



St. Vincent de Paul Society

Vincentian
CONNECTION

P.O. Box 13600

Phoenix, Arizona 85002

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Vincentian CONNECTION



Volume 49, Number 1, April 2013 NEWSLETTER OF THE SOCIETY of ST. VINCENT de PAUL PHOENIX DIOCESAN COUNCIL www.stvincentdepaul.net



SAVE THE DATE

Restoring Hope Through Faith and Love

COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2013

Arizona Biltmore | Registration starts at 6 a.m.

Program & Breakfast | 7:30 a.m. - 9 a.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Call 602-850-6703 or email breakfast@svdp-phx-az.org



EVERYDAY HEROES

Volunteers Make it Happen at SVdP

Read their stories starting on page 3.





I am greatly blessed to have my life enriched – every day – by my heroes.

Two people of central and timeless significance for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul come first to mind: Our founder, Blessed Frederic Ozanam, and our patron, St. Vincent de Paul. Their truly heroic lives and lasting legacies of love for the poor helped transform the Catholic Church's approach to charity and social justice. Their compassionate spirit is an inexhaustible source of inspiration, motivation and guidance for Vincentians.

Blessed Frederic was born 200 years ago this month. His magnificent vision of a network of charity embracing the world is lovingly brought to life today by more than 750,000 Vincentians in 149 countries. We are privileged by the grace of God to perpetuate his heritage in places he in a short life of 40 years could never go.

Just as human hopes, dreams and values know no geographical boundaries, neither do the needs experienced by the poor. Whether it be Argentina or Australia...India or Italy...Mexico or Myanmar...Singapore or Spain...Uganda or Ukraine, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is there to help. It is a great joy for me to imagine the many miracles of personal compassion performed by these fellow Vincentians and the countless lives changed for the better.

They join among my contemporary heroes the incredibly dedicated Vincentians of the Phoenix Diocesan Council, our thousands of indispensable volunteers and the members of our outstanding staff whose exemplary love of neighbor is displayed daily on the front lines

of the Society's mission of service to the poor. Their selfless devotion to alleviating distress and deprivation within the human family is a beautiful thing to see. They are, quite simply, some of the finest people I have ever met.

The concept of "hero" has been substantially devalued in this day and age. Our Vincentians, volunteers and employees, however, bring its true meaning to life in a wonderful way which transcends the flawed values of this world. Together with the support of our many benefactors, their labors of love make it possible for us to restore hope and provide help to those in desperate need. Their extraordinary efforts born of innate goodness and generosity epitomize the noble network envisioned by our founder.

I could not be prouder of what they accomplish for the less fortunate of God's children or more grateful for the personal sacrifices they make to serve St. Vincent de Paul. I count each of them as one of my greatest blessings. It is with great affection and admiration that I salute these everyday heroes whose inspiring commitment to our cause of caring and compassion makes me want to be a better person.

Joseph J. Riley
President, Phoenix Diocesan Council

Vincentian CONNECTION

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The Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Phoenix Diocesan Council

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.

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EVERYDAY HEROES

When we think of the word "hero," we often think about someone who has made a significant mark in history, like Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King Jr. and Gandhi, or even fictional characters with extraordinary powers like Superman. However, Mother Teresa believed that no act of kindness was too small for great impact, and we agree!

At St. Vincent de Paul, we come across heroes on an everyday basis. Hundreds of volunteers are working with us in communities across the state to feed, clothe, house and heal struggling families and individuals every day. Whether someone has been volunteering for two months or 20 years, doing small acts of kindness or orchestrating big events, we believe that everyday heroes are those who serve with love and compassion. Those are the people who make up the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.



In the next two pages, we introduce to you some of our everyday heroes of St. Vincent de Paul....

EVERYDAY HEROES

HEALING WOUNDS and *Mending Hearts*



Helen Rinne, a registered nurse, helps restore hope for patients who enter SVdP's Virginia G. Piper Medical and Dental Clinic.

"The patients that we see, often times, don't have any other options. These people are feeling really hopeless about their situations. They think 'This is never going to heal, I'm not going to get better,'" said Helen.

Helen volunteers two to three days of the week at SVdP. While she helps with all aspects of the clinic, she focuses most of her time in the wound care program, caring for uninsured patients who are discharged from the hospital with large open wounds.

"You're afraid when you're sick even when things are going well in your life. It's a scary thing to be in the hospital, then add to that a situation where there's no insurance and there are no alternatives. The patients are at the end of their rope and they're afraid," Helen said.

Untreated open wounds can cause infections and other serious medical conditions. On top of being in pain, many patients are unable to work or even lose their jobs. These patients come to SVdP, where they receive various treatments that they would not be able to manage at home without insurance. Patients are overcome with relief after seeing what Helen and the clinic can do for them.

"You just feel like you make a difference and you can see it everyday. Patients here are so grateful for the care that they get," said Helen. "They begin to feel better and they're so appreciative. Hearing that feedback, that you're making a difference, is really rewarding."

Deals Abound at Flagstaff Thrift Store, BUT FRIENDSHIPS ARE FREE

Margaret Ann Hughes and Nancy Tiedemann volunteer at SVdP's thrift store in Flagstaff. With 18 locations throughout Arizona, SVdP thrift stores are known to have the best deals for clothing, furniture and household items. And according to these ladies, the Flagstaff location is especially known to locals as a place people can come for much needed companionship.

While Margaret Ann and Nancy work on everything from pricing, cleaning, and setting up floral displays in the thrift store, their main focus is on the customers.

"We're concerned about making the customers feel very welcomed. It's a place where people gather. We have a lot of folks who just come in because they need to have friends around and they like the environment," Margaret Ann said.

Nancy, who generally works the front of the store, knows almost everyone by name, said Margaret Ann. She knows their circumstances, too. "I really love the people here and I love all the volunteers that we get to hang out with everyday. I mean it's so much fun to come in here. The days are just wonderful and it's very rewarding to be with everybody and to follow the mission that we have," Nancy said.

Nancy and Margaret wish that more people would volunteer to see how rewarding it is.

"I know the community here really appreciates coming in and just feeling welcomed here. You just have so much self-satisfaction because you know that what we're doing is helping all those who are really in need in this community," Margaret said.



▲ Nancy (left) and Margaret Ann (right) at the Flagstaff thrift store.

SERVING AT SVDP

Christmas 'Matchmakers' Link Up Donors with Families IN NEED

For struggling families, putting dinner on the table is stressful on a regular basis. After paying for rent and utilities, there is often little left to pay for other bills and buy groceries. Around Christmas time, these families have the added worry of providing a special Christmas for their children.

That's why for the last five years, Dottie Sullivan has been coordinating SVdP's Adopt-a-Family program. The program allows individuals and families to "adopt" families in need by providing Christmas gifts and meals. It's a program that has become a Christmas tradition for hundreds of families in Arizona and many times lifelong friendships are formed through the process.

Families who need help are first connected through their local SVdP food pantry, also called conferences. The conference volunteers, called Vincentians, visit the families to bring them emergency food boxes and also to gather information for the Adopt-a-Family program. The age and needs of each family member are recorded so that adopters know what types of gifts to get.

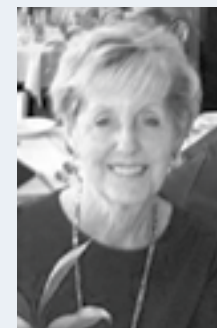
All of these family profiles then go to Dottie, who matches them up with adopters. "There are a lot of factors to consider, like location, ages of kids and the size of the family. My goal every year is to make sure that families are matched up appropriately so that it's a good experience for everyone," Dottie said.

Last year, three new volunteers helped Dottie with the intake process. Lauri Curran, Marti Engebretsen and Lola Espriella worked tirelessly for two weeks before Christmas to take calls from families wishing to adopt.

"Sometimes people want to adopt families with kids who are similar in age to their own so that their kids can help pick out the presents," said Lauri. "I think it's great that families want to do this together."

Thanks to their efforts, more than 800 families were adopted last year. Many of the families adopted were working single mothers who just don't make enough to make ends meet, let alone have enough to buy Christmas presents for their children.

"The real heavy lifters are the Vincentians and families adopting," Dottie said. "We were just behind the scenes getting them connected to make Christmas happen for everyone."



◀ Dottie Sullivan has been coordinating the program for five years.



▲ Lola, Marti and Lauri helped connect adopters to the Adopt-a-Family program so that more than 800 families in need received gifts and meals for Christmas.



The Vincentian ANNUITY

Supporting St. Vincent de Paul not just for a lifetime, but *forever*.

A gift through the Vincentian Annuity will give you the security of a fixed income over your lifetime and provide support for St. Vincent de Paul that will last *forever*.

As an example, Helen, an 80-year-old widow and St. Vincent de Paul volunteer, recently established a \$50,000 Vincentian gift annuity. For her age, the annuity rate is 6.8%, meaning she'll receive \$3,400 annually for the rest of her life. And, she may take an income tax deduction of about 50% of her gift this year. Best of all, her gift will support St. Vincent de Paul's work for generations to come. Annuity gifts start at \$10,000.

**St. Vincent de Paul
Phoenix Diocesan Council**

- Spirituality
- Fellowship
- Serving those in need
- Giving others the opportunity to serve

SAMPLE ANNUITY RATES		Single Life	Two Lives
	AGE 60	4.4%	3.9%
	AGE 70	5.1%	4.6%
	AGE 80	6.8%	5.7%
	AGE 90	9.0%	8.2%

For more information or to discuss various giving options, please contact Shannon Clancy at (602) 261-6814 or email plannedgiving@svdp-phx-az.org

P.O. Box 13600 Phoenix, AZ 85002 www.stvincentdepaul.net



'St. Vincent de Paul Saved Our Lives': *Program Helps Families* Get Back Home

Gregory and Delaha were so excited to move to Phoenix with their 3-year-old son Marcus. They lived in a rough neighborhood in Toledo, Ohio and had been hoping for years to move to a better place. Gregory was the maintenance manager of their apartment complex and struggled to find another job that would pay enough for them to move out.

"I wanted a better environment for my family," said Gregory. "I wanted to change our lives." That's why they jumped on the opportunity to move to Phoenix when Gregory's brother offered him a job at the construction company where he managed a team of workers. While space was tight, Gregory's brother also let them stay with him until they would be ready for a place of their own.

It all seemed like a good plan. However, a few weeks after Gregory moved his family out to Phoenix, his brother was unexpectedly laid off from his job. "I was devastated," said Delaha. "I cried every night."

Without any prospects for other jobs, Gregory called his former employer in Toledo and was offered his old job back. However, they used their last savings to move to Phoenix and had no way to get back.

They came to St. Vincent de Paul and were approved for travel assistance the same day. "We had no way to get home and nowhere else to go. We would've become homeless without St. Vincent de Paul," Gregory said.

Using gift cards provided by **U.S. Airways**, volunteers helped Gregory and Delaha make travel arrangements to get home to Toledo.

"St. Vincent de Paul saved our lives," said Gregory. "Our family couldn't help us. St. Vincent de Paul was our family when we had nobody left. I hope that one day I'll have the chance to give back and help other people like us."



▲ Gregory, Delaha and their son Marcus look forward to going home, thanks to U.S. Airways.



▲ Vincentian volunteers Joe Power and Jim McLaughlin meet with families in need, listen to their situations and figure out the best way to help. The program is run solely by a group of dedicated volunteers.



In Memory of **BRIAN KOPF**

The SVdP family lost a dear friend last year, but his legacy of generosity and compassion lives on.

Long-time volunteer Brian Kopf unexpectedly passed away while hiking in the Canyonlands National Park. Brian was 56 years old and a retired senior vice president of JP Morgan Chase.

Brian regularly volunteered at the Sunnyslope dining room, serving food and offering smiles to homeless guests who count on the dining room for nourishing meals. His kindness and love lifted the spirits of everyone who walked through the dining room doors. He was known by guests and volunteers as someone who loved to serve and enjoyed making new friends. **While Brian will be deeply missed, his legacy lives on through a trust that he had set up for SVdP in his will. His gift will help us continue to feed hungry families and offer hope to those who are struggling in our communities.**

We are grateful for the time we had with Brian. We are honored by the gift he left for SVdP, and for all that it makes possible for our community. To learn more about making a lasting gift through your will, please contact Shannon Clancy at sclancy@svdp-phx-az.org or call (602) 261-6893.

THE KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS Holds 12th Annual Golf-Fore-Charity

Twelve years ago, the Knights of Columbus from Our Lady of Joy Parish in Carefree sponsored its first golf tournament to raise money for local charities. Their vision to create a fundraiser to help the less fortunate blossomed into what is now one of the most successful fundraising golf events in Arizona, Golf-Fore-Charity.

This year, the Golf-Fore-Charity event will be held on Monday, April 29 at Troon and Desert Highland Country Clubs. The Knights of Columbus raised more than \$160,000 for SVdP last year.

The event will consist of a scramble tournament, hole-in-one contests for \$10,000 or a car, wine tasting and cooking demonstrations, silent auctions and a raffle drawing.

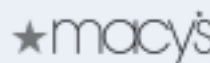
For more information, visit golf-fore-charity.org



Special Thanks to Our Event Sponsors!



DriveTime



Featured Auction Item: Fine Art by SVdP Kids

Local artist Bruce Marion hosted an abstract art workshop in our family dining room for our kids and families. Using vibrant colors, geometric shapes and lines, Bruce helped a group of 20 kids create two beautiful paintings that will be up for auction at this year's golf tournament!

DENTAL CLINIC Garners Support

Last year alone, our dental clinic provided more than 4,000 dental appointments for children and nearly 2,000 appointments for adults. Working with local school districts, we identify children with severe dental needs and provide them with vital treatments. For many school-age children, their appointment at our clinic is their first ever.

Thanks to generous funders who recognize the great need for dental care in our community, we received several grants over the last few months!



◀ The **Board of Visitors** gave a gift of \$50,000 to support dental care for women, children and the elderly.



◀ In addition to a gift of \$15,000 for fluoride treatments for children, **Delta Dental** gave us several pieces of valuable medical equipment to support our work. The Delta Dental Tooth Fairy visited our beloved children's dentist, Dr. Snyder, to deliver the gifts!

Medical and Dental Clinic Moves to Electronic Health RECORDS



With nearly 15,000 appointments to juggle every year, our medical and dental clinic received a much needed grant from **Blue Cross Blue Shield** that will help us convert to an electronic health record system.

Transitioning to an electronic health record, while not an easy task, has many benefits. One of the greatest is the ability to better manage prescriptions. Handwritten prescriptions are fraught with issues that consume a great deal of staff time to remedy and cause frustration for patients. The electronic health record can send a prescription directly to the pharmacy or print out a clearly written and complete prescription. It will also track medications in the patient's electronic medical record and alert the physician to drug interactions and dosing issues.

The clinic also has many activities going on through the week and not all are on-site. The patient electronic medical record will be available to clinic staff through a secure online system that can be accessed anywhere and anytime. Eventually, there will be the ability to exchange information with other healthcare facilities for better coordination of patient care. Electronic health records also have built-in designs to help track patient information, cue reminders and alert us of potential problems.

Thanks to Blue Cross Blue Shield, the new system will help us maximize our time and resources, making every donated dollar stretch further and every volunteer hour more efficient than ever.

Continuum of Support Helps Ozanam Manor Resident Walk Again



Brad continues to look for work so that he can move out of Ozanam Manor and into his own home again. In the meantime, he has become an advocate for SVdP.

"I tell everyone about St. Vincent de Paul," said Brad. "I tell them to go online and donate because I don't know what would've happened to me if it wasn't for them."

Brad has worked hard all of his life. He doesn't know any other way. However, he lost his job and became homeless about two years ago. He had just left the hospital, after having the toes on this right foot amputated due to diabetes.

With nowhere to go, Brad used his savings to rent a taxi cab. He drove clients during the day and slept in the taxi at night. On good days, when we had extra business, he paid for a night in a motel so that he could shower and sleep in a bed. "All I did was drive and save the money I earned, because I didn't know if I'd have business the next day," Brad said.

"I thought that if I kept looking, I would eventually find a better job," said Brad. "I wasn't ready to give up yet." Brad decided to continue living out of his taxi, but the lifestyle was difficult and eventually took a toll on his health. He developed a diabetic ulcer on the bottom of his right foot, prohibiting him from driving. Eventually he ended up back in the hospital and had his foot amputated on his 50th birthday.

Brad returned his taxi and with no income, he moved in to Ozanam Manor. Since he was 50 years old, he was qualified to stay at Ozanam Manor and choose to apply for disability benefits or continue looking for employment.

"When I first moved in, I was amazed at everything. I couldn't believe that I had the freedom to come and go as I pleased and that, if I wanted to get up in the middle of the night to have cereal in the kitchen, I was allowed to do that," Brad said.

Once Brad's wound had healed, he was fitted with a prosthetic foot, with the help of SVdP's medical clinic and the Our Lady of Joy Conference, which paid for the cost. "With the prosthesis, Brad will be able to do all that he used to do before the amputation," said Allen Dolberry, founder of Hands and Feet of Jesus, a foundation that lowered the cost of Brad's prosthesis from \$8,000 to \$600.

Brad continues to look for work so that he can move out of Ozanam Manor and into his own home again. In the meantime, he has become an advocate for SVdP. "I tell everyone about St. Vincent de Paul," said Brad. "I tell them to go online and donate because I don't know what would've happened to me if it wasn't for them."



Building a Dream PLAYGROUND

*The kids in our family dining room have a new place to play thanks to **Humana and Kaboom!**, a nonprofit dedicated to building playgrounds in communities without access to safe places to play. Early last year, Kaboom! project coordinators visited the dining room to ask our guests for their input on a dream playground. Holding sketches of slides, monkey bars and swings, the kids presented their ideas to the group.*

The weekend before Thanksgiving, the kids' dreams came true. Nearly 200 volunteers from Humana and the community transformed an empty lot into a colorful playground in just one day.

Conveniently located across from our family dining room, families can exercise and play before coming inside for dinner and other activities.

MANY THANKS

The playground was a true community effort. In addition to Kaboom! and Humana, several local companies pitched in:

D L Withers

Donated over 100 pieces of construction equipment and gardening tools for the project. The company also sent a crew of volunteers who did everything from prepping the ground to installing play structures and solar lights.

Other companies that also supported the project through donations and volunteers:

Ament Engineering
Biddle & Brown Fence Company
Division 3 Structures
Western Underground
Sunstate Equipment Rental



Remembering Philanthropist and Friend

Eddie Basha cast a much bigger shadow than 75 years on this earth would normally allow. His life epitomized the Basha family's splendid tradition of community service. Eddie's many contributions to St. Vincent de Paul brought his extraordinary caring and compassion beautifully to life for countless people in need.

Joe Riley
Board President

Over the years Eddie Basha raised millions of dollars for St. Vincent de Paul. He donated countless truckloads of food, and he regularly volunteered, serving meals, washing dishes, sweeping floors and visiting with the homeless and working poor. He organized events, wrote letters and gave speeches, so that those less fortunate would have a better life.

I will never forget a time Eddie was leaving the State Capitol. As he drove past our downtown dining room he noticed the line outside was longer than usual. He pulled over and called from his car asking, "What can I do to help?" Two days later we received a check in the mail. I suspect thousands of people drove by our dining room that day. Eddie was the only person who stopped to help.

How ironic that the busiest of all people was the one who found time to reach out. He was the Good Samaritan of our time, and it is impossible to recount that famous Bible passage without thinking of Eddie. He will indeed be missed, by those who were blessed to know him, and the untold thousands who never knew it was Eddie Basha who provided their most recent meal.

Steve Zabilski, Executive Director



Eddie Basha



Bashas' annual Turkey Tuesday and Peanut Butter and Jelly drives have helped SVdP feed hundreds of thousands of hungry families. Every year, Eddie came to our family dining room to judge the turkey carve-off to kick off Turkey Tuesday, which under Eddie's leadership became the largest one-day turkey drive in the country. Eddie always took the time to visit with our families and clean up after the event was over. He was a leader who led by serving others.

Jerry Castro, Dining Room Manager

Eddie was such a talented mimic, especially on the phone. Once, he called me using the voice of an elderly Irish nun. "She" was complaining about a story in the Catholic Sun written by the Bishop. Another time, Eddie disguised his voice as a cowboy with a strong Texas drawl who lived in Ash Fork. The farmer was not happy about the color of the paint on the walls of his church. He said they were painted pink. Both times I stayed professional and tried to help the sister and the cowboy. Of course, at the end of the calls when he knew he had successfully fooled me, he took delight in laughing hysterically and saying... Mary Jo, this is EDDIE! I would give anything to just get one more call from my friend. How blessed we all are that he was in our lives.

Mary Jo West
Community Liaison

A meeting with Eddie Basha required you to bring your "A" game. Always ready for fun, Eddie loved to tell stories. The challenge was to determine when his story was true or when he was pulling your leg. Eddie was a master at this game. I can still hear his laughter and see the expression on his face in that moment when he saw that you had finally realized he was kidding, and it makes me smile. Thank you, Eddie, for sharing your sense of humor with all of us. You made serving those in need a privilege and a joy.

Shannon Clancy
Chief Development Officer

THE SOCIETY OF FRIDAY NIGHT PIZZAS AND MONDAY MORNING MERCY, OF FRESH PERSPECTIVES AND A VIEW OF THE POSSIBLE, OF SMILES, HOT MEALS, HOUSES TURNED INTO HOMES, AND SECOND HAND STUFF INTO SECOND CHANCES. THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



FEED. CLOTHE. HOUSE. HEAL.
stvincentdepaul.net
(602)266.HOPE (4673)



Bell Road Thrift Store Becomes Santa's Workshop for Low-Income Kids



▲ Second-grader Annalisa couldn't wait to give a new doll set to her sister.

For years, our Bell Road thrift store has been holding a special Christmas event for a nearby school in a low-income neighborhood. For a whole day, the store closes to the public and is transformed into Santa's workshop so that more than 1,200 kids can shop for gifts at the bargain price of \$1.

Last year, Christmas carols were heard throughout the day as classes of kids lined up by the door, waiting for their turn to shop. With the help of volunteer personal shoppers, kids picked out gifts like board games for their siblings and dish sets for their parents.

"It's a unique event because the kids get to experience the joy of giving gifts to their parents and siblings," said Fred Salcido Bell Road store manager.

FIRST SIGHT OF Christmas

St. Vincent de Paul's Sacred Heart Conference in Prescott held its annual Christmas Party for 115 children last year. Three-year-old Patrick was one of the guests. Patrick and his family had just obtained housing after being homeless for a while. The Christmas party gave Patrick many new experiences. He received his first visit with Santa and his first pair of glasses, giving him his first clear sight of Christmas. He was fascinated for the decorations and spent over half an hour marveling at the lights and ornaments!



▲ Thanks to SVdP's Sacred Heart Conference in Prescott, 3-year-old Patrick received his first pair of glasses and was able to see Christmas decorations clearly for the first time.



The Art of Maximizing **YOUR DONATIONS**

Donations of food, time and resources are always appreciated at SVdP, but did you know that antiques and fine art can bring incredible value as well?

Just recently, SVdP received an outstanding, rare artwork donation. It is a woodblock print, which has the stylistic work of the great Japanese artist Katsushika, circa 1820s. It is a series of three prints framed to display as one scene. If authenticated and appraised by an expert in the field, it has a potential to be worth thousands of dollars or more.

Most items donated to SVdP thrift stores are either sold in the stores to generate funding for other programs and services or given free of charge to families in need. For rare items like the woodblock print, SVdP takes special care to authenticate, appraise and process so that it can gain the maximum value for those whom we serve.

If you have art, antiques, collectibles or other high-end items that you'd like to donate, call us at (602) 254-3338. Let us know that you'd like one of our in-house experts to take a look at your items. SVdP will ensure that your items will be maximized and that it will continue to be treasured for years to come.

WHAT YOU DON'T NEED IS WHAT'S NEEDED.



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul has made a difference in the lives of the homeless and working poor since 1946.

Your vehicle donation is tax deductible, and pick-up is free. Your generosity will help fund programs providing food boxes, medical and dental care, clothing and showers, hot meals, shelter, job referrals and hope throughout central and northern Arizona.



Donate your vehicle today and help make a difference.

To find out more call 1-800-322-8284 or visit us at svdpusacars.com

Scouting For Food



For eight years, Boy Scouts of America has been supporting us with its annual “Scouting for Food” event, held the first Saturday in February. They have blessed us with a little over 95,000 pounds of food to replenish our food bank over the years. This year’s drive was the most successful yet. In just four hours, 15,500 pounds of food was collected thanks to the hardworking Salt River District Scouts!

St. Joseph’s Hospital Hosts Food Drive and Donates Easter Baskets

For several years, the staff of St. Joseph’s Hospital holds a food drive from Thanksgiving to Christmas to support SVdP. This year, they collected over 1,200 pounds of food and over \$3,000. They also donated hundreds of Easter baskets for children in our family dining room!



PHOENIX COYOTES

Hosts Hockey Clinic in Family Dining Room

Thanks to Coyote Charities, kids got to enjoy a fun evening playing hockey and hanging out with Howler, the Phoenix Coyote mascot. In addition to a bounce house and the hockey clinic, Coyote Charities brought a team of volunteers to serve meals too.



▲ Howler and the crew celebrates Isaac’s fifth birthday with singing, ice cream and gifts.



National Charity League PAINT PROJECT



Thanks to a group of high school students in the National Charity League, our Chris Becker Dining Room received new coats of paint inside and outside of our building.

Thank you for refreshing the dining room! Our guests have been commenting on what a great improvement it is!

Arizona Rattlers Collects 1,200 Pounds of Food

For a scrimmage game in March, the Arizona Rattlers asked for food donations to SVdP in exchange for free admission. As a result, they collected 1,200 pounds of food! Players also visited our family dining room to help with homework, art projects and to serve meals.



▲ Da’mo Merkerson, Markee White and Marcus Pittman take a break from the field to work on art projects with kids in the family dining room.

Larry Fitzgerald Volunteers Over the Holidays



▲ While football star Larry Fitzgerald did not want media attention while volunteering, ABC 15 happened to run into him while covering a story about SVdP serving Thanksgiving meals. Here he tells ABC 15 about the importance of giving back to the community.

Cardinals player Larry Fitzgerald volunteered in both our Phoenix dining room and family dining room over the holiday season. Larry is not only a star in the games, he is also a champion for volunteerism. Thank you, Larry, for being an excellent role model on and off the field!

TRIBUTES

Gifts received October 24, 2012 - March 8, 2013

IN HONOR OF

OLIVER G. AJLUNI
George W. Thyden

DR. LARRY ALLEN
Jenny Norton

JOAQUIN A. ALVAREZ, JR.
Irene Garcia

STEVE AND MICHAEL
AMBROSO
Patricia J. Ambroso

CHUCK AND ANITA
ASHBECK - MARRIAGE
Claire DiFranco

EARL J. BAKER, M.D.
Gordon and Carol Ray
James R. and Randi
Rummage

MASTER SARGENT J.
BARIONI
Georgia Barioni

DAVID AND COREY BASHA
AND FAMILY
Anonymous

EDDIE AND NADINE BASHA
AND FAMILY
Anonymous

EDWARD AND LEANN
BASHA AND FAMILY
Anonymous

IKE AND JENNIFER BASHA
AND FAMILY
Anonymous

JOHNNY AND DAWNA
BASHA AND FAMILY
Anonymous

MICHAEL BASHA AND
FAMILY
Anonymous

MR. AND MRS.
DENNY BATE
Terry and Sally Hothem

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