

MAY 2025

FROM THE HEART



A MONTHLY SVDP MKE VINCENTIAN NEWSLETTER

A Mother's Day Blessing

Blessed is the Mother who lets the Lord be her guiding hand, whose faith brings her family courage, whose wisdom comes from God, and whose children still stand and honor her.

happy
Mother's
day



SVDP Society Safeguarding: Milwaukee Council

The Milwaukee District Council Safeguarding Policy requires all **prospective and current members who interact with Those We Serve to complete Safeguarding training.** For those who have absolutely NO PUBLIC INTERACTION (NPI) with Those We Serve, we still must record this status on the CMG Connect database.

Need help? Email or Call us!

Mike Farrell mfarrell@svdpmilw.org

414-828-8232

Penny Krafczyk penkraf19@gmail.com

414-315-1441

Liz Burke eburke3@wi.rr.com

414-243-3717

- [Safeguarding Explanation Flyer](#)
- Milwaukee Council [Safeguarding Policy](#)
- [Process to Register](#)

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

10 Voice for the Poor Committee
9AM

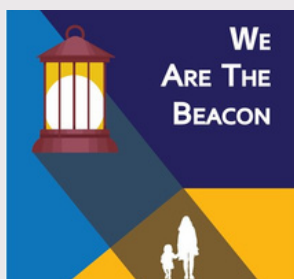
26 Memorial Day Council Office
and both Meal Sites closed

26 Thrift Stores Open 9AM-4PM

June

12-14 *We Are the Beacon*

2025 North Central Region Meeting
Bloomington, MN



**REGISTRATION
NOW
OPEN
[CLICK HERE](#)**

*May 9 Feast Day
St. Louise de Marillac*



St. Louise de Marillac is the patron saint of all Christian social workers. She cofounded the Daughters of Charity in 1633.

[Learn more](#)

Sharing Your Financial Blessings with Others

Has your conference been blessed with an abundance of donations or a large estate? Does your group have more funds than needed to meet the needs of those your group serves? If so, there are many conferences that are struggling financially to meet the needs of those they visit.

The Manual of St. Vincent de Paul states

- “The Society has held from the beginning that the funds donated to the Conference belong to the poor. (Rule: Part I: Article 3.14)
- Donations to Conferences — whether they come from church collections, from the members themselves, from benefactors, or from fundraising efforts — are meant to address today’s needs. (Rule: Part III, Statute 25)
- It is wrong for a Conference to seek financial security by building up a large balance for the needs of the future. Conference balances generally should not exceed what they expect to spend during an average quarter. Surplus funds should be shared generously with more needy Conferences or the special works of the District Council.” (Rule: Part III, Statute 24)

How can you help other conferences?

- Prayerfully consider making a contribution to the Council Neighbors Helping Neighbors fund to allow the Council to give emergency grants or consider twinning directly with another conference. Our [Council Office staff](#) can put you in contact with those groups needing ongoing support.



Storage Rental Units Available

The units are located directly behind our new Bradley Thrift Store at 8010 N 76 St. **All**

proceeds directly benefit SVDP-MKE

programs. First month FREE on all unit sizes.

[Click here](#) for rental information from OpenBox.

2025 Ozanam Award Recipients

Vincentians gathered for the Archdiocesan Council General Meeting, Mass and luncheon on May 4th at St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in Union Grove.

Congratulations to the recipients of the **2025 Ozanam Award**- Conference Award to *St. Teresa of Calcutta Conference* of Racine Council and Individual Award to *Bill Thimm* of St. Kilian Conference of Washington Council. Thank you for modeling Vincentian service within your communities!





Council Office News



Archdiocesan Council General Meeting Milwaukee District Council Quarterly Report April 30, 2025

Stores:

All three of our stores continue to do very well. March was a spectacular sales month for all of them. Each store exceeded their sales goals by quite a bit and had large sales increases over last year at this time. Both the Greenfield and Lincoln stores had their best sales month ever in March. In late January we switched to a new delivery company, Roadheights Transportation, which is working out very well. The new company is doing a great job, and everyone is happy with the much-improved delivery services. Furniture donations are really increasing this month, and we have a better inventory for our neighbors and customers.

Conference Requests:

Calls for assistance at our Council office decreased in the second quarter from the previous quarter. This is attributed to the large numbers of calls we received in the first quarter over the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. Furniture and new beds remain the most requested items from our neighbors in need. Our conferences anticipate an increased number of calls for assistance based on the current state of the economy.

Meal Program:

The total number of meal guests at both meal sites dropped slightly in the second quarter from 14,671 in the first quarter to 14,022. Volunteers and staff celebrate various holidays by decorating the dining rooms and providing meal guests with special treats. Funds are raised for this by asking our donors for their financial help to make this happen. Recently drinking tumblers were given to our guests for them to keep and hopefully bring back when they return for their next meal.

Council:

Trainings were held in February and March on the essentials of making home visits. With several parishes merging in the future, our leadership and staff will be working to assist those conferences regarding how merging may affect their operations. The first night of the spring virtual Ozanam Orientation was just presented on April 29th by 3 Milwaukee Vincentians and 2 staff to approximately 80 members.

Planning is well underway by our Gala committee for our third Annual "Giving from the Heart" Gala which will be held downtown this year at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist on September 11th.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Duskey for Mike Farrell



Mother's Day "Personal Care Kits"

In celebration of Mother's Day this May, we'll be surprising our Meal Program guests with Personal Care Kits. Kits will include personal hygiene items and self-care items. We'd love your support as we bring smiles to the faces of the mothers we serve! Reach out to Becca, Director of Philanthropy, if you'd like to donate or support our project at RSurges@svdpmilw.org or (414) 667-0242.

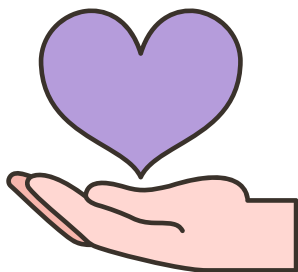
Giving from the Heart Gala!

Save the Date! Our 3rd Annual Gala is scheduled for Thursday, Sept 11th at 6pm at the Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist in Milwaukee.

We'll gather together in their beautiful Atrium space to celebrate the work of the Society and raise critical dollars to support our Neighbors Helping Neighbors program.

Please watch your home mailbox and email for details over the next several months.

We'd love to include your business or conference as a sponsor of this year's event! Please email Becca at RSurges@svdpmilw.org to learn more about benefits to sponsorship.



NEW Society Philanthropy Committee

We're looking to launch a new Society Fundraising Committee and would love your involvement in securing donations, thanking our donors, and helping with annual fundraising campaigns and special events. Please reach out to learn more! RSurges@svdpmilw.org or (414) 667-0242.



Vincentian News

Rekindle the Fire of Your Vincentian Vocation

A Milwaukee Council meeting of members was held on April 26th giving those who attended an opportunity to learn more deeply about the background, family life and formational experiences of our Vincentian Fire Starters-our essential founders. Vincentians, who just happened to each represent one of our four areas, provided joyful, engaging presentations and fostered meaningful discussions amongst the participants.

Time for personal reflection and discussion included a litany of thanks for personal models of faith and a sharing about the influence of our founders to revitalize the fire of our own Vincentian spirit to remain focused on having Christ-centered personal interactions with our neighbors in need.

Participants considered the sparks (strengths) of conferences as well as areas that need to be reignited. See the links below for conference resources:

[Recording: Leadership & Succession Planning](#)

[Recording: Welcoming New Members to Our Conference](#)

Many thanks to the St. Therese conference and parish for hosting our gathering. Special thanks to our Vincentian presenters: Margie Bosanko-St. James, Penny Krafczyk- St. Veronica, Dennis Pehoski-All Saints, Rodney VanBibber- Christ King.



St. Louise- Penny K.
St. Vincent- Dennis P.



Bl. Rosalie-Margie B.
Bl. Frederic-Rodney V.



Thrift Stores

Delivery Service Changes: The Thrift Stores new delivery service is called Roadheights Transportation. The [delivery letter for customers](#) is updated and on our website. Questions? Contact [Mark Dimeo](#), Stores General Manager.

Bed Prices & Sizes : The *How to Issue a Gift Certificate, rev.01-25* guide includes prices and measurements of bed components and the updated furniture price guide. Look at this [bed size visual guide](#) prepared by Vincentian, George Z. of St. Catherine of Alexandria conference. Thanks, George!

[How to Issue a Gift Certificate Guide \(01/25\)](#)
[Como Llenar Los Comprobantes de Regalo 01-2025](#)
[Updated Text Club Flyer](#)
[Club de texto -ES *Nueva version](#)

Donations Update

**The Greenfield Store has extended donation hours to include
Sundays, 11AM - 4PM.**

Donations are accepted at all three locations Mon-Sat 10AM-5PM.

We are still in need of household furniture such as sofas, dressers, chairs and kitchen tables. To arrange a donation pick-up, please contact Cindy, Store Office Manager at 414-462-7863 ext. 113 or by [email](#).

[Donation Guidelines](#)

All Stores will be open 9AM-4PM on Memorial Day- May 26, 2025



GREENFIELD 4476 S. 108 St. 414-377-9077

Mon.- Sat. 9:00AM - 7:00PM Sun. 11:00AM-6:00PM

Donations Mon. - Sat. 10AM-5PM Sun. 11AM-4PM

LINCOLN 2320 W. Lincoln Ave. 414-672-2040

Mon.- Fri. 9:00AM - 7:00PM Sat. 9:00AM-6:00PM

Sun. Closed

Donations Mon. - Sat. 10AM-5PM

BRADLEY 8010 N. 76 St. 414-363-8099

Mon.- Fri. 9:00AM - 7:00PM Sat. 9:00AM-6:00PM

Sun. Closed

Donations Mon. - Sat. 10AM-5PM

Donations Pick-Up Line 414-462-7863 Ext. 113

Meal Program

Meal Program Volunteer Sign-Up links

South Meal Site

Cross Roads Kitchen

931 W. Madison St.

414-649-9555

crossroads@svdpmilw.org

Serving

Sun.-Fri. 5:30PM-6:15PM

Meal Program Manager -

Peggy West-Schroder

pwest@svdpmilw.org

414-722-1353

St. Vincent de Paul Society of MKE.

HELP FEED THE HUNGRY

CROSSROADS@SVDPMILW.ORG

WEEK 1	DAY NEEDED: JUST MEAL Sunday
WEEK 2	DAY NEEDED: Sunday
WEEK 3	DAY NEEDED: Friday
WEEK 4	DAY NEEDED: Friday
WEEK 5	DAY NEEDED: Monday

931 W. MADISON STREET

For more information:
Crossroads@svdpmilw.org

svdp MEAL PROGRAM

CROSS ROADS KITCHEN

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT FEEDING THE HUNGRY? THESE ARE DAYS EACH MONTH THAT WE NEED MEALS.

You don't have to commit to bringing food monthly, try it out! We'll help!



St. Vincent de Paul Milwaukee

HELP FEED THE HUNGRY

HARAMBEE@SVDPMILW.ORG

WEEK 1	DAYS NEEDED: Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
WEEK 2	DAYS NEEDED: Monday & Tuesday
WEEK 4	DAYS NEEDED: Monday & Tuesday
WEEK 5	DAYS NEEDED: Monday, Tuesday & Thursday

2600 N 2nd Street

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT ABOUT FEEDING THE HUNGRY? THESE ARE DAYS EACH MONTH THAT WE NEED MEALS.

You don't have to commit to bringing food monthly, try it out! We'll help!

For more information email:
Harambee@svdpmilw.org

svdp MEAL PROGRAM

HARAMBEE KITCHEN



North Meal Site

Harambee Kitchen

2600 N. 2nd St.

414-249-3866

harambee@svdpmilw.org

Serving

Mon.-Fri. 5:30PM-6:15PM

Volunteers
needed

Resource Highlights

Check the links on our website for resources: [Vincentian Resources](#)

Energy Assistance

- The Energy Assistance Benefit Season ends May 15. Eligible MKE Co. residents can apply for a one-time payment to help cover a portion of their energy bills. Appoint needs to be scheduled. Call 414-270-4653 or [go online](#).

Housing Resources:

- **Berrada Properties Tenant Eviction Diversion Program:** Current Berrada Properties tenants who are late in rent or are unable to pay next month's rent due to financial hardship and may be facing eviction- information on [options for possible assistance](#).
- **City of Milwaukee Rental Assistance Housing Stability Program (HSP):** The HSP is a resource for eligible Milwaukee residents at risk of housing instability due to a temporary financial hardship. HSP offers up to 3 months of back rent (arrears); up to 1 month of future rent; and relocation funds (if applicable). [Click here](#) for more information on eligibility criteria and how to apply if the criteria are met.
- **Landlord/Tenant Programs:** For tenants and landlords dealing with housing instability or lack of resources that could lead to eviction. [Click here](#).
- **Milwaukee Rental Housing Resource Center:** The RHRC walk-in clinic, located in the Community Advocates building at 728 N. James Lovell Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53233, operates Monday through Friday, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Visit the RHRC in person, go to RentHelpMKE.org, or call 414-895-RENT (7368) for more information.
- **Legal Aid Society of Milwaukee** has partnered with RHRC to help individuals who would like to remove past evictions from their CCAP Search. The free clinic is held on the **2nd Wednesday of each month 9am-4pm**. This is open to those in Milwaukee County who have dismissed evictions and completed payment plans only. The [next clinic](#) is on May 14th.

Intake Summary

March 2025

Appliances- 125
Beds- 170
Furniture & Household- 250
Rent & Utilities- 11
Other- 60

Referrals Made to Conferences: 335

April 2025

Appliances- 125
Beds- 176
Furniture & Household- 289
Rent & Utilities-13
Other- 59

Referrals Made to Conferences: 372

Contact Your SVDP Support Team

Intake line for basic needs requests 9AM-3PM 414-462-7837 ext 110

To Schedule Pick-Up 414-462-7863 ext. 113

Debbie Duskey

Executive Director

414-667-0241

dduskey@svdpmilw.org

Michelle Martin

Director of Finance & Human Resources

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mmartin@svdpmilw.org

Becca Surges

Director of Philanthropy &
Marketing Communications

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rsurges@svdpmilw.org

Peggy West-Schroder

Meal Program Manager

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pwest@svdpmilw.org

Mark Dimeo

Stores General Manager

Lincoln Store Manager

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mdimeo@svdpmilw.org

Maria Welz

Director of Membership
Development

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mwelz@svdpmilw.org

Ross Tessmer

Bradley Store Manager

414-363-8084

414-363-8099-store

rtessmer@svdpmilw.org

Melanie Critton

Intake Coordinator

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mcritton@svdpmilw.org

Tona Goddard

Codey Lembck

Greenfield Store Co-Managers

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clembck@svdpmilw.org

Beth Hohenfeldt

Administrative Specialist

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bhohenfeldt@svdpmilw.org

Paty Landeros

Accounting and HR Assistant

414-285-5515

planderos@svdpmilw.org

Cindy Friede

Store Office Manager

414-462-7863 x 113

cfriede@svdpmilw.org

