



St. Vincent de Paul Society of Milwaukee 2014 Annual Report



St. Vincent de Paul Society
At the Heart of Giving

Dear Friends of St. Vincent de Paul:

For many people in Milwaukee County, ‘making ends meet’ is not just a phrase used to describe how to earn enough income to pay for all the things we need to live. As hard as some folks may work, they may still find that the cost of even the basic necessities is out of their reach. In order to help, the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Milwaukee provides the level of resources needed by thousands of individuals and families that is unique to each of them to get their “ends to meet.”

For one person, it may be eating at one of our meal sites 4 or 5 times a month in order to get their food budget to stretch far enough. For another who has a mental or physical disability that keeps them from stable employment, we may see them five or six nights per week at the Meal Program.

For one family who has finally been able to move into permanent living quarters, we might help them to obtain a new refrigerator, while another needs new beds for their children and many other household items to make their new house into a home.

Some of those who shop at our St. Vincent de Paul Stores are able to continue to pay their rent and utilities because they can buy affordable, every-day merchandise at the store, while others would literally not have enough funds to get warm clothing in winter at a retail store.

It is by the power of the human spirit that mothers and fathers persist in finding a way to provide for themselves and their children, even when the means to make adequate income is elusive. Likewise, it is by the power of the human spirit that in 2015 St. Vincent de Paul volunteers, staff and contributors will continue to help others to “make ends meet.”

In grateful appreciation,

Deborah Duskey

Deborah A. Duskey
Executive Director

Rosemary Storts

Rosemary Storts
Board President



MISSION: *The mission of the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP), an international volunteer organization whose members are known as “Vincentians,” is to eliminate poverty and hunger, by promoting and establishing acts of charity and justice.*

HISTORY OF ORGANIZATION:

In 1833, Frederic Ozanam organized a small group of college students in France to visit the poor in the Paris slums. He chose St. Vincent de Paul as the patron saint of their endeavors, because of the saint’s dedicated vocation to the poor. A decade later, several Milwaukee Catholic parishes established similar groups of volunteers, and a council was formed in 1914, legally incorporated in 1917. Today, the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Milwaukee employs professional staff, and relies on a large assembly of volunteers, who reach out through one-on-one visits with individuals, as well as facilitating meal programs, and other services that benefit the poor.

PROGRAMS:

Vincentian Services: Neighbors Helping Neighbors: *Through home visitations, over 900 volunteers establish one-on-one supportive relationships with individuals and families who need basic necessities such as food, clothing, new beds and furniture, and who benefit by the companionship, care and compassion extended by the volunteers. Volunteers in this program also operate food pantries, and visit the sick, the elderly and the imprisoned.*

Meal Program: *The Milwaukee Council of SVDP operates a free Meal Program at two sites, five nights per week on the north side, at 2628 N. Martin Luther King Drive, and six nights per week on the south side at 931 W. Madison Street. Each of the sites serves between 300 and 400 hot, nutritious meals on nights of operation. In addition, guests at the south side meal program can also access hot showers and clean clothing, a bike repair program, and younger guests can use the on-site children’s library. At both sites, guests can obtain warm winter outerwear, and join the fun of various social activities.*

Thrift Stores: *Through donated merchandise from the community at large, the SVDP thrift stores, located at 2320 W. Lincoln Avenue in Milwaukee, and 4476 S. 108th Street in Greenfield, newly opened in January of 2015, benefit the poor by fulfilling certificates for clothing, new beds and household merchandise, which are issued by volunteers during the Neighbors Helping Neighbors home visitations; and by providing low cost merchandise to budget-conscious, and low-income shoppers.*

Family Support Services: *This program provides one-on-one case management and supportive services for parents from pregnancy through the early years of a child’s life.*



VINCENTIAN SERVICES

MAKING ENDS MEET: PEOPLE WITH BASIC NEEDS RECEIVE HELP FROM VOLUNTEERS WITH COMPASSIONATE CARE



Over the vast area known as Milwaukee County, many people in poverty live in homes that are not adequately equipped for safety and basic survival. The 900 volunteers with the St. Vincent de Paul Society provide basic needs to families and individuals with limited financial resources or who find themselves in transition due to various factors, including domestic violence and alcohol or drug addiction. The power of the human spirit brings together people who are in need with our caring volunteers who listen, offer hope, encouragement and assist them with basic needs critical for them to achieve a stable living environment. These needs include new beds, appliances, furniture, food, and at times, help to pay rent and to keep the heat and electricity on.

In 2014 Vincentians:

- *Ensured that 91.5% of every dollar raised went directly to support people in need.*
- *Served 138,549 meals at its two meal locations; 20,537 of these meals were served to children.*
- *Provided \$1,673,705 in goods and services to those in need.*
- *Provided 89,707 volunteer hours of service.*
- *Made 4,618 home visits. An additional 8,354 visits were made to people in senior care facilities, prisons and other non-home locations.*



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL MEAL PROGRAM

MAKING ENDS MEET: FREE, HOT, NUTRITIOUS MEALS FOR PEOPLE WHO MAY NOT OTHERWISE BE ABLE TO EAT

Here is what we confirmed through a survey of guests about the importance of the St. Vincent de Paul Meal Program in 2014:

There are individuals and families with children who would not be able to get anything to eat on some days, if the north and south side sites of our Meal Program were not operating.



If anything illustrates the dire reality of what it means not to have the money to acquire a certain item, it's not having enough to buy basic food needed to survive. Through our survey of guests taken in October of 2014, we heard that of the 139,000 meals served over the year, many gaps were filled; from providing those two or three meals per month when the budget just didn't stretch quite far enough, to providing the evening meal every single day for someone who has no other way to get food.

Nowhere was the power of the human spirit more apparent than in people who are making ends meet in the middle, on one side those who do whatever they must to access food every day, and on the other, those who volunteer and show up day after day to be sure that there is a hot, nutritious meal available when someone needs it.



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL STORES

MAKING ENDS MEET: QUALITY MERCHANDISE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSEWARES FOR BUDGET- CONSCIOUS SHOPPERS AND BARGAIN HUNTERS

There is a part of the human spirit that strives to make life safe and comfortable. The St. Vincent de Paul Stores at 2320 W. Lincoln Ave. in Milwaukee and at 4476 S. 108 St. in Greenfield help to match that desire people have for a home that is equipped with necessities like beds, kitchen appliances and other necessary household goods with the limited financial resources that people living on a low-income have at their disposal. Gift certificates for free merchandise are distributed by our Vincentians through the Neighbors Helping Neighbors home visitations which are redeemable at the store for basic needs, such as new beds, furniture and clothing. Bargain hunters can choose quality merchandise at affordable prices to meet their needs and get a deal at the same time.



Both stores further help people make ends meet by providing employment for 52 full and part- time workers. It's obvious that the power of the human spirit is at work when employees unanimously proclaim that they are happy to "have a job with a purpose." They work hard to process merchandise in the stores which benefits all shoppers; those with limited resources and bargain hunters alike.

FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES

MAKING ENDS MEET: BABY'S NEEDS AND PARENTING SKILLS

In 2014, St. Vincent de Paul Family Support Services assisted 47 new mothers and 49 children and made 1,735 home visits. The power of the human spirit is evident from the beginning with the undeniable charm of a baby's gurgling and smiling, and the inescapable tendency of a new mom to want to respond with cuddles and hugs. But sometimes a bit of fine tuning is needed to help new moms understand how to provide everything the baby will need. Beginning during their pregnancies, St. Vincent de Paul's Family Support Services staff makes home visitations to establish relationships with moms-to-be and educates them about proper nutrition right from the start, and helps prepare them for what is coming their way.



After their child arrives, tutoring is provided in everyday care of their babies such as bathing, feeding schedules, and immunization schedules. Up until the child is three years old, this program continues to assist parents to understand the many essentials of early childhood, like how often the baby should have doctor check-ups, and how spending lots of time with babies and toddlers greatly enhances the relationship between parent and child.

Regular assessments of the baby's development conducted by Family Support staff, assure that parents are providing all that is needed to meet their children's emotional and physical needs.



**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY OF MILWAUKEE
FINANCIAL REPORT**

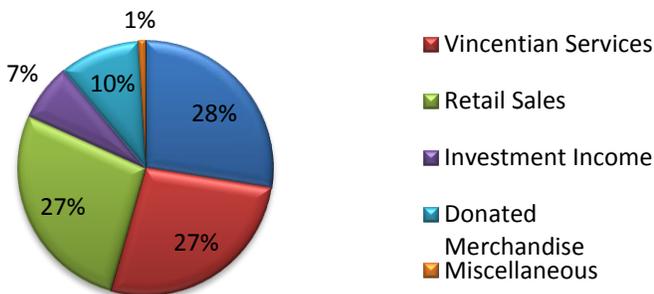
BALANCE SHEET

Assets	2014	2013
Cash	\$471,682	\$601,823
Investments	2,385,515	2,297,305
Accounts Receivable	78,855	68,950
Inventories	91,299	97,550
Prepaid Expenses	33,130	29,759
Property and Equip	3,087,228	1,241,388
Other	<u>380,723</u>	<u>349,946</u>
Total Assets	\$6,528,432	\$4,686,721
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$48,306	\$25,631
Accrued Liabilities	78,897	67,602
Other	<u>2,222,195</u>	<u>310,149</u>
Total Liabilities	\$2,349,398	\$403,382
Net Assets	\$4,179,034	\$4,283,339
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$6,528,432	\$4,686,721

**STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES
AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS**

Revenue	2014	2013
Contributions	\$842,697	\$1,114,178
Vincentian Services	823,525	803,495
Retail Sales	834,794	852,026
Investment Income	221,369	160,221
Donated Merchandise	311,003	329,054
Miscellaneous	<u>28,257</u>	<u>3,174</u>
Total Revenue	\$3,061,645	\$3,262,148
Expenses		
Stores	\$1,301,536	\$1,268,215
Meal Programs	322,560	314,413
Family Support Services	274,057	302,355
Vincentian Services	1,022,145	961,223
Admin.	<u>245,652</u>	<u>230,946</u>
Total Expenses	\$3,165,950	\$3,077,152
Change in Net Assets	(\$104,305)	\$184,996

2014 Revenue



2014 Expenses

