



NEWSLETTER

— JULY 2022 —



The Immersion Re-Entry program continues to grow while serving a multitude of clients and gaining stronger community presence. With two full time staff and our mentor volunteers we have over 100 in person monthly contacts with clients.

Topics covered during these meetings are assisting in gaining personal identification such as an ID or birth certificate, employment, personal finances/budgeting, how to find housing, SNAP applications, along with anything that may aide in a client's journey to self-sufficiency.

Aside from client meetings and case management, we are continuously working to strengthen our program through community engagement. We recently partnered with Catholic Charities, to provide onsite mental health assessments and the Iowa Department of Transportation to proctor the IDOT knowledge/written test at our 6th Ave. and southside location.

2022 FIGHT FOOD INSECURITY FUNDRAISER



With new and friendly faces, the weather didn't keep us down! Best news is that we were sold out for golfers this year and raised over \$35,000. We have been able to maintain under 1% overhead again this year, so 100% of these funds will be used to purchase food for those we serve. Amazingly, these funds will provide enough money to feed over 900 families for a week.

Thanks to all for your support not only for this event, but for all you do for SVdP to help those in the Community. Our programs could not be sustainable without your support.

THURSDAY, MAY 25 2023

Mark your calendars now for 2023! We will be back at Copper Creek on Thursday, May 25.





The goal of the Back2Work (B2W) Program is to help unemployed or underemployed individuals work their way toward self-sufficiency using a wholistic learning approach. Through classroom learning, internships, and individualized case management individuals will be ready to be successful in the workplace as well as the other components of their life. The ultimate hope of the B2W program is self-sufficiency for our clients, thereby fulfilling the primary mission of St. Vincent de Paul.

Back2Work has been a program at St. Vincent de Paul Des Moines for close to four years. It has had great success partnering clients of the program with businesses and helping them achieve employment at a living wage. There have been 15 classes of the Back2Work program that have occurred over the course of the four years. The Back2Work Program was created in Des Moines and has now been replicated at 8 other SVdP's nationwide. SVDP in Des Moines is currently working with two additional SVdP locations to help them place the B2W Program in their respective areas.

Since June of 2021, using an abundance of caution, we have been slowly starting to have in-person classes, applying social distancing, wearing masks and several other precautions. The challenge over the last year has been finding the employee partners who are allowing interns back in their organization due to COVID restrictions.

Following each classroom experience, participants will either complete an internship or proceed to direct employment depending on their individualized career plan. If participants complete a four-week internship, they are putting into practice what was taught during the classroom experience. If they choose direct employment, they continue to meet with the classroom facilitator and give progress updates.

Data is collected for up to one year following the program. Data shows that in two of the groups since in-person B2W restarted, all the participants that completed class are now employed at a livable wage. Long-term data shows a strong completion rate of the participants that enrolled into the class, as well as a majority of participants maintaining employment for a significant period of time following the classroom portion of B2W.

Since January of 2022 a total of 4 groups of B2W have been held, the most recent of which having just started their internship following in-class training. This is a total of 17 participants. 5 are currently involved in their internship and the remaining 12, we are excited to report, are either employed at some level, pursuing additional higher education, or a combination of both!



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL FOOD PANTRIES

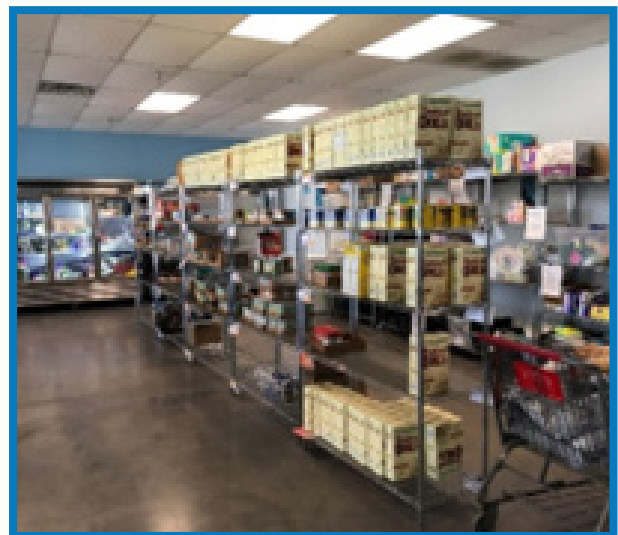
St. Vincent de Paul Des Moines has two food pantries that both sit in what is called a “food desert.” The definition of a food desert is an urban area in which it is difficult to buy affordable or good -quality fresh food.

Between both locations, clients have access to food 6 days a week. On average, each pantry serves 15 or more households a day. Clients can receive food, clothing, personal hygiene or household items that they are in need of at absolutely no cost to them.

Currently, there are two relatively new staff that operate the locations. We are happy to welcome Spencer and Emma to our St. Vincent de Paul family. Spencer Gilbert is thrilled to join the St. Vincent De Paul team as the new 6th Ave Food Pantry Associate. He is a proud lifelong resident of Iowa, currently living in the Des Moines area only 10 short blocks from his new office. He is grateful to be serving the community and invites you to come visit him at the 6th Ave food pantry. Emma is currently serving as a food pantry associate at the Army Post Rd food pantry. Emma is a Central student in Pella, Iowa. She loves to laugh, spend time with family and friends, and sing too loudly to her favorite music in the car! She is looking forward to helping others and learning new skills. She is eager to assist in the SVdP mission.

The need for serving individuals in need of food only continues to grow. Comparing May of 2021 to May of 2022, the request for food pantry assistance in Polk County rose by 145%. To provide a more recent example: there were 87 new clients that accessed the SVDP pantries just in April of 2022.

As the need for assistance increases so does the cost of food. We are grateful for the Conferences that continue to support our pantries monetarily on a monthly basis. We are also grateful for the Conference members who donate eggs, and continually make the bread runs on a weekly basis, as well as volunteer in our pantries. We could not do it without all of you!



EDUCATION CENTER EXPANSION!

Administration's move to our new West location allowed SVdP to expand the Education Center at 1426 Sixth Avenue by creating a physical opening between the classroom and the room previously used for administrative offices.



The expanded education center includes ample classroom space, a SMART Board TV, an integrated sound system for teleconferencing, and soon will have more computer stations to serve more people with the services offered, including:

- Work Readiness Classes
- Retail Management
- SNAP Food Assistance Enrollment
- Computer Labs
- Online Applications Assistance
- Resume Writing
- Financial Classes
- Computer Classes
- Iowa DOT "Knowledge" Testing
- Healthy Relationships Classes

The Education Center offers both classroom and individual assistance and support.

For more information, to register, or to arrange a visit or tour, call 515-282-8327, #220 today!

DID YOU KNOW?

More than a hundred recent surveys found that a majority of the shoppers at the SVdP Thrift and Vintage Stores were not aware of all the services that their purchases help support. More incentive for shopping -- it's a WIN-WIN for everyone!

801 73RD ST. WINDSOR HEIGHTS IA



www.reallygreatsite.com

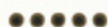
THRIFT STORE NEWS

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, and as you see here it is! Not only a thousand words, but thousands of items for you to experience at our new store each visit. Our ever changing assortment and affordable pricing is what has attracted more and more shoppers in the past three months since our opening in March.

We have seen even more new faces drawn into our store by our beautifully done, impactful window image. This has lead to several opportunities to share more about our organization, mission and programs. We look forward to seeing more of the community stop by as we navigate our first year.

As seen above we offer a great variety of quality clothing, great home decor, cool toys, and affordable electronics. Our team brings it to life by showcasing and designing our product to inspire you with fun ideas for your wardrobe or home. This includes team advice on outfit choices along with possible matching decor for your home.





BEST DRESSED

To complete any outfit we can't stop at a top and bottom. We want you to take advantage of all we have to offer. This includes, great handbags, stylish shoes, belts, ties, decorative scarves and fashionable jewelry. There is something for everyone in your family.



CHICAGO MATTRESS

We are excited to offer Chicago Mattress's in our locations. Currently, we have three affordable option to fit most anyone. These mattress's are newly refurbished with padding ,foam and fabric.



FURNITURE

We got it covered!

Check out assortment of nice quality furniture. Our shipments are several times of week and we will eventually have the perfect piece for you.

If you have some nice furniture to donate, we can schedule an appointment for pick up through our administrative offices. They are now located adjacent to our new store.



VINNY'S PICKS

We will be able to decorate any holiday or season for you. There is a great assortment showcased monthly for every season and holiday. Take advantage of Vinny's Picks at all our locations.



THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT OF OUR NEW STORE. WE CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU IN SHOPPING AGAIN SOON!



SAVE THE DATE!

FRIENDS OF THE POOR WALK

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Friends of the Poor Walk

Saturday, October 1, 2022

Registration 8:30 a.m. | Walk begins 9:30 a.m.

2-mile walk/run through scenic

Scotch Ridge Nature Trail

Carlisle, Iowa

Help us help others!

Register and/or donate online:

www.fopwalk.org/event/2751

Call Moe Kauzlarich for more info:

515-778-3596



STAY IN TOUCH WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

