

the many faces of hope



2010 ANNUAL REPORT



Hope is on the faces of those who give of their time and resources and especially of those who receive.

Are you a face of hope?

Our Mission

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Atlanta empowers people, regardless of their background, ethnicity, or faith, to achieve self-sufficiency by offering financial, material, educational, and spiritual support and by collaborating with others to develop and deliver programs and services that help those in need.



Our Vision

The Vision of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Atlanta is to change the face of charity by offering hope as well as help to all through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

VINCENTIAN ESSENTIAL VALUES
Spirituality, Friendship and Service

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to present the St. Vincent de Paul Atlanta Annual Report for the year 2010. The past year was truly one that presented us with opportunities and challenges that many times tested our capacity for faith and perseverance.

The worldwide economic situation continued to impact us from two perspectives; a significant increase in those coming to us in need and decreased income from some sources. The results presented herein reflect those challenges and provide you with a measure of the scope and breadth of the support we were able to provide to our neighbors in need, thanks to the generosity of our benefactors and the tireless dedication of our volunteers – Vincentian and others. Overall, SVdP Atlanta had a positive economic impact of over \$16.9 million on poverty and need in Georgia through direct and indirect financial, material, and educational support to people in need in 2010, an increase of more than 20 percent from 2009.

Our "Volunteer Army" of over 4,000 people working in 70 local Conferences throughout Georgia, our 10 Thrift Stores and the Conference Support Center gave more than 323,000 hours of service, helped nearly 190,000 people over the course of 2010. They drove more than 552,000 miles in order to visit people in their homes, providing personal outreach, caring, and love of neighbor along with more than \$5.8 million in financial, material, and educational support to those in need.

But more important than our look back at 2010 is our look forward to 2011 and beyond. As we face the new challenges of the coming years, we are refining our strategic plan so that we can best leverage the strengths of our people and services and work in collaboration with others to address the challenges ahead. Our strategic focus will guide us in the development and delivery of those programs and services which will best impact and benefit our Vision. Therefore, we will focus on developing programs that help people to break out of cycles of dependence and poverty and create opportunities for them to become self-sufficient and stable.

We are called to be good stewards of the resources with which we have been blessed. And this year again our audited financial results showed that at least 90 percent of the funds we received went directly to support programs for those we serve. We are proud of this standard and are committed to maintaining it.

We would like to thank again all our donors for their support. Your generosity, financial and in-kind contributions, as well as your time and talent, enabled us to make a special difference as we worked together to improve the quality of life for those we serve.

Now and in the years to come, we will be up against many challenges. However, working together, we can continue to 'Change Lives...One at a Time' and help make life better for our neighbors here in the home we all love. We sincerely thank our benefactors for providing us with the means to bring the opportunity for positive change to so many.

In peace and faith,

Richard P. Kessler, Jr.
President and Chairman of the Board

John A. Berry
Executive Director and CEO

LONG TERM VISION

Changing the Face of Hope

Where We Are Heading

As we look to 2011, we are excited about the new initiatives we are implementing.

FOOD DISTRIBUTION PROGRAM

In 2010 St. Vincent de Paul and Kroger joined forces to battle hunger in North Georgia. Every month SVdP will pick-up nearly 10,000 pounds of perishable food from specified Kroger stores to provide the nutrition of perishable foods to clients through 38 food pantries.

TRANSITIONAL JOB TRAINING PROGRAM

We are partnering with the Atlanta Center for Self-Sufficiency and others to create transitional employment training programs which provide on-the-job educational training in a warehouse environment. Through certified training programs and eventual expansion of the program to other job functions, SVdP will be immersed in teaching basic skills to help people become more employable. Our Vision is to create similar programs for our Thrift Stores that will assist day-to-day operations and will provide skills-training in material handling, retail sales, merchandising and management.

THRIFT STORE/FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER MODEL

Our future vision includes increasing the number of Thrift Store/Family Support Centers so each combined center becomes not only self-funding for services to people in need but also provides a continuing source of revenue for education and job-training programs.

We will expand the Recycling Program to include more commodities in order to diversify the revenue stream, create multiple vendor partnerships, and encourage increased store participation.

VALUE PROPOSITION

For the citizens of North and Middle Georgia who struggle to achieve financial stability, St. Vincent de Paul will offer temporary assistance, ongoing targeted education opportunities and job-training to deliver the knowledge and skills needed to become self-sufficient.

Unlike other nonprofits that provide only temporary or finite assistance, we strive to break cycles of dependence and poverty by helping people learn to help themselves.



The community impact of achieving our long-term vision is a more self-sufficient community with:

- a higher per-capita income
- increased business opportunities
- a larger tax digest
- healthier and more productive families
- better-prepared students who grow into more successful contributing members of the community

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL ATLANTA

Vision & Mission

Vision

The Vision of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Atlanta is to change the face of charity by offering hope as well as help to all through the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

"To change the face of charity..." are powerful words with deep, broad and inclusive meaning that allows us to dream and look at uncharted possibilities. Bobby Kennedy said, "Some men see things as they are and ask why; I dream things that never were and say, why not?" Our vision is a statement of the future we want to create.

Our Vision honors each stakeholder's impression of our vision; we each may see it slightly differently within the broader context of what the Society wants to become. The power of the Vision is the fluidity and flexibility driving thought and action to new ideas, helping us create a better future than any one of us could create independently. The diversity of interpretation gives SVdP Atlanta vibrancy and life!

We offer hope. We can't give people hope, but we can change their circumstances by giving help, giving them the opportunity to feel hopeful. Our help gives people faith that things will get better. And that leads to hope. "...to all..." acknowledges that we are here for those of all backgrounds, faiths, and ethnicities. We serve all people.

We conclude with "... through the guidance of the Holy Spirit," acknowledging and celebrating our faith and our commitment to the Catholic foundation of the Society. It reinforces that it is God who directs what we do, not man. We serve because we are called to serve and the Holy Spirit inspires, watches over and blesses our work.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Atlanta in 2011 will continue to work to change the face of charity by creating and aligning our support and our programs to make sure we are providing holistic solutions to the dependency and need we see afflicting those we serve.

Mission

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Atlanta empowers people, regardless of their background, ethnicity, or faith, to achieve self-sufficiency by offering financial, material, educational, and spiritual support and by collaborating with others to develop and deliver programs and services that help those in need.

Recently, the Board of Directors revised the Mission Statement of SVdP Atlanta. The change was made to ensure that our Mission Statement reflects and emphasizes the true mission of the Society from a perspective of the outcomes we strive to achieve rather than emphasizing the programs and services we provide to achieve those outcomes.

The revised statement shifts the emphasis and makes dominant the fact that SVdP Atlanta "...empowers people, regardless of their background, ethnicity, or faith, to achieve self-sufficiency..." and that we do that by offering a variety of services. By making this subtle, but important, shift in emphasis we have made it clear that WHY we do things is more important than WHAT we do. The WHY defines our plan for how we will change the face of Charity, as our vision explains.

I'm a face of hope...

"Life is not measured by the miles but it is measured by the imprint that you leave in someone's life. Working for St. Vincent de Paul allows me to leave an imprint in the lives of the people who come through the door." — a volunteer

I'm a face of hope...

"I came today with no job or place to live; my caseworker took the time to call other agencies so I would have some place to sleep tonight. I came for food and now will sleeping under a roof tonight." — a client

THE FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER SERVICES

Mirrors of Hope

Services offered exclusively through our four Family Support Centers in Chamblee, McDonough, West End (Atlanta) and Dallas include:

CLIENT CHOICE FOOD PANTRY:

This client-choice model operates like a grocery store, allowing clients to select their food with the assistance of a trained volunteer who guides them to select foods based on the USDA Food Pyramid and family size. This honors and enhances the dignity and ethnic diversity of the people served and promotes more efficient distribution of our donated resources.

BENEFITS SCREENING

For various reasons, one third of the population eligible for government benefits do not receive them. Staff and volunteer caseworkers screen clients onsite at the Family Support Center for 20 supplemental government benefits to determine eligibility and access.

LEARNING CENTER

Courses offered in the Learning Center, located in our Family Support Centers are delivered by volunteer instructors. Courses include ESOL, GED preparation, financial literacy, life skills, job training or other subjects designed to help people overcome barriers to self-sufficiency.

VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE (VITA)

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) is a free income tax preparation service for families with an income of less than \$48,000 annually. Clients are also screened for Earned Income Tax Credits.

HOUSEHOLD GOODS & CLOTHING

An inventory of new or gently used donated clothing and household items allows clients, who possess verifiable vouchers from Conferences, to receive clothing, shoes, furniture and other household items free of charge.



HEALTH SCREENING

Selected Family Support Centers, through the collaboration of a trusted medical provider, offer free medical screening for blood pressure, cholesterol, and diabetes.

NATIONAL VEHICLE DONATION PROGRAM

In 2010 the Society of St. Vincent de Paul introduced a national program to support vehicle donations. The National Vehicle Donation Program is designed to provide a hassle-free donation process to our vehicle donors as well as to drive efficiency and cost-reduction. The program offers a standardized process for all St. Vincent de Paul Society Councils

throughout the nation. The Vehicle Donation Program continues to be one of our successful fundraising programs, raising more than \$100,000 in the year 2009-2010. In addition to revenue the vehicle donation program provided 38 families with reliable used cars to meet transportation needs.

THRIFT STORES

SVdP operates 10 Metro Atlanta Thrift stores. Stores provide revenue for programs and services, free merchandise through the voucher program and opportunities for volunteerism, community service, group and individual service projects.



CONFERENCES

Linked by the common mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, there are 70 Conferences operating throughout North and Middle Georgia. These groups of 5 to 50 volunteers put their faith into action by responding to the needs of people in their local community, regardless of ethnic or religious background.

The three goals of a Conference are the spiritual growth of the members, developing friendship among the members and with those in need, and serving people with compassion, generosity, and respect.

Within the policies of the International Society and the directives of the Atlanta Council each Conference operates independently, resulting in a wide variety of consistent and innovative services and programs which address the specific needs of the local community. Such services include food pantries, thrift stores, referrals to other resources, educational programs, spiritual and financial assistance. Each Conference works closely with other community partners and local service providers to amplify and not replicate services.



The core Vincentian activity is the home visit, where two members of the Society go to the home of an individual or family to talk with them, pray with them, assess their needs, give referrals and provide assistance, such as paying an electric bill or providing food. Most often, the assistance is temporary, helping an individual or family over a "bump in the road." In certain cases, the Conference may commit to a longer period of assistance and mentoring to help lift a family out of a continuing struggle that has a foreseeable end.

The primary source of Conference funding comes from the generosity of the members of the associated Catholic parish. Conferences also seek out local grants and hold creative fundraisers in order to provide for the needs of the community.



I'm a face of hope...

"I never knew how many different types of services that SVdP provides to help those in need - from special GED prep and ESL education classes held on site, to paying utility bills for those in need!"

— Mark McMullen, Executive Vice President The Integer Group



I'm a face of hope...

"I never knew St. Vincent de Paul has more than 4,000 volunteers who customize assistance to each individual in need, getting them exactly the help they need to get back on their feet or through a difficult time." — Meredith Hodges, Vice President of External Affairs and Human Resources of Gas South, LLC

THE PARTNERS OF HOPE

Faces of Hope

We are grateful to our numerous community partners who collaborate to volunteer their time to help us and to provide food, goods and services to those who come to us for assistance.

Agnes Scott College
 Alston and Bird – Truancy Intervention Project
 Atlanta Braves
 Atlanta Community Food Bank
 Atlanta Prosperity Campaign
 Atlanta Spirit
 Auto Trader
 Best Buy
 Beta Beta Beta, Biological Honors Society & Biology Club — Georgia State University
 Brookhaven Buzz
 Brookhaven United Methodist Church
 Catholic Charities
 Center for Pan Asian Community Services
 Chamblee Business Association
 Community Friendship
 Cort Furniture
 DeKalb Community Service Corps
 DeKalb County Juvenile Court
 DeKalb Enterprises
 Department of Human Services
 DOOR Atlanta
 Elavon, Global Acquiring Solutions
 Frosty Caboose
 Furniture Bank of Metro Atlanta
 Gas South

Gateway
 Georgia College and State — Milledgeville
 Hands on Atlanta
 Hands on Network
 Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish Youth Group
 Internal Revenue Service (VITA)
 Johnson & Johnson
 Juvenile Court of DeKalb County
 Kaiser Permanente
 Kiwanis of Chamblee
 Kraft Foods
 Kroger
 Lexis Nexis (volunteers)
 LGS Staffing (volunteers)
 Marist School
 McDonalds, Chamblee-Peachtree Blvd
 Morehouse School of Medicine
 Mt. Vernon Presbyterian School
 Northside Hospital
 Pathways
 Publix
 RBC Bank
 Reach for Excellence
 Salvation Army
 Second Helpings, Temple Sinai
 Seedco
 Senior Connections



Shorenstein Management Company — Palisades
 St. Joseph Mercy Care
 St. Pius X High School
 St. Thomas Aquinas Parish
 Starbucks
 United Way
 Veterans Administration Hospital
 Wesleyan School
 Whole Foods

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Atlanta empowers people, regardless of their background, ethnicity, or faith, to achieve self-sufficiency by offering financial, material, educational, and spiritual support and by collaborating with others to develop and deliver programs and services that help those in need.



I'm a face of hope...

"I have never been to a place where they give so generously, they should teach others how to be so generous." — a client

A STORY OF HOPE: A Lesson in the Price of Hunger

In early November a group of young people and their teacher visited the St. Vincent de Paul Family Support Center as a Community Service project for their school. The visit developed into an interesting experience, not only for the young people, but for the staff and those we serve.

When the students from Wesleyan School in Atlanta arrived at the St. Vincent de Paul Family Support Center to volunteer, they expected to sort clothing for the Thrift Store. Little did they know, they would have a profound, life-changing experience.

Their first impression was the smell of coffee, an absolute must in every office in the morning. They noticed the smell changed as they entered the Family Support Center. They said it smelled sweet, like baked goods.

They jumped right in sorting the donated bread and pastries and moved on to stocking the Food Pantry shelves. They were surprised and shocked to see how little food there was to put on the shelves. They placed everything on the shelves and asked their teacher what else they could do to help. He gathered the group together.

The group talked for a few minutes and decided to take up a collection. They came up with \$150 out of their own pockets and off they went to purchase food at the grocery store. This provided the opportunity to practice real-life family economics. They returned with several bags and cases of food. SVdP weighed the items and the students had purchased 112 pounds of food to donate. The students immediately got busy filling the shelves with the newly purchased food.

We hope the lesson will resonate with them, that they will share the lesson with their friends and families, and continue to look for more ways to help.

The evidence of that well-founded hope arrived a few weeks later; we received a letter and donation from one of the young people who visited in early November. This profound act of generosity from a high school student spoke volumes to us all. A surprising story of hope!

THE LETTER READS AS FOLLOWS:

I am a student at Wesleyan School and I recently came to work at the food pantry with a peer group a few weeks ago. As you may know each year our high school students participate in Serve His Day, which gives us the opportunity to serve places in the community, and those that may be less fortunate.

I am taking a health class this semester. One of our class requirements is to do a service project. I did a project for my neighbors, taking care of two large greyhounds while they were away visiting family on Thanksgiving. They paid me forty dollars (\$40) and I am now sending this money to you at St. Vincent de Paul to use as you see fit.

Sincerely,
 — A student from the Class of 2014.



Reflections of Hope 2010

The 2010 outcome measurement results illustrate the impact of our programs and services on poverty and need in North and Middle Georgia. Overall, SVdP Atlanta provided \$16.9 million in financial, material, and educational support to people in need in 2010, an increase of more than 20 percent from 2009. The Society helped nearly 190,000 people in 2010, an increase of more than 10,000 people from the previous year.

Through reducing costs and increasing fundraising efforts, SVdP was able to serve more people, providing more than \$8.8 million in financial assistance to people in need in Georgia. This support helped people stay in their homes, keep the electricity, the gas and the water turned on, or paid other bills; thereby giving people help and offering them hope. This also impacted the many businesses and property owners who received payments they might not otherwise have received, which helped them maintain financial stability in these difficult economic times. The financial assistance and the food, clothing, furniture, household furnishings, cars, and professional services we provided had a direct economic impact on poverty and need in Georgia of \$16.9 million.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT de PAUL ATLANTA SUMMARY OF SERVICES 2009-10 <i>Greater than 90% of income goes directly to help those in need.</i>	
Conferences in the Council <i>(Conferences are the local volunteer organizations that deliver SVdP services to people in need across Georgia.)</i>	70
Total Volunteers	4,144
People Served	189,505
Total Volunteer Hours	323,355
Estimated Miles Driven for Home Visits	552,518
Estimated Value of Unreimbursed miles <i>(50 cents per mile)</i>	\$276,259
Estimated Value of Volunteer Hours <i>(\$19.75 per hour)</i>	\$6,386,261
Expenditures in Service to the Poor <i>(Rent, Utilities, Food, Medical, etc.)</i>	\$8,802,639*
Estimated In Kind Value: Food, Clothing, Furniture & Cars	\$1,404,561
In Kind Value: Professional Services <i>(Legal, Medical, Dental, Educational, etc.)</i>	\$120,319
Total Value of Vincentian Service	\$16,990,038

**includes \$3 million from Fresh Start Grant*

Our volunteers, numbering more than 4,000, working in 70 Conferences in 55 counties throughout North and Middle Georgia, provided financial assistance, goods and services through 38 food pantries, 10 Thrift Stores and four Family Support Centers. These dedicated volunteers gave more than 320,000 hours of service, helping nearly 190,000 people in 2010.

Even while struggling with the ability to maintain staffing and services in this difficult economy, we were able to increase support to those in need thanks to the generosity and increased support of our donors, dedicated volunteer service, belt tightening and cost-cutting within our operation.



I'm a face of hope...

"I like to help people who are responsible, but need a helping hand up from time to time. St. Vincent de Paul gives me the opportunity to be a helping hand up." — Howard McKinley

Audited Financials

THE CONFERENCE SUPPORT CENTER AND CONFERENCE OPERATIONS

PUBLIC SUPPORT / CONTRIBUTIONS	FY 09-10	FY 08-09
Annual Collection	289,509	248,485
Individuals & Corporations	6,798,981	6,315,450
In-Kind Donations	150,296	267,854
Grants & Foundations (includes Disaster Relief)	205,821	251,246
Estates & Memorials	18,225	15,250
Total Public Support / Contributions	7,462,832	7,098,285
REVENUE & OTHER GAINS / LOSSES		
Thrift Store	1,330,332	1,330,511
Special Projects	4,569	(27,365)
Fees for Services	52,096	9,109
Conference Support	-	-
Interest Income	10,593	16,663
Gain (loss) on disposal of assets	-	-
Total Revenue and other Gains / Losses	1,397,590	1,328,918
TOTAL REVENUE	8,860,422	8,427,203
EXPENSES		
Program Services	8,147,208 92%	7,637,815 90%
General & Administrative	395,157 4%	526,560 6%
Fundraising	334,279 4%	316,340 4%
TOTAL EXPENSES	8,876,644	8,480,715
Increase in Net Assets	(16,222)	(53,512)

**For the certified audit by Brooks, McGinnis & Company, L.L.P., please call 678-892-6181.*



We're both faces of hope...

"This is such a joy knowing someone still cares." — a client

THE CONTRIBUTORS OF HOPE

Sponsors

We appreciate all those who supported our events, Evening For Hope and Tee Off For Hope. This generous support enables us to provide services to the many people in need while assisting us in building community.

Evening For Hope

PLATINUM

Gas South
The Edward Colston Foundation, Inc.
Insurance Auto Auctions
Georgia Power
Merrill Lynch Wealth Management,
The Garret Group
Northside Hospital
UPS

GOLD

Cobb EMC
Fitzgerald & Co.
Inward Bound, Center for Nonprofit
Leadership
Markert Family Foundation
St. Augustine SVdP
Lee and Shelia Shaw
SunTrust
United Distributors

SILVER

Atlanta Thrashers Foundation
St. Brigid's Catholic Church
Catholic Charities
Coldwell Banker, Susan Kessler
Jedlicka Agency, Knights of Columbus
Regions Bank
Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP

BRONZE

BB&T Capital Markets
Brooks, McGinnis & Company, LLC
Blue Sky
Fifth Third Bank
Frazier and Deeter
The Fuss Family
Tom Gissy Real Estate Appraisal
Mike, Margie and Addie Kane
The Knights of Columbus Insurance,
Georgia State Council
The Masters Family
Mike and Susan Petrik
Raul and Annie Trujillo
Susan and Don Wissman
St. Vincent de Paul Conference
Support Center Staff
Waffle House Foundation

FRIENDS

Anonymous
Anonymous
Barb and Mike Bataillon
The Community Foundation
Cormack Family
Cronin Consulting
Ed and Maria Cronin
Juice Plus, Vikki Pippin
James D. Krantz, Merrill Lynch
Howard and Dorothy Ann McKinley
Mercer Consulting
Newburger Andes
Bill Souter
Mr. and Mrs. Jim Tally
Transfiguration Catholic Church
Terry Walsh

IN-KIND DONATIONS

AirTran Airways
Atlanta Braves
Atlanta Falcons
Atlanta Thrashers
Brasstown Valley Resort
Cobb Energy Performing Arts Center
Dangles Designs
Dickey Media Group, 680 the Fan
Dream Makers Youth Foundation
Infinity Cakes
Gas South, LLC
Metanoia Films
Océ
PGA Tour Superstore
Renaissance Atlanta Waverly Hotel
Reynolds Plantation
Shea Engineering, LLC
Tastefully Simple, Louise Coniglio
The Vinings Inn
Woodruff Arts Center, Alliance Theatre
WSB Radio.com
Zoo Atlanta



We're faces of hope...

"As president of United Way, I know first-hand the value Society of St. Vincent de Paul provides for our community. Each year, the organization continues to be the number one referral source for United Way 2-1-1. However, what impresses me is the breadth of services offered—food pantries, GED classes, and prescriptions for senior citizens—to the 189,000-plus people last year."

— Milton J. Little, Jr., President, United Way of Metropolitan Atlanta

Tee Off For Hope

SILVER

The Garret Group Marketing
Communications

BRONZE

PeopleNet

REFRESHMENT SPONSOR

Mark and Eleanor Christopher

HOLE SPONSORS

Coldwell Banker, Susan Kessler
Legacy Golf, Fox Creek Golf
Matchpoint Real Estate, Martha Banna
Sto Corp
Wells Capital Management

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Achasta Golf & Country Club
Atlantis Resort, Bahamas
Bridgestone Golf
Vince and Barbara Dooley
Golfsmith
Harbor Club on Lake Oconee
Linger Longer Development
Mr. Arnold Palmer
Reynolds Plantation
The Ritz Carlton, Amelia Island
The Ritz Carlton Lodge at Lake Oconee
Legacy Golf, Fox Creek Golf
Matchpoint Real Estate, Martha Banna
Sto Corp
Wells Capital Management



We're faces of hope...

"I never knew that the St. Vincent de Paul leadership felt such deep love for what they do and the people they help, nor that they had such a strong sense of responsible stewardship regarding the resources they assemble to help those very people."

— Jim Tally, retired Executive Director & CEO of
Children's Healthcare of Atlanta

Evening For Hope

PLATINUM



GOLD



SILVER



Tee Off For Hope

SILVER



BRONZE



Three Generations of Hope



Janice came to the attention of St. Vincent de Paul a few years ago when she applied to and was accepted into a comprehensive skills and education program. At age 26, she and her husband, Eric, were struggling to pay their bills. They had no system, no budget and no plan. Eric worked as a contractor and Janice worked minimum wage jobs. They needed a better way to live.

Two Vincentians were assigned to Janice's case. They mentored and guided her over the next two years. Janice began an education program to become a surgical technician. She focused on her studies and worked part-time waiting tables, all the while excelling in every class she took.

To ease the couple's burden, SVdP paid several mortgage, car insurance and utility payments. School was covered by Pell Grants and the HOPE Scholarship. The caseworkers helped Janice and Eric learn budgeting principles and discipline. The Vincentians served as mentors and guides.

Janice graduated with honors and began working for an oral surgeon. She loved the work but it was only a part time position. Just a few months ago, she found a full time job with a local Urologist. She and her husband are much more financially stable and they know how to manage their household. They volunteer with SVdP, too.

While Janice was going through the two-year program, her parents decided to get involved with the local SVdP Conference that was helping her. Fran and Ron wanted to help others like their daughter as repayment for all the help Janice had received. They are active Vincentians who volunteer in the Thrift Store even though Fran suffers from a debilitating bone disease that confines her to a wheelchair.

When Janice's grandparents moved to the area, they became involved with SVdP, too! At ages 80 and 82, Sally and Frank are active volunteers who do whatever they can to assist clients in need. This family is a wonderful testament to the SVdP mission. Three generations offering hope and working to empower others to self-sufficiency.



I'm a face of hope...

"I like working with St. Vincent de Paul because the staff truly want to help clients in need. St. Vincent de Paul allows me to give back." — a volunteer

THE MANY DONORS Faces of Hope

MORE THAN \$15,000

The Atlanta Foundation
Mary Ellen Lindsey Branan
Foundation, c/o Wachovia
Bank, NA
Catholic Foundation of North
Georgia, Inc.
The Clarence Harris Foundation
The Edward Colston Foundation
The Community Foundation for
Greater Atlanta
James M. Cox Foundation
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Greystone Power Foundation, Inc.
McMaster-Carr Supply Company
Ida Alice Ryan Charitable Trust —
Wachovia Bank, N.A
Southern Company Services, Inc.
United Way of Metropolitan
Atlanta — CFC
The Waterfall Foundation
Mr. Peter Wibell

\$10,000-\$15,000

Ms. Joan Booth
Gas South, LLC
Georgia Power Company
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\$1,000-\$4,999

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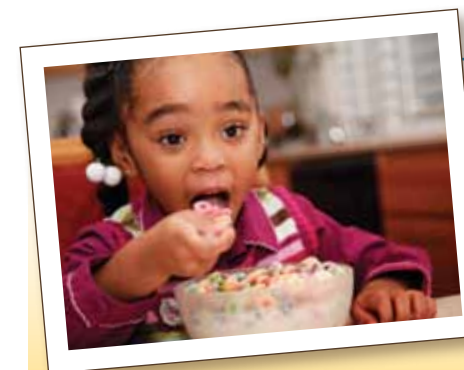
Mr. Robert C. Marshall Jr.
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I'm a face of hope...

"Thank you so much for taking the time to talk to me; I did not know what to do." — a client



I'm a face of hope...

"I like volunteering with St. Vincent de Paul because they represent the heart of a servant." — a volunteer

Hope Delivered: Daniel's Story



As Daniel tried to fall asleep in the homeless shelter, he couldn't turn off his mind. How did he end up here after overcoming so many obstacles in his life?

As a child, Daniel had survived the vilest abuse at the hands of his own parents. Somehow he fought his way out of the abusive family situation and grew up with ambition and goals. He obtained an education that allowed him a successful career. He fell in love with a wonderful woman, a registered nurse.

They built a good life together. It was more than achieving the American Dream. Although they never were blessed with children, over the years they acquired cars, boats and more than 12 rental homes. They were living the good life until his wife was diagnosed with Cancer. She went through Cancer treatments three times before she succumbed. During the battle of their lives, Daniel was diagnosed with debilitating bone disease.

Daniel transferred to Atlanta with hope of starting new. He valiantly worked to pay the medical bills, but they were daunting. He began selling his assets. The cars and boats went first. Then he sold the rental property. There still was not enough money to pay the medical bills. He sold his home.

Homeless and broke he ended up in the homeless shelter in Paulding County, where each night he tried to sleep. They fed him, washed his clothes and provided a safe place to sleep. His bone disease had made mobility difficult and Daniel relied on an electric wheelchair to get around. Daniel finally fell asleep.

While surfing the Web one day, Daniel found help. Some folks got him into a shotgun house but it was in a tough neighborhood. They helped him apply for disability and food stamps, but he was barely making the rent. He was becoming more and more depressed. He heard about St. Vincent de Paul and called the assistance line. An SVdP volunteer called Daniel to tell him he and his wife would be coming to his house for a visit to see what he needed. When the couple (caseworkers called Vincentians) arrived, they noticed the run down condition of the rental home, the sketchy neighborhood, the lack of furnishings, but most importantly, they noticed how depressed Daniel seemed.

They talked for a long time. Daniel opened his heart and shared many of the gory details of his fall from self-sufficiency. By the time the Vincentians left, he was feeling like there might still be hope. Hope for a better living situation and also hope for a connection with caring people.

The Vincentians talked about Daniel and his situation. They knew he needed to live in a safer neighborhood. They found him a less expensive rental in a safer area. SVdP paid his rent and utilities. Once Daniel moved, the Vincentians made it a point to check on him daily. They knew he had a serious medical condition, a debilitating bone disease, and they worried about him. They also wanted to help him achieve a better quality of life.

The Vincentians became Daniel's friends. The couple would visit him; drive him to the grocery store and doctor's appointments. His health improved and Daniel was able to get out of the wheel chair to walk with the aid of a walker. The increased mobility buoyed his spirit. Eventually he was able and well enough to purchase and drive a handicap-equipped van.

Even after so much improvement, the Vincentian couple still stayed in touch with Daniel. Daniel called the couple his special angels. One time Daniel told them how the care they had shown him made him understand, a little, what it would have been like to have loving parents rather than the abusive parents he grew up with. In a way these three people became a family.

Sadly, Daniel's health deteriorated and he passed away. The Vincentians had discussed this eventual possibility with him and they had planned to help him draw up a formal will. His wish was to donate everything he had to SVdP. He was so grateful. The Vincentians learned that Daniel had a paid up life insurance policy which he had planned to assign to SVdP, but he died before the paperwork could be filed. SVdP did receive Daniel's van and was able to use it to help another person, a disabled parishioner.

Daniel left an indelible mark on the two Vincentians and the SVdP Conference they serve. Sometimes people end up in these dire situations through no fault of their own. Daniel lost everything he had worked for in order to pay his wife's medical bills.

The two Vincentians say as much as they helped Daniel, he also helped them. He gave them purpose and meaning. What a blessing it was for SVdP to know him and help him. And what a blessing Daniel was to the person who received his van. Good begets good, blessing brings blessing, hope feeds hope...and then there is always love.



We're faces of hope...

"I never knew how many people volunteered their time with the Society of St Vincent de Paul, and how many people they are therefore able to help. The Society's capacity to perform home visits gives the organization a unique capability to assess a family's situation first-hand and determine how the Society can best help."
— Kevin Greiner, President & CEO Gas South



I'm a face of hope...

"St. Vincent de Paul literally rescued me from the depths. Joyce was a joy to speak with and of great comfort. She was compassionate, empathetic, and sincerely engaged in what I was going through."
— a client

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"The car I received through my local St.Vincent de Paul Conference has transformed my life!"
 — a client

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We're all faces of hope...

"By paying my rent, SVdP relieved my stress. Now I can do a better job of coping with my son's needs." — a client



I'm a face of hope...

"I am so blessed to be able to help people live better lives." — a volunteer caseworker

Becoming the Face of Hope

I Thought I Knew What SVdP Does

It's amazing how things come together with the utterance of but a few words.

Before Mass yesterday, a friend of ours mentioned she was going to be meeting with someone to give them assistance through the St. Vincent de Paul Society. She asked if we were interested in helping her so we could see first-hand what SVdP does. Being new to the whole process we eagerly accepted her invitation.

When I attended Ozanam Orientation for the St. Vincent de Paul Society on Saturday, I wondered how I would feel when I met someone face-to-face that was so desperately in need. I wondered if they would seem cold and unappreciative, and I wondered if I would seem distant and uncaring.

I had no idea what to expect.

I have heard it before, and you may have too, but St. Vincent de Paul said, "The poor are your masters, you will see the face of Christ in the poor."

I've often wondered what that truly meant. Until tonight, I thought I knew.

Tonight, I knew we were going to meet with someone in need. I knew we were going to be talking to someone desperate for assistance. I knew we were going to be face to face with someone who simply wanted their children to know they would have food to eat.

I think I was more nervous pulling up to that door than they were answering it. When we arrived, I said a silent prayer.

"Lord, please".

It wasn't much, but He knew exactly what I needed.



As their door opened, I could feel the hunger in their bellies. As they greeted us, I could hear the desperation in their souls. As we carried groceries into their home, I could sense the appreciation in their hearts. But most importantly, as we placed the food on their table, I could see the face of Christ in all of their faces.

As we stood in their living room and they told us their story, I realized how truly blessed we were. I realized that by serving these people who were suffering, we were serving our Lord Jesus Christ. By standing with this family, listening to their situation, showing them compassion and giving them hope, they were no longer alone. For a moment (that may last a lifetime) they were no longer desperate, they were no longer hungry, they were no longer thirsting.

We made them aware of additional resources, we gave them a list of agencies, and we prayed with them, but most all, we listened. Did you know, when you listen close enough you can feel the breath of God in every person you meet? I know; I felt it tonight.

He strengthened my faith, my heart, and my desire to know Him better. What a blessing that was. It's amazing how things come together with the utterance of but a few words.

Lord, thank you.



Matthew 25: 34-40 says,

Then shall the king say to them that shall be on his right hand: Come, ye blessed of my Father, possess you the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry, and you gave me to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me to drink; I was a stranger, and you took me in; naked, and you covered me; sick, and you visited me: I was in prison, and you came to me. Then shall the just answer him, saying: Lord, when did we see thee hungry, and fed thee; thirsty, and gave thee drink? And when did we see thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and covered thee? Or when did we see thee sick or in prison, and came to thee? And the king answering, shall say to them: Amen I say to you, as long as you did it to one of these my least brethren, you did it to me.

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We're both faces of hope...

"The two volunteers who came to visit me were like angels sent to help me." — a client



I'm a face of hope...

"By serving the poor and suffering, we serve our Lord." — a volunteer



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Become a Face of Hope

By your generosity you are a "Face of Hope." On behalf of those we serve, thank you! For further information or questions contact us at 678-892-6171 or email giving@svdpatl.org.

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SVdP is grateful for your monetary gifts. Credit Card donations are accepted at the Dollar Store at the Giving Mall on our website. Checks may be sent to:

Director of Development
Society of St. Vincent de Paul
2050 Chamblee Tucker Road
Atlanta, GA 30341

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Some corporations or businesses have a Matching Gift program that increases your contribution. Contact your Human Resources Department to obtain information. Once the gift or contri-

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In-kind donations of food, clothing, furniture and household items are always needed for our food pantries, thrift stores and voucher areas. Contact us with questions about the donation process or if you would like information about organizing a donation drive.

VEHICLE DONATIONS

Turn your car into a life-changing machine! Your unwanted car may benefit a client who needs reliable transportation or provide funds for programs. One hundred percent of all sold cars proceeds go directly back into programs. For more information, visit our website, or call 800-322-8284.

PLANNED GIVING

A deferred gift through estate planning may help you maximize your tax benefits. Just name SVdP as a beneficiary in your will or trust. You can designate SVdP to receive your real estate or the remainder of your IRA. Find more information on our website under The Legacy Store, and we encourage you to talk with your personal financial advisor or attorney.

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SPONSOR AN EVENT

A sponsorship is a great opportunity to entertain clients or friends or recognize employees while making a significant contribution. We host two major annual events, Evening for Hope, held in October, featuring dinner, entertainment, a silent auction and inspiration and Tee Off for Hope, a golf outing held each spring.



I'm a face of hope...

"When my home burned down, SVdP helped me find a place to stay. They gave me clean clothes, bedding and household items. I'm so grateful!" — a client

Thank you for being a face of hope... your support helps us to give hope to the many faces of need.

Changing Lives...One at a Time

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