

Dear New Member:

WELCOME TO THE VINCENTIAN FAMILY!

You are now part of the efforts of nearly 500 women and men in the Milwaukee Council who have committed themselves to helping people in need in our community by joining the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

The Vincentian vocation "is to follow Christ through service to those in need and so bear witness to His compassionate and liberating love." Rule Part 1 1.2

As President of the Council, I urge you to remain faithful to the principles of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul as found in The Rule. Be committed to the meetings of your parish conference. You are most welcome to attend meetings of the Council and any training sessions that are offered. Learn about the vastness of the Vincentian family by reading our local, national, and international publications!

We also have volunteer opportunities beside our conference works that we encourage Vincentians to consider - at our stores or our meal sites. The Milwaukee Council staff and I are here to support and guide you in your call to Vincentian life.

To help with accuracy in membership records and communication please refer to the checklist below:

- Complete Safeguarding Policy requirements of St. Vincent de Paul Society of Milwaukee.
- Complete, sign and submit the Membership Form.
- Attend an Ozanam Orientation within 6-12 months; Council Office has schedule information.
- Use the Milwaukee Council Guidebook for reference.

Thank you and welcome to the St. Vincent de Paul Society!

Your Brother in Christ and St. Vincent de Paul,

Michael Farrell

Michael Farrell
SVDP Society of Milwaukee
Board President
mfarrell@svdpmilw.org

St. Vincent de Paul Society



St. Vincent de Paul Society
MILWAUKEE

Milwaukee Council Guidebook

January 2025



Affiliated with Society of St. Vincent de Paul United States Council
Incorporated 6/4/1917

Milwaukee Council Contact List

Mailing Address

PO Box 26537
Milwaukee, WI 53226

Email

council@svdpmilw.org

Phone

Phone: 414-462-7837

Fax: 414-462-5458

Website

www.svdpmilw.org



Council Office- *working remotely to provide services*

Debbie Duskey Executive Director	414-667-0241 dduskey@svdpmilw.org
Michelle Martin Finance Director	414-667-0244 mmartin@svdpmilw.org
Becca Surges Philanthropy/Marketing Communications Director	414-667-0242 rsurges@svdpmilw.org
Beth Hohenfeldt Administrative Specialist	414-667-0240 bhohenfeldt@svdpmilw.org
Melanie Critton Intake Coordinator	414-667-0243 mcritton@svdpmilw.org
Paty Landeros Accounting and HR Assistant	414-285-5515 planderos@svdpmilw.org
Maria Welz Membership Development Director	414-667-0245 mwelz@svdpmilw.org

Thrift Stores

Mark Dimeo Stores General Manager/Lincoln Store Manager	414-672-2040 mdimeo@svdpmilw.org
Tona Goddard Greenfield Store Co-Manager	414-377-9077 tgoddard@svdpmilw.org
Codey Lembck Greenfield Store Co-Manager	414-377-9077 clembck@svdpmilw.org
Angela Rodriguez Greenfield Assistant Store Manager	414-377-9077 arodriguez@svdpmilw.org
Ross Tessmer Bradley Store Manager	414-363-8084 rtessmer@svdpmilw.org
Ebony Davis Bradley Assistant Store Manager	414-363-8099 edavis@svdpmilw.org
Cindy Friede Store Office Manager	414-377-9077 cfriede@svdpmilw.org
<u>CONTACTLESS DONATIONS</u> will be <u>accepted at both locations</u> as noted or until full capacity	Donation pick-up line: 414-462-7863 ext. 113

Thrift Store Locations

2320 W. Lincoln Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53215 Tel: 414-672-2040 Mon-Fri 9am -7pm, Sat 9am-6pm, Closed Sun Donations: Mon-Sat 10am-5pm	4476 S. 108 St. Greenfield, WI 53228 Tel: 414-377-9077 Mon-Sat 9am-7pm, Sun 9am-6pm Donations: Mon-Sat 10am- 5pm Sun 11am-4pm	8010 N. 76 St. Milwaukee, WI 53223 Tel: 414-363-8099 Mon-Fri 9am-7pm Sat 9am-6pm Donations: Mon-Sat 10am-5pm
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Meal Program

Peggy West-Schroder Meal Site Manager	414-722-1353 pwest@svdpmilw.org
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Meal Program Locations

Indoor dining is served by staff and volunteers. To-go style hot meals are provided when necessary.

North Site- Harambee Kitchen 2600 N. 2 St. Milwaukee, WI 53212 414-249-3866 Monday – Friday 5:30pm - 6:15pm	South Site- Crossroads Kitchen 931 W. Madison St. Milwaukee, WI 53204 414-649-9555 Sunday – Friday 5:30pm – 6:15pm
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Volunteer Sign Up

Volunteers help is appreciated to prepare and serve meals boxes, greet guests and set-up/clean-up as needed. Click on links for availability.

Harambee Kitchen	Crossroads Kitchen
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Mission Statement



We are dedicated to eliminating poverty and hunger throughout Milwaukee County.



A network of friends, inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need.

Identity Statement

Inspired by Gospel values, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, a Catholic lay organization, leads women and men to join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to the needy and suffering in the tradition of its founder, Frederic Ozanam, and its patron, St. Vincent de Paul. As a reflection of the whole family of God, members are drawn from every ethnic and cultural background, age group, and economic level. They are united in an international society of charity by their spirit of poverty, humility, and sharing, which is nourished by prayer and reflection, mutually supportive gatherings, and adherence to a basic Rule. Organized locally, members witness God's love by embracing all works of charity and justice. The Society collaborates with other people of good will in relieving need and addressing its causes, making no distinction among those served, because, in them, members see the face of Christ.

Safeguarding Policy

All members of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul are required to complete the [Safeguarding Policy](#) requirements which were established to ensure that vulnerable individuals feel safe and empowered when they use services which our Society provides. Each conference has a Site Administrator who can assist new members with the CMG Connect registration process as outlined below.

CMGConnect

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY OF MILWAUKEE

<p>PART A: Criminal Background Check Submission</p> <p>**DOES NOT CONTAIN TRAINING**</p> <p><i>Please take PART B training requirements AFTER your background check is submitted.</i></p>	<p>PART B: Safeguarding Training</p> <p><i>Select AFTER submitting your Background Check via PART A.</i></p>
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End-User Instructions

1. Go to <https://svdpmilw.cmgconnect.org/>
2. Please create a new account by completing all of the boxes under the **Register for a New Account** area. This will include your address, primary parish or school and how you participate at your parish or school. Once your account is successfully created, you will automatically be brought to your training dashboard page.
 - All Milwaukee Vincentians, employees, and volunteers are required to complete our own SVDP Safeguarding program (Part A and Part B) to properly protect ourselves and those we serve.
 - Prior training within the Archdiocesan parish/school system is NOT sufficient or necessary to participate in SVDP assistance to those we serve.
3. Click **Start** under the **Part A: Background Check Submission** option. On the last page of the module, submit your background check details. Please enter your name as it is listed on your government issued identification.
 - **PLEASE NOTE:** Your curriculum will remain marked with "Resume" until your background check results are complete. Processing for background checks can take up to 7-10 business days.
4. After your background check results are submitted, you will also need to complete training requirements for compliance. Click **Start** under the assigned **Part B** module that applies to how you participate with the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Milwaukee (Non-Store Employee, Store Employee, Volunteer, or Member).
5. (OPTIONAL) You will be able to access your completion certificate after you are certified by returning to the training dashboard and clicking **Print Certificate**. Alternatively, a copy of the certificate can be **SAVED AS** a file to share within your conference since a printed certificate is not required nor easily shared online.



For technical assistance, contact us via the  button found in the bottom right corner of the web page.

Updated: 09/04/2024-SVDP-MKE

NEW ACCOUNTS: Progress through all three account creation screens in the *Register for a New Account* area. Click **Register** to complete your profile set-up. If you have questions about which category to select, please contact your local safe environment coordinator.

PART A: Complete your background check screening requirement:

- Locate **Part A: Background Check Submission** on your main dashboard and click **Start** to begin.
- Enter your background check details on the Background Check Submission page. Make sure ALL information is accurate **before** clicking **Submit Background Check Request**.
NOTE: Please enter your name as listed on your government issued ID. The module will remain marked with "Resume" until results are complete. Processing can take up to 7-10 business days.

PART B: Once your background check is submitted, you can complete your training requirement.

- Locate the assigned **Part B** Safeguarding Training on your main dashboard and click **Start** to begin.
- Progress through the training sections—as you finish each page, it will be marked with **Complete** to show that the segment is saved. The module will be marked as **Complete** once all pages are saved.
- After your profile is certified by an administrator, you will be able to print your completion certificate by clicking **Print Certificate** under the finished module on your training dashboard page.

<https://svdpmilw.cmgconnect.org>

Register for a New Account

On the Account page

- Enter First Name
- Enter Last Name
- Enter Username
- Enter Password

Press **Next Step**

On the Personal page

- Enter Address
- Enter Phone Number
- Enter Date of Birth

Optional- Enter email (only enter email if you have **NEVER** trained for Safeguarding with the Archdiocese of Milwaukee)

Go to **Next Step**

On the Affiliation page

- Use the dropdown arrow to find your conference site (Scroll **past** the District Councils of Dodge, Fond du Lac, Kenosha, etc. to the District of Milwaukee)
- Choose **District Council of Milwaukee, YOUR CONFERENCE NAME...**
- Choose **Role- VOLUNTEER** from the dropdown list (scroll down after *Priest*)
- In the dropdown list, scroll down to indicate you **participate as a MEMBER**
- Click the [] I am not a robot box (if prompted with a picture, check the frames asked for)

Press **REGISTER**

You will automatically be brought to the training dashboard page. The whole page may not appear on your screen so scroll down until you see **Part A: Background Check Submission**.

Vision

An international organization, the Society invites people from every ethnic and cultural background, age and economic level to join together in charity and social justice to fight against poverty and hunger. Members, known as Vincentians, offer person-to-person services, emergency aid, financial assistance and compassionate support and advocate for social justice.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is an extraordinary organization that addresses two great commandments: love of God and love of neighbor. The Society enables us, with our weakness and strengths, to grow and become enriched spiritually, by serving those in need.

In this ever-changing world, with poverty increasing in a multitude of ways, the demands and opportunities for service are many and varied. The work that Blessed Frederic Ozanam and his young friends undertook was radical. They cared for the poor and the suffering and that is the challenge that we also face today.

Membership is a “vocation,” a calling to serve God in His poor. It is an opportunity to put faith into action in a practical way, and in a spiritual context. Unlike some social service agencies, the Society is not simply a material service provider. We should cherish our “spirituality” and do all we can to nurture it. People notice what we say and do, and how we do it. They see how we treat one another for good or ill. The spirit of fraternity among Vincentians should glow like a lamp in the dark for others to see how genuinely we love one another.

Structure of Organization

Conferences
The conference is the basic unit for every Vincentian. The activity of the Society is conducted on the conference level and efforts on other levels exist to support conference activity. There are 41 conferences in the Milwaukee Council . Conferences meet regularly, have leadership positions, make home visits and organize special works of charity, and are committed to spiritual growth.
Local Council (District)
Local councils (districts) serve individual conferences as well as promote a spirit of broader unity, coordinate activities of conferences, and undertake works that overlap parish areas. Local councils may also operate stores that oversee collection and distribution of furniture, clothing, and other household items. Councils have also taken on the role of raising money to support the poorer conferences, providing training sessions for new Vincentians, and publishing formational and promotional materials.
(Arch)diocesan Council
Archdiocesan Councils bring together local councils in the same way as the local council brings together conferences. It encourages initiatives to establish new councils in areas where the Society is not established. It represents the Society before the Bishop and on diocesan planning bodies. The Milwaukee Archdiocesan Council consists of 9 districts: Dodge, Fond du Lac, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Washington, Waukesha.
National Council
A National Council brings together the Vincentians of a country, providing guidance and advice on local problems, ensuring communication, coordinating international twinning, and representing the Society at international meetings where new policies are discussed. The National Council of the United States is assisted by nine subdivisions called regions, which are groupings of states and consist of over 90,000 members.
International Council
The International Council consists of national presidents and coordinates the Society throughout the world. International assemblies are held at several year intervals to discuss major issues facing the Society. SVDP is found in 154 countries over 5 continents consisting of 44,600 conferences.

Our History

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) is a worldwide Christian community. It was founded in Paris, France by a 20-year old student at the Sorbonne, Antoine Frederic Ozanam, with six friends, on April 23, 1833. The "Conference of Charity," as it was originally known, was formed in response to taunts from fellow students: *"What is Christianity doing to help the poor and suffering?"* The group took as their model and patron the great French saint and champion of the poor, Vincent de Paul. It later became known as the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and spread rapidly throughout Paris, and then France.

Rules and regulations became necessary as the single Conference in France grew and became an organization. In 1835, the Society's Rule, a series of Articles, was developed to help preserve the objectives and Spirit of the original founders.

By 1845 the Society had reached the shores of the United States, and the first conference was established in St. Louis, Missouri. The pioneer town of Milwaukee was the site of the founding of the sixth conference in the United States in 1849. The movement grew quickly and widely across America.



Yours must be a work of love, of kindness, you must give your time, your talents, yourselves. The poor person is a unique person of God's fashioning with an inalienable right to respect. You must not be content with tiding the poor over the poverty crisis; You must study their condition and the injustices which brought about such poverty, with the aim of a long term improvement.

~Blessed Frederic Ozanam

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Stores

The St. Vincent de Paul Stores exist primarily to collect and process donations for distribution to individuals and families in need through parish conferences. Vincentians issue certificates to provide clothing, furniture, beds, and other household items based on the needs expressed during the home visit and the resource ability of the conference. *How to Issue a Gift Certificate* is a guide updated regularly by store personnel and provides Vincentians with procedures to follow when issuing certificates. Conferences may also have relationships established with local used appliance stores in order to assist with appliance requests. Consult with your conference on policies for issuance of appliance vouchers.

St. Vincent de Paul Meal Ministry

The Milwaukee Council of St. Vincent de Paul has been serving hot, nutritious evening meals since 1983 at two sites with the assistance of over 2,000 volunteers. This "special work" also accomplishes the Vincentian mission because it involves people of faith in direct service to people in need and promotes personalized service, emphasizing the ministry of hospitality. The meal program relies on volunteers to prepare and provide meals as well as to set up, serve and clean up.

Resources- www.svdpmilw.org Click on the *Vincentians-Vicentinos* tab

[SVDP MKE Vincentian Resources](#)

The Rule of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, The Manual and the *Member Handbook* are essential to learn and understand Vincentian life and charisms. These will be provided to new members as part of the Ozanam Orientation.

How to Issue a Gift Certificate: This is a guide to the store procedures, policies, and prices for certificates that are provided by conferences as a result of the home visit.

www.svdpusa.org National Council website: Click on the Members tab

www.famvin.org Vincentian Family website www.ozanet.org International website