter Ozanam Manor. Jack grew up in Arizona with his parents and six siblings. He was close with his siblings and has many happy memories of their childhood together.

As a child, he picked up odd jobs around town to make some money, such as painting houses, mowing lawns and doing a paper route. "I was a good kid and I worked hard. If I wanted a bicycle, I worked for it." Sadly, when Jack was 9 years old, he became the victim of abuse from a neighbor and this event ultimately changed the trajectory of his life.

Like many children who have gone through a traumatic experience, Jack began to act out in school and fight other children who were bullying him. At age 12, he entered juvenile detention. When he was released at age 18, he committed armed robbery and was convicted for 10 years at a state penitentiary. After serving 10 years and his late twenties, Jack had trouble assimilating back into society and ended up returning to prison for another incident.

For many years, prison was the only life Jack knew. He escaped multiple times, but was always caught and returned. He was transferred several times to different prisons. "I've been in prison all of my life. I don't know how I made it through, but I did. It hurts me now when I think back on the things I've done," he says.

Early on, Jack lost contact with his family, as he was transferred from place to place. He thought he would never see them again. About one year ago, at age 57, Jack was finally released and free for the first time in many years.

"When I got out of prison I was scared to death," he says. He didn't know how to find a job, much less fill out an application. He didn't know how to find a place to live. Unfortunately, like many former convicts without a support system, Jack ended up living on the streets in Phoenix after leaving a halfway house. He caught pneumonia three times and was close to death when someone from the halfway house referred him to SVdP's temporary shelter.

> "If I hadn't come here I probably would've died or gone back to prison."

"If I hadn't come here, I probably would have died or gone back to prison. Instead, [Ozanam Manor] became a place where I could live." Arizona State University intern and Oz Manor caseworker, Kim Speed, was assigned to work with Jack. Kim helped him get his medical prescriptions, helped him with medical and financial appointments, and even looked into his insurance coverage to find out if he could afford to see a behavioral therapist. But most importantly, Kim listened.

"I knew how I handled it (hearing his story) would be impactful. I tried to be as supportive as I could. I asked him if he ever tried to find his siblings." When he said he had tried before with no luck, she went onto Facebook to search again. As luck would have it, she found Jack's older brother and immediately reached out to him.

"It was the first time that I saw a real smile on his face," she said, referring to the first time she showed Jack her brother's photo online. Jack's three siblings, who now live in Colorado, were more than excited to hear from him. His sister told him they had been looking for him all those years and in the worst moments, feared he had died. They had even posted several times on Facebook asking if anyone knew where Jack was.

All three siblings quickly worked to find an apartment, job and transportation for Jack and told him they wanted him to come home.

"I can't wait to see them. I have a lot to look forward to. I'm free for the first time since I was 12. I've suffered enough. I've paid my dues. I'm ready to live and I'm going to stay free," he says.

Kim took the extra step to really listen to Jack and help him in an unconventional way – a way that ultimately led to him leaving homelessness behind and start a new life with his loved ones.

"I just felt like he needed that support and help. I can be resourceful when it comes to those things. It's why I went into social work – to help people like Jack," she says.



FARM to FORK

Healthy Food Recipe Series

In each issue of the Vincentian Connection, we share a new healthy recipe created by SVdP Head Chef Chris Hoffman, who will be using produce harvested from our Urban Farm. In addition to the recipe, you'll also learn the health benefits of the fresh ingredients, provided by our Family Wellness Program.

COOKING WITH: *Swiss Chard, Broccoli and Basil*

Learn How to Cook Healthy Frittatas Using Assorted Garden Vegetables







With spring upon us, many of us are spending time planting and harvesting in our backyard or community gardens. With this in mind, we are a featuring a healthy, delicious and highly adaptable recipe for a Farm-Fresh Vegetable Frittata. Frittatas, a traditional Italian dish, are one of those versatile meals that can not only be eaten for breakfast, lunch or dinner, but can be assembled to fit any flavor combination you desire! One of its most notable qualities is that it's packed full of nutrition, from protein to the vitamins in the vegetables you add.

In this recipe, St. Vincent de Paul's Head Chef, Chris Hoffman, used sustainably fresh ingredients from our Urban Farm to bring the most nutrition to our palate. Green was a predominant theme, bringing high potassium from the Swiss chard and broccoli, and a fragrant sweet touch from fresh basil.





Frittatas are packed **full of nutrition**, from **protein** to the **vitamins** in the vegetables you add.

FARM-FRESH VEGETABLE FRITTATA *Serves 4*

INGREDIENTS

8 large eggs
1/2 cup of milk
3/4 teaspoon of salt
1/4 teaspoon of pepper
3 tablespoons of olive oil
1/2 cup of diced onions
1/4 cup of chopped fresh basil leaves
1 pound of spinach
1 cup of diced red bell pepper
1 cup of diced tomatoes
1/2 cup of broccoli florets
1 cup of mushrooms
1 cup of finely chopped Swiss chard
1 cup of cooked and chopped sausage

PREPARATION

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees F.
In a 10-inch oven-safe skillet, heat olive oil over medium-high heat. Add the onions and cook until softened, about 5 minutes. Add the rest of your veggies and saute until slightly cooked through and the veggies are a bright green color. Whisk the eggs, milk, salt and pepper in a bowl. Pour egg mixture into skillet, stir and cook for 5-7 minutes until edges start to pull away from pan. Add your tomato slices after stirring the mixture. Place the skillet in the oven (be careful and use a potholder as the skillet handle will be hot!) and bake for about 20 minutes, until the middle sets. Let it cool and enjoy!

WE'RE GROWING...



Last year, you joined us in celebrating St. Vincent de Paul's 70th Anniversary. Over those years, we have worked to feed, clothe, house and heal individuals and families in our community in need of assistance. With the support, labor and love of committed donors and volunteers, we are able to impact thousands every year.

Over time, SVdP has been able to build a strong reputation, while quietly carrying out our work in a spirit of humble service and inviting donors and volunteers across the community to join our efforts.

Yet, we have an opportunity to do more.

Our community and the people we serve need us to do more. Our vision and plan is to build a full-service, renewed campus that not only offers the life-giving services to feed, clothe, house and heal, but also provide tools, solutions, and support to help individuals and families lift themselves out of poverty and rebuild their lives.

FEED.
CLOTHE.
HOUSE.
HEAL.



MEDICAL AND DENTAL CLINIC EXPANSION

The significant expansion of our Medical and Dental Clinic in its current building by remodeling existing space and devoting an entire floor to each service.

ENHANCED URBAN FARM

An enhanced Urban Farm will expand the sustainable nutrient-dense food resources for those we serve, create opportunities for additional partnerships, and serve as a teaching and research demonstration site in our community.





NEW QUARTERS FOR OZANAM MANOR

New and expanded residence quarters for Ozanam Manor on our main campus that will not only provide enhanced housing conditions, but will also give residents access to the full spectrum of services and engagement opportunities.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH CENTER

This center will allow SVdP to partner with collaborating agencies in a one-stop shop and will be supplemented by our Family Dining Room program, with a goal to reduce family, financial and emotional assistance stressors and support children's academic success in school.



SOMETHING TO SMILE ABOUT

Sometimes a bag of groceries or tank of gas can be just what a person needs to get through a difficult stretch. Other times, a request for help is wrapped in a tangle of bigger problems. That's when volunteers from St. Vincent de Paul's food pantry in Sedona get creative about finding relief for community members in distress.

"I thought [SVdP] was all about handing out gas cards," says Maureen, St. John Vianney food pantry volunteer. "But it's not about giving out money. It's about moral support and companionship." Maureen, a retired nurse practitioner, has volunteered for more than a year as an SVdP volunteer, or Vincentian. As a Vincentian, she has made home visits all over the Verde Valley. "Sedona hides its poverty class really well," says Maureen. "It's amazing where [the poor] are tucked away."

Listening With Compassion

During one visit, Maureen met Marisa, a single mother of three children. Marisa learned about St. Vincent de Paul's food pantry through a local librarian who is also a church member at St. John Vianney. He knew of Marisa's dire situation and thought SVdP might be able to help.

Over the course of two months, and through an interpreter, Maureen learned that Marisa's troubles were far worse than needing a box of food. Marisa had some extreme health issues and her 9-year-old daughter, Ana, had long-needed oral surgery to correct tongue-tie (ankyloglossia), a condition that inhibits speech and oral hygiene. On top of these issues, the family was searching for a new place to live because their rental house was going to be sold. "About $10,000 would solve their problems," says Maureen. "But who has $10,000?"

Reaching Out for Help

Maureen decided that to make a real difference for this family, she needed to focus her efforts and go beyond the normal call of her volunteer work. She decided to help the child. A dental clinic quoted the cost of the needed surgery at $1,600. Maureen thought they could do better. She contacted local oral surgeons and paid a visit to a Sedona dentist (and fellow St. John Vianney church member). Her efforts began to pay off. The local dentist examined Ana, volunteered to fix the child's teeth after the surgery, and offered a referral to a Phoenix oral surgeon. According to Maureen, that surgeon gave them a "smoking deal."

Now that the cost for the surgery was affordable, Maureen tapped other resources to help pay for it. She contacted Cornucopia Community Advocates, a local non-profit that specializes in helping families. They agreed to cover most of the cost of the surgery. SVdP would contribute about $400. At last the surgery could be scheduled.

Changing the Life of a Child and Her Family

Ana's surgery to correct the tongue-tie was a success. During the procedure, the surgeon discovered she had a cleft palate and he was able to repair that as well. On the morning after the surgery, Maureen's phone rang. It was Ana, who had always struggled to speak. "Thank you," said the nine-year-old.

Her mother, Marisa, couldn't begin to express her gratitude. "How do I re-pay this society," she asked through an interpreter. Through it all, Maureen says, Marisa never gave a thought to her own health issues, which included a diagnosis of cancer.

"In my early nursing career, I saw many battered kids—kids abandoned and unwanted. Then to see this [family]," says Maureen. "They are the happiest kids. It just reaffirmed [for me] that those kind of moms are out there."

Since Ana's surgery, Marisa's own health has greatly improved. In addition, the owner of their rental house heard of their situation and decided not to sell it so they could remain. For just a few hundred dollars, SVdP was able to change the life of this young family...and all it took was a few extra steps.

**Client names changed to protect privacy*

Story from Stephanie Kohnen, St. John Vianney church member

The Road **Less Traveled**

Chino Valley volunteers respond to unique rural needs

Since the beginning, the 'home visit' has been a significant hallmark of St. Vincent de Paul's mission to feed, clothe, house and heal our neighbors in need. As a result of this important tenet, we have more than 80 volunteer-run food pantries throughout central and northern Arizona. Volunteers from each pantry receive calls from neighboring residents with requests for emergency food boxes, assistance with rent or utilities, and more.

Many pantries are based in urban areas where delivering a food box can simply be a short drive down the street or in a neighborhood close by. For other food pantries, such as the one located in St. Catherine Laboure church in Chino Valley and Paulden (near Prescott), going the extra mile for home visits has taken on a literal meaning. And the needs of the residents can vary greatly, from requests for propane to warm a home, to multiple requests for blankets and jackets.



Volunteers from the SVDP St. Catherine Laboure food pantry pose for a photo. Bottom from left: Martha Hanns, Kitty Ten Barge, Joann Gatti, Pamela Watson and Barbara Panello. Top from left: Noel Reiner, Cathy Clark, Mary Anne Posante, Phil Posante, Natalia Tillman and Barbara Stropko.

"Many of the residents out here live in trailer homes and there are very few paved roads," says Pamela, long-time volunteer and food pantry president. "Our volunteers do a lot traveling on a rural, country roads. They even get stuck at times while trying to reach residents. But they continue the work."

Pamela says every year the food pantry hosts a winter clothing drive, as many families often have to sacrifice paying for heat during the cold, winter months in northern Arizona.

"I've gone into many homes where families have been out of propane or electricity for awhile and they are just using blankets or sweaters to stay warm," says Joann, SVdP food pantry volunteer. "Or I've seen instances where they will close the doors to all of the rooms, except one, so that their heater will be more efficient."

She has even seen situations where neighbors will stay in each other's homes to stay warm, split the costs of the heating bill and help each other out through the coldest weeks of the year. Battling the cold is not the only challenge these residents face. Living in rural areas also means there is limited job availability.

"There was one home visit I did that was so heartbreaking, because they had done nothing wrong to end up this situation," says Pamela. A young couple with three children, between the ages of one and seven, had been getting along fine until they found out that the husband had cancer. He lost his job and they fell behind on bills. After he went into remission, he began looking for another job, ultimately trying to get hired as a pizza delivery man.

"Things are so tough in this area, because there aren't that many jobs here. Many of the residents have to go into Prescott, but then they have to use a lot of gas to do that," says Pamela.

The family of five lives in a small trailer on a dirt road. During the home visit, Pamela noticed that the home was very clean and the children were well behaved. The young mother told Pamela, "This just isn't supposed to happen to people like us. We were working and things were going well." The food pantry was able to help the young family with their rent payment and get back on their feet.

For many volunteers, the home visit is a special opportunity to have a face-to-face connection with someone in need. Volunteers have the chance to lend a listening ear and determine if there are other needs in the home. It's a time to let our neighbors know that they are not alone and that regardless of the long stretch of unpaved road that may exist between a home and a helping hand, especially for those in Chino Valley, we will always travel the extra mile to show up.



LEGACY CIRCLE:

If you could create a substantial charitable gift in which your heirs could still benefit, ***would you?***



Although planned giving is not so obvious or simple, here is a simplified version on some strategies that could make giving easier.

For most families, our children and our grandchildren are our favorite charities. But what if you could create a gift that would benefit both your heirs and your beloved charities? Through a Structured Gift this could be made possible and the following examples are a thumbnail sketch of how it could be structured to achieve just that.

EXAMPLE 1:

Bob and Mary both age 60 desire to create a meaningful gift for their favorite charities.

Using a CRAT (Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust) and depositing $100,000 of appreciated assets, they avoid current income tax consequences on the gains.

a. The primary tax consequences are a charitable tax deduction created.

b. Multiple charities can be the remainder beneficiaries upon their demise.

c. An approximate $5,000 income stream is paid out for their joint life times.

d. The income stream purchases life insurance wherein their heirs are beneficiaries.

e. At their demise, approximately $400,000 will pass to their heirs, income tax free, and the charities will receive the CRAT value in full. Death benefits are dependent upon plan design and underwriting class.

Ultimately you create a plan where charities benefit as well as your heirs!

EXAMPLE 2:

Jack and Gail both age 50 hope to help their favorite charities but don't want to reduce income to Gail if Jack passes away first. They dedicate $100,000 of assets to their plan. This plan design benefits survivorship income for a surviving spouse when the bread winner passes away and creates a substantial charitable benefit which can be tax leveraged too!

a. The primary tax consequences are a charitable tax deduction created.

b. Multiple charities can be the remainder beneficiaries upon their demise.

c. An approximate $5,000 income stream is paid out for their joint life times.

d. The life insurance is on Jack's life alone.

e. At Jack's demise, approximately $300,000 to $400,000 passes to Gail, income tax free, from Jack's insurance.

Following Jack's passing the insurance premiums stop but the CRAT continues to pay the income stream to Gail as long as she lives. Upon her demise the charities receive full value of the CRAT proceeds. Death benefits are dependent upon plan design and underwriting class.

The variables are numerous when planning a Structured Gift. Whether you desire to leverage greater benefits for your heirs, for donors, or for spousal income, each one is a feasible objective. There is no minimum threshold for this type of gift planning. Just knowing we can leverage favorable results that simultaneously tie into your goals relating to your family, and also allow you to create a meaningful gift for your beloved charities, is a blessing!

Article written by: Michael Oxford
Oxford Retirement & Estate Planning, Inc · Sun City, AZ

For more information on leaving a legacy gift, or to let us know you have included St. Vincent de Paul in your estate, please contact Donna Rodgers at 602.261.6884 or drodgers@svdpaz.org.

The Society of a Thousand Thanks

One of the greatest privileges of serving in Arizona is being able to work with a generous community of people who care about the well-being of our state. Our friends not only host food drives and send volunteers, they also donate generously to support our work.



Camelback Hyundai Participates in Peanut Butter Sandwich Drive

Last October, Camelback Hyundai participated in their first Peanut Butter Sandwich Drive for St. Vincent de Paul. Along with 2,500 sandwiches, they collected four donation boxes full of toys, which were delivered to the annual Palomino Elementary Christmas event held at our thrift store on Bell Road. They also donated $500 to the event. We are grateful for their generous contribution and first-time activity for St. Vincent de Paul.



Radiance of Hope Shines Brightly at Turkey Tuesday and Golf Event

Nabil and Monda Abdallah have generously donated to our Turkey Tuesday event for the last two years and they have recently decided to donate several jewelry items to help our live and silent auction for the annual Golf-Fore-Charity event at Desert Mountain on May 1, 2017. The items will have a retail value of nearly $50,000 and the net proceeds from the auction will be donated to St. Vincent de Paul. We are grateful for their generous ongoing support!





Bank of America Continues Giving Back

Bank of America continues to be a wonderful supporter of St. Vincent de Paul. Last November, on Giving Tuesday, Bank of America visited our Family Dining Room to participate in a "Tamale Tuesday" volunteer opportunity. The volunteers had fun making tamales and sharing special recipes while Fox 10 News filmed the experience, along with a check presentation of $10,000. We would like to thank the team of Bank of America volunteers, who also were joined by their State President, Benito Almanza, for all they do to support those in need in our community.

The Society of a Thousand Thanks

Trilogy Bike Club Donates Bikes to Help Fund SVdP Programs

Several bikes were donated to St. Vincent de Paul in January from Trilogy Bike Club. This type of in-kind donation helps fund our programs and services through the selling of the bikes in our valley wide thrift stores. Additionally, some of the refurbished bikes are given to those in need of transportation through our Outreach to the Homeless program. Seventeen bikes were donated along with a monetary donation of $735.

Thank you Trilogy for all that you do to support our Bike Program!







Even Stevens Sell Sandwiches and Feeds Hungry

We're very excited about a new partnership formed with the opening of Even Stevens restaurants in the Valley. Even Stevens is a craft casual sandwich shop with a cause, described by their mantra "Eat to Give." Through this partnership, St. Vincent de Paul receives a monetary donation from a portion of all the sandwiches sold in the Phoenix location. Thank you Even Stevens for your support and generosity!



DriveTime Gives Back In More Ways Than One

For many years, DriveTime has been supporting SVdP and this past year is no exception. For the past five years, DriveTime has donated ten bikes with locks to schoolchildren at our annual Palomino Elementary Christmas thrift store event. Each year, Palomino Elementary teachers select students who have gone above and beyond. For the last event, the children who received bikes had achieved perfect attendance. DriveTime has not only financially funded multiple programs and services for SVdP, but they also hold frequent food drives.

Thank you DriveTime – your support is truly appreciated!



Raising Cane's Partners with Cactus Bowl and Gives Generously

Raising Cane's partnered with Motel 6 Cactus Bowl in December to raise funds for St. Vincent de Paul during a festive holiday event in our Family Dining Room. During the event, Raising Cane's gifted SVdP with $37,300 to support families in need. Cactus Bowl players from Baylor University distributed toys, volunteered in the dining room, and tutored children in our Dream Center. The children also took home gift bags courtesy of Raising Cane's and had the opportunity to meet team members from Baylor, including faculty and coaches.

Gila River Casinos Helps Others with Pies, Donations and Volunteer Efforts

Many families and individuals throughout our community received a special treat last December in our dining rooms, as Gila River Casinos graciously donated 2,500 pumpkin pies to St. Vincent de Paul. Not only are the casinos (including Wild Horse Pass, Lone Butte and Vee Quiva Casinos) feeding families, but they have also supported our urban farms by helping us start our downtown Phoenix dining room garden and by volunteering regularly in the farms. They have also been a key sponsor in the annual Golf-Fore-Charity event, in which SVdP is a primary beneficiary.

GILARIVER CASINOS



Arizona Flower Market Gives Flowers and Helps Others

We were thrilled to partner with Arizona Flower Market during the holiday season for their 2nd Annual Thanksgiving "Flowers for Food" drive and Christmas Toy and Food drive. Arizona Flower Market partnered with flower farm Arango Green Growers to give away 10,000 stems of sunflowers to customers in exchange for collecting 10,000 food items for Thanksgiving. In December, they partnered with The Elite Flower with a goal of giving away 24,000 roses in hopes to raise over 2,000 toy donations for Phoenix area families in need. For this partnership, customers were able to donate a new, unwrapped toy, or 10 cans of food and receive a FREE dozen of assorted colored roses!

TRIBUTES

Gifts received October 1, 2016 - February 28, 2017

IN HONOR OF

26 Acts of Kindness
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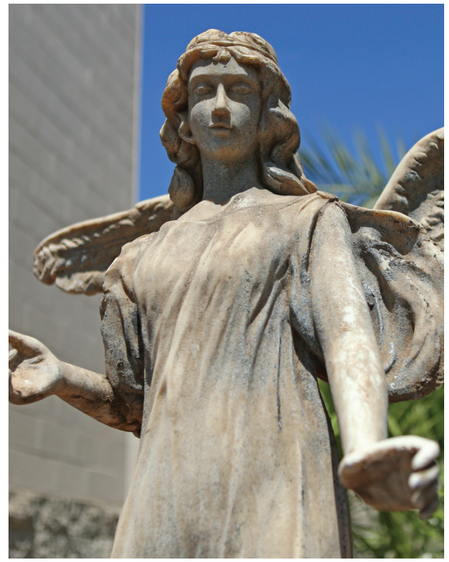
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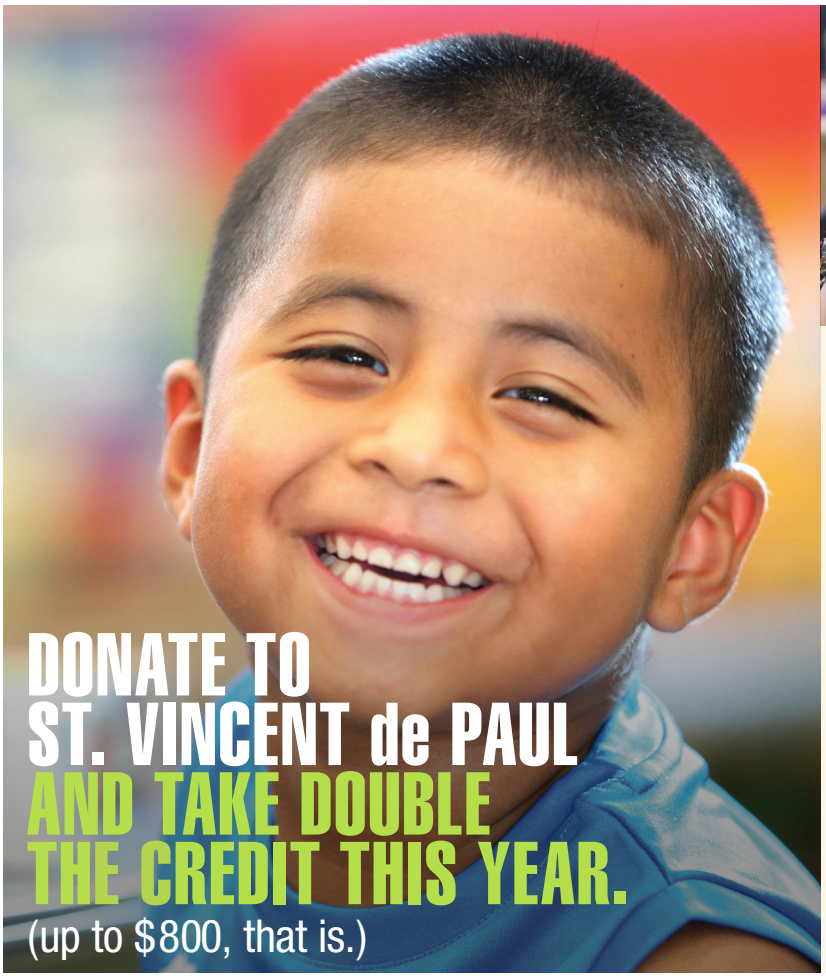
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