2020 SVDP MKE

ANNUAL REPORT





St. Vincent de Paul Society of Milwaukee | Spring 2021



A NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dearest friends,

We have been through so much since March 2020 when our everyday lives came to a grinding halt with the onset of the pandemic. However, after taking stock and rechanneling our efforts, we realized that we had an **inner strength and a resilience** that we could rely on to move forward. Despite the tragedy and fear around us, our faith in God provided us with an **indomitable spirit** to see us through these very dark times.

We challenged ourselves and redirected our services in new ways to help those who needed us most. We found unique ways to visit our neighbors in need and to still serve people at our meal sites and our stores. Our commitment continues to actively live out our faith by helping others suffering in our community improve their lives by providing them with the basic necessities of life; meals, home furnishings and comforting words of hope.

We realized more than ever, that what is critical to us achieving our mission of helping others is knowing that God's grace and spirit dwells inside our hearts and makes all things possible. We remain committed in our belief that our work today is integral to building a better tomorrow for all of us.

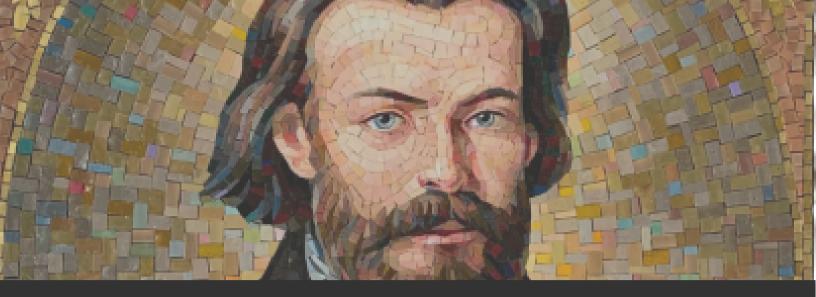
We are incredibly grateful to everyone in our community: our volunteers, donors, staff and neighbors, for your dedication and commitment as we journey into the future together ... **stronger than ever.** With everyone's help, we are responding with hope. We remain steadfast in our commitment to respond to our neighbors and assist them with basic needs and a promising future. By working together and never losing sight of God's grace, we realize all things are possible. We are all on this journey together.

With gratitude,

Deborah Duskey Executive Director

Deborah Ruskey

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Milwaukee



OUR HISTORY

In 1833, Frederic Ozanam, organized a small group of college students in France, in visiting 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. In 1849, several Milwaukee Catholic parishes established similar groups of volunteers, and a council was formed in 1914, legally incorporated in 1917. The St. Vincent de Paul Society of Milwaukee now has professional staff members, and 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.



OUR 2020 NUMBERS



\$1.2 million

goods and services to people in need



56,377

warm, nutritious meals served at Meal Program



8,277

meals served to children



9,790

home visits made to individuals and families



NAVIGATING COVID

- How we navigated the coronavirus pandemic this past year -



We pivoted our Meal Program services to offer outdoor serving, providing "to go" options. In addition, our Parish Food Pantries offered outdoor, drive-thru options.



Our Vincentian Home Visits were moved to a virtual phone format, allowing our volunteers to safely connect with Milwaukee's neighbors in need.



We received generous emergency grant funding from local organizations totaling over \$130,000.



After closing for two months at the start of COVID, our Thrift Stores remained open and fully-stocked, ready to serve our community members.

COVID-19 SNAPSHOT





OUR PROGRAMS

MEAL PROGRAM

The Milwaukee Council of SVDP operates a free Meal Program at two sites, five nights per week at Harambee Kitchen (2600 N. 2nd St.) and six nights per week at Crossroads Kitchen (931 W. Madison St.). Volunteers from Milwaukee and surrounding communities, of all ages and faiths, give of their time, talent, and treasures in helping to provide, prepare, and serve the meal for those who are hungry in our community.

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS

Through home visitations, over 607 volunteers establish one-on-one supportive relationships with individuals and families who need basic necessities such as food, clothing, new beds and furniture. These volunteers also provide companionship, a listening ear and compassion. Additionally, volunteers in this program operate food pantries, and visit the sick, the elderly and the imprisoned.



PROGRAMS CONT...

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. 108 Street, in Greenfield, benefit our friends in need in a number of ways, including, fulfilling certificates for clothing, new beds and household merchandise which are issued by volunteers during the Neighbors Helping Neighbors home visitations. In addition, the stores provide quality merchandise to budgetconscious, and low-income shoppers. Any program revenue generated supports other charitable works of the Society.

BACK2WORK

This newly launched program will train and prepare the unemployed to pursue a career in the skilled trades. In partnership with Project Return and Milwaukee Community Service Corps, we are eager for the growth of this transformational program.





HOPE & NEW LIFE

Recently on a home visit, we met April, a young single mother of six children and her good friend, Alexandra, who was expecting her first child. The havoc of the pandemic had taken its toll on April and Alexandra; job loss led to an abrupt end of income and months of harsh living conditions which ultimately led to homelessness. The unfit situation of sleeping on hard floors and in vehicles while experiencing food insecurity meant that April reached the most difficult decision a mother could ever make. For the safety and well-being of her family, April had released custody of her children to Child Protective Services until she could stabilize her life and regain custody. In February, our volunteers arranged to meet April at the apartment she shared with Alexandra. As is commonly found on such visits, the living space was unfurnished. The lack of beds, furniture and appliances would deter April from her deepest desire; reuniting with her children. "When we serve those in need, we truly meet God in-person." April's story touched us deeply as we could only imagine the anguish she felt separated from her children. Our Vincentian volunteers offered both April and Alexandra hope by filling their needs for a couch, new mattresses, warm bedding, and kitchen essentials with a table and chairs. A trip to our Thrift Store provided a surprise of baby clothing, a stroller and diaper bag for Alexandra's newborn son. By meeting these basic needs, April was now able to focus on her next goal of securing a job. Several weeks ago, April reached out to our volunteers and once again thanked them for their incredible generosity. She has Hope that this chance at a New Life in the midst of such turmoil will allow her to bring her family back together!



VINCENTIAN SERVICES

In 2020 ...

- SVDP Milwaukee was supported by
 607 dedicated volunteers
- Loyal Vincentians volunteered a total of 81,596 hours
- 9,790 home visits were made throughout Milwaukee County





MEAL PROGRAM

In 2020 ...

- SVDP Milwaukee served 56,377 warm, nutritious meals to families in need at our two meal site locations
- Of these meals served, 8,277 were served to young children
- Generous grant funding from the Greater
 Milwaukee Foundation The Ernest and
 Florence Weitzer Fund provided a new
 dishwasher and stove for meal preparation.



THRIFT STORES

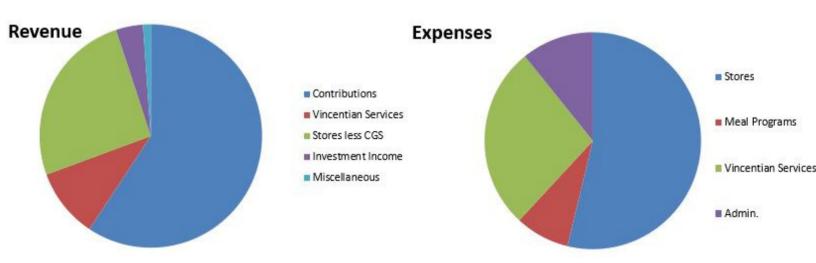
In 2020 ...

- SVDP Milwaukee's two Thrift
 Stores gave \$45,537 worth
 of items to community
 members in need
- 1,649 store gift certificate
 vouchers were redeemed
- A total of 3,651 store volunteer hours were completed



2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

			STATEMENT OF REVENUE, EXPENSES		
BALANCE SHEET			AND CHANGE IN NET ASSETS		
Assets	2020	2019	Revenue	2020	2019
Cash	\$982,144	\$641,658	Contributions	\$4,548,391	\$1,027,243
Investments	5,074,776	3,172,972	Vincentian Services	773,159	838,437
Accounts Receivable	2,001,169	31,998	Stores less CGS	1,959,182	1,761,346
Inventories	260,468	220,944	Investment Income	301,956	109,333
Prepaid Expenses	52,340	40,326	Miscellaneous	86,536	115,906
Property and Equip	3,406,167	3,611,568	Total Revenue	\$7,669,224	\$3,852,265
Other	474,683	443,915			
Total Assets	\$12,251,747	\$8,163,381	Expenses		
			Stores	\$1,876,841	\$1,882,725
Liabilities			Meal Programs	282,995	316,499
Accounts Payable	\$66,505	\$86,004	Vincentian Services	952,466	888,997
Accrued Liabilities	128,751	185,845	Admin.	377,079	317,581
Mortgage Payable	1,464,162	1,778,917	Total Expenses	\$3,489,381	\$3,405,802
Other Payables	784,851	484,980	8		
Total Liabilities	\$2,444,269	\$2,535,746	Change in Net Assets	\$4,179,843	\$446,463
Net Assets	\$9,807,478	\$5,627,635			
Total Liabilities &					
Net Assets	\$12,251,747	\$8,163,381			





Thank you to our loyal donors, community partners, and friends for your incredible support during this most challenging year.

A full listing of 2020 Foundation support can be viewed at www.svdpmilw.org

your friends at SVDP MKE 9