

A Focus on Homelessness at SVDP

As we enter the second half of 2022, we look back at the impact the pandemic had on our community. Despite many challenges, St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore maintained all of its services during an extraordinary time. Protocols were implemented to keep everyone safe at all of our shelters and facilities, adaptations were made to allow for services to continue, and we expanded the reach of several key services such as eviction prevention, shelter diversion, and rapid rehousing.

“Throughout the pandemic, St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore continued its role as a leading provider of homeless services and expanded its services to meet the increased needs of the community,” said Penny Gibson, Division Director of Homeless Services at St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore.

It’s been a challenging chapter in the 157-year history of St. Vincent de Paul that couldn’t have been possible without the generosity of community members like you. As our work in the community continues, we will be prepared for what lies ahead with your continued support.

On Saturday, September 24, St. Vincent de Paul will host its second annual Equinox fundraiser at the Baltimore Museum of Industry (BMI). This event, which had its inaugural launch last September, promises a memorable evening at the BMI with its gorgeous waterfront views and an eclectic collection of exhibits. Guests will



Equinox gives caring individuals the opportunity to connect as a community and support our mission to end homelessness in the Baltimore area.



enjoy an open bar and live music from Reverend Smackmaster and the Congregation of Funk as they explore treasures in a silent auction. A taste of Maryland is on the menu with Chesapeake-inspired cuisine and signature hand-crafted cocktails. Funds raised benefit St. Vincent de Paul shelters and housing programs.

Equinox gives caring individuals the opportunity to connect as a community and support our mission to end homelessness in the Baltimore area. We hope you will join us for a fun evening under the stars! To learn more and purchase tickets, visit equinoxbaltimore.com today!



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Christmas in July Donation Drive

"Stuff a Bus" events support shelter clients

The holiday season is when the spirit moves many people to make donations, however our shelters need support during the warmer months too. This is why St. Vincent de Paul created its first Christmas in July Donation Drive. Its purpose was to replenish the shelves in the shelters during the leaner summer months while Santa takes a break.

There were four "Stuff a Bus" events during the month at different locations in Baltimore: Furley Elementary School, Hannah More, Sarah's Hope, and Arlington Head Start. Hundreds of donations flowed in providing residents with new clothes, personal items, linens and school supplies. Many thanks



Thank you to Baltimore City Public Schools for donating the bus for our "Stuff a Bus" events.

to all who participated. It was a great inaugural event and will keep us well stocked until the holiday donation season begins in November.

If you would like to donate to support our shelter residents, please email giving@vincentbaltimore.org.

Hannah More Team Members Go the Extra Mile

The staff at Hannah More love using creativity in the way they care for their clients. Recently, they established a series of small committees to channel that creativity into developing a warm and welcoming environment at the shelter. The committees include Employee/Volunteer Appreciation, Resident Appreciation, Youth Services, and Facility Upkeep and Beautification.

Team member Marie Brown expressed her role in the Youth Services Committee with the gift of time and attention. When she learned that one of her youth clients was performing in a musical concert, she made sure she was in attendance with flowers and a gift to acknowledge the accomplishment. The child was so happy to see Ms. Brown that she couldn't stop smiling!

Deborah Butler, Senior Shift Supervisor, embraced her role on the Upkeep and Beautification Committee by showing off her sewing skills when she repurposed old tablecloths into new curtains for the resident dining room. Not only are the curtains beautiful, they are also easy to clean. She also redecorated the Welcome Office, which the staff really appreciated.

Acknowledging that the work they do is both rewarding and sometimes challenging, Hannah More's Arvay Walker came up

“The dining rooms are the ‘heart’ of the house. I love to make sure our dining area is clean, sanitized, and has nice bright curtains. I feel that beautifying this area of our facility for our residents shows them that we care, and it also adds a touch of comfort!”

– Deborah Butler



with a slogan to encourage staff to practice self-care. The sign which sits in the newly redecorated Welcome Office reads, “Teach More... Learn More... Care More... Be More... With Hannah More Family Shelter, where all that’s needed is just a little TLC!”

Congratulations to Hannah More staff for creating a warm and welcoming work environment that motivates team members and clients to achieve their full potential!

Domain and Interim Homes Create a Happy Ending for Family Displaced by Fire

Wendy Ingram and her two sons had been living at Cottage Avenue in St. Vincent de Paul's Permanent Supportive Housing Program since 2019, and were on track toward achieving self-sufficiency. Tragically, on March 3, 2022, there was a fire in a nearby building that spread to their home. Thankfully, no one was hurt, but it left Wendy and her two children without a place to live and destroyed all of their belongings.

Immediately, the Permanent Supportive Housing team at St. Vincent organized a plan. They provided the family with temporary housing in a nearby hotel and began replacing some of the clothing, toiletries, and personal items that were lost in the fire. Then they began the search for a new home for Wendy and her children. It took some time, but after two months of searching, inspecting, and preparing their new housing unit, the family was able to move in.

Though glad to be out of the hotel, they were faced with a new challenge – everything they had was lost in the fire and they had nothing to furnish their new home. That's when **Interim Homes** and **Domain Rental Furnishing** came to the rescue.

Laura Patrick with Interim Homes organized the project. She and the team at Domain pulled out all the stops and delivered over \$2,000 worth of furnishings and household items. They unloaded



Wendy's boys couldn't wait to start setting up their new room.

and set up the new living room, dining room, and bedroom furniture. Then they stocked the kitchen with plates, cutlery, pots and pans, baking sheets, and small appliances including a toaster, a blender, and a vacuum cleaner. They supplied bedding, linens, coat hangers, cleaning supplies, and even decorative lamps and wall art.

By the afternoon, Wendy's new home was fully furnished and the family was all smiles! Her son was so excited about his newly furnished bedroom that he couldn't wait to start putting his clothes away and making up his bed. "It's something for me to wake up and smile about," Wendy said. "I just want to tell you all, thank you, thank you, thank you!"



Family Shelter Residents Celebrate the End of the School Year

Families at Sarah's Hope, Hannah More, and Interim Family Shelters took some time to celebrate the end of the school year and kicked off the summer in style. **People Who Need People** sponsored a waterslide at Hannah More and provided outdoor games including Jenga and Twister. **American Legion Auxiliary Unit 297** Owings Mills supplied a delicious summer menu of hot dogs, watermelon, and cold drinks, along with games and activities for the students at Sarah's Hope and Interim Family Shelter. Thanks to the generosity of People Who Need People and American Legion Auxiliary Unit 297, everyone had a fantastic time!

St. Vincent Says “Thank You” for a Combined 40 Years of Service

On June 9, the St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) Community Services Board honored four board members who were completing their terms of service. Pictured from left to right: John Schiavone, President & CEO; Diane Schmitt, Board Member serving from 2015-2022; Irvin “Dee” Drummond, Board Treasurer, serving from 2011-2022; and Glenn Falcao, Board Chair, serving from 2011-2022. Not pictured: Christine Peacock, Board Member serving from 2015-2022. Our deepest thanks to each of these board members for their dedication, commitment and work on behalf of our mission, and for their combined 40 years of service!



HUNGER SERVICES

Empty Bowls: 2022 Wrap Up

Over 750 Attendees Helped Raise \$150,000

Empty Bowls event took place in person for the first time since 2019 on Saturday, April 23 at the Maryland State Fairgrounds. Empty Bowls *Al Fresco* was the first to include outdoor seating—a feature that attendees really enjoyed. Also, a marketplace featured several creative vendors who impressed the crowd with their handmade crafts of stained-glass decorations, jewelry, and scented candles in the shape of cereal bowls. There was great entertainment that included a DJ inside, a band outside, magic shows, balloon twisting, face painting, and bounce houses for the children to enjoy.

The most popular feature was of course the food. There was something for everyone with 19 different food vendors serving delicious cuisine that spanned a range of cultures and preferences. And the centerpiece of the event was the incredible display of 2,000+ beautifully hand-decorated bowls—each representing hunger in our community. Attendees were able to choose their favorite bowl as a keepsake of the event and a reminder of the work that still needs to be done in hunger services. Said one Empty Bowls attendee, “I have always enjoyed this event. That’s why I keep coming back!!”



Thanks to our Empty Bowls food sponsors for your delicious contributions!

Center Club
Gertrude's
Miss Shirley's
La Cuchara
Linwoods

Good Harvest
Atlantic Caterers
Road Delight
Richardson Farms
Xquisite Catering

KS Beats
Bakery Express
Pizza Johns
H&S Bakery

St. Vincent and H&S Bakery: A 30-Year Commitment to Addressing Hunger in Baltimore



“The H&S family of Bakeries is honored to celebrate 30 years of partnership with St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore. A foundational part of our mission statement is to create meaningful change in the communities we serve in addition to aspiring to live our values in always doing the right thing. We look forward to many more years of giving back to SVDP and other local charities in the Baltimore area!”

-Shawn Paterakis, Marketing Coordinator

This year, H&S Bakery and St. Vincent de Paul of Baltimore are celebrating 30 years of partnership in support of SVDP’s programs and projects. Over those 30 years, H&S donated \$250,000 and over 500,000 baked goods that fed hundreds of thousands of people in need. St. Vincent de Paul is grateful for the commitment and support of our long-standing partner, H&S Bakery.



A team of 20 Whiting-Turner interns prepare a basement for a fresh coat of paint at Hannah More.

Whiting-Turner: Hands on at Hannah More

Teams from **Whiting-Turner** gathered on June 25th and 30th for some much-needed organizing and home improvement work at Hannah More. Whiting-Turner has been a valued supporter of SVDP programs and services for almost 10 years. Returning from the pandemic, they have truly ramped up their involvement in by hosting gardening events, giving our shelters a fresh coat of paint, and helping with donations of clothing, hygiene goods, and canned goods. Thank you, Whiting-Turner for all your support!

Camp St. Vincent: 2022 Wrap Up

Friday, August 12 was the last day of camp for over 175 children experiencing homelessness. Thanks to the support of individuals, corporations, and foundations, over \$300,000 was raised for this year's eight-week camp session. The STEM and Audubon activities made learning fun, alongside curriculum-based instruction to help mitigate summer learning

loss. Campers enjoyed field trips to places like the Baltimore Aquarium, a skating rink, and a bowling alley, and experienced fun summer activities including swimming, dancing, theater, and art projects. Plans for 2023 are already underway, so please visit vincentbaltimore.org/camp to make sure it's another great summer for some very special children next year!



Campers prepare for their summer learning lesson under the shade of a tree. Campers routinely maintain or advance their reading and math skills over a summer at Camp St. Vincent.



STEM projects that include ice-cream making lessons are both educational and delicious!



You can't have Camp without swimming! Daily swimming is a great way to cool off, have fun, and get some exercise with friends.



Two of the favorite field trips for Campers included trips to the National Aquarium and Visionary Arts Museum.

Case Worker Spotlight: Arlean Worrell

The Special Relationship Between Case Worker and Client

Kimberly R. has been a Permanent Supportive Housing client since 2017 and lives in St. Vincent's Frederick Ozanam Unit with her four children. She enjoys a close relationship with her Case Manager, Arlean Worrell, who empowered Kimberly to reach her goal of obtaining full-time employment. The two worked together to strengthen Kimberly's job preparation skills, build up her resume, and prepare for interviews. Their hard work is paying off. Kimberly is currently employed as a program assistant and is in the final stages of moving into permanent housing. When asked what motivates her to go the extra mile for her clients, Arlean responded, "I would not call it going the extra mile, but simple case management and encouraging my clients to thrive to their fullest potential."



Arlean Worrell, Case Manager II, encourages all her clients to thrive to their fullest potential.



St. Vincent de Paul Establishes the SVDP Emerging Leaders Committee

In the Spring of 2022 St. Vincent de Paul established the SVDP Emerging Leaders Committee. Its purpose is to fuel the talent pipeline for the future growth of SVDP, while connecting young professionals dedicated to improving the lives of vulnerable communities in Baltimore. Its first social event was on June 25th at Union Craft Brewing. About 20 attended Beers and Bowls at the Brewery, which raised funds and generated lively conversation over bowl painting and cold beverages. In addition to quarterly social events, the Emerging Leaders Committee meets monthly for volunteer projects. To learn more, visit vincentbaltimore.org/elc.



2305 N. Charles Street, Suite 300
Baltimore, MD 21218

OUR MISSION

To ensure those impacted by poverty have the skills, resources, and opportunity to achieve their full potential.

OUR VALUES

DIGNITY: We see God's image in every person, recognizing their inherent value by offering respect and compassion, and giving special care to those who are materially poor, marginalized, and vulnerable.

INCLUSION: We promote diversity and embrace the unique attributes, characteristics, abilities, cultures, classes, faiths, orientations, and races that make people who they are, recognizing that we are one human family.

EQUITY: We believe in eliminating systemic disadvantages so that all people are guaranteed fair treatment and have the opportunity to live in decent, safe, and affordable housing, receive quality education, be employed at a fair wage, have access to healthy food and health care, share in prosperity, and reach their full potential.

EQUALITY: We see those we serve as our equals in every way, seeking to understand the road they have traveled to reach our door, recognizing they know what is best for themselves and their families, and encouraging them to make their own choices.

COLLABORATION: We believe in the transformative power of building relationships and community and in actively engaging partners in our work toward the well-being of all.

SERVICE: We humbly recognize service as an opportunity to receive as much as give.

EXCELLENCE: We relentlessly pursue the highest standards in all that we do, embracing innovation and best practices.

STEWARDSHIP: We use our resources responsibly and efficiently, and we hold ourselves accountable for the highest levels of integrity, transparency, and measurable results.



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www.vincentbaltimore.org

giving@vincentbaltimore.org

(410) 662-0500
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