



The Society Page

December 2021

The monthly newsletter for the Members, Officers and Staff of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia

Thoughts to Share

SVdP Calendar

SVdP Georgia Board of Directors Meeting

December 13
6:00pm

Home Visit Orientation (Part 3 of Ozanam Orientation)

December 14 (virtual)
6:00pm to 8:00pm

[Register](#)

CMS Training– Gift Cards & Voucher

December 15 (virtual)
12:00pm to 1:30pm

[Register](#)

Christmas Holiday

December 23-24
Conference Support Center Closed

New Year's Holiday

December 31
Conference Support Center Closed

SVdP Georgia Town Hall Meeting

January 25 (virtual)
12:00pm to 1:30pm

[Register](#)

Spiritual Advisors Formation

January 29 (virtual)
10:00am to 12:00pm

[Register](#)

[Click Here for More Details and to Register for Vincentian Events & Trainings](#)

The Gift of Christ's Love

Advent is a season of anticipation and celebration. It also marks the beginning of a new liturgical year. While much activity takes place at this time of year, it is also a time for meaningful reflection.

When I reflect on the year, I am in awe ("reverential respect mixed with wonder") of the number of lives that have been impacted (170,000+) through the generosity and dedication of our nearly 3,000 Vincentian volunteers! I am confident in assuming that the intentional help and hope you provided to those in need has impacted you spiritually.

With the birth of our Lord and Savior imminent, I want to remind you that this is also a great time to renew our own spirituality and strengthen our commitment to assisting those who face great adversity. As we celebrate and share love and gifts with our family and friends, we must not forget that there are others who have no gifts to give, or receive, and many are experiencing loneliness. It is often our love, prayers, engagement and assistance that may be all that they have. What gifts these are, though! This human touch is an expression of Christ's love-and a unique and priceless gift that only YOU can give through your Vincentian spirit and loving heart.

We are incredibly grateful for you, and wish all of you a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

God Bless,

Patrick

— Patrick McNulty
Chief Executive Officer
678.892.6180 | PMcNulty@svdpgorgia.org

WISHING YOU A
MERRY CHRISTMAS
&
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Workforce Development Resources



Please click a link below to view listings. You can print these out and give to neighbors in need of employment.

JOB FAIRS AND HIRING EVENTS FOR JOB SEEKERS

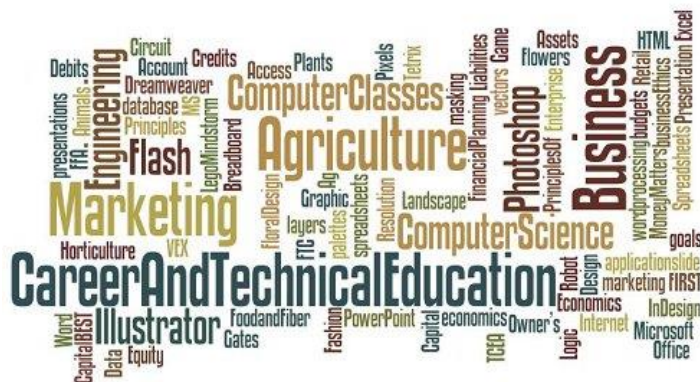
Job locations- Banks, Barrow, Bartow, Carroll, Catoosa, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dade, Dawson, Dekalb, Douglas, Fannin, Fayette, Floyd, Forsyth, Fulton, Gilmer, Gordon, Gwinnett, Habersham, Hall, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Jackson, Lumpkin, Meriwether, Murray, Newton

TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS

EMPLOYERS HIRING TODAY

A list of jobs that are looking to hire ASAP.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES

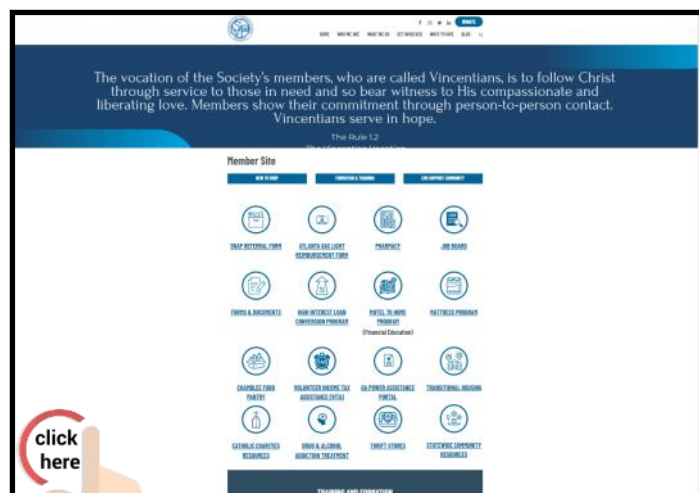


Member Website — Resources for Vincentians

Did you know SVdP Georgia has a [member website](#) that has a ton of information and resources for Vincentians in every role? We recently made some updates to the site, including moving some of the most important and frequently accessed items front and center! If you have not already bookmarked this webpage, we strongly encourage you to do so today!

Some things you will find on the Member Website:

- ✓ Formation & Training Calendar/Registration
- ✓ Link to CMS Support Community
- ✓ Pharmacy Referral Form and Information
- ✓ SNAP Referral Form
- ✓ Atlanta Gas Light Reimbursement Form
- ✓ Job Board
- ✓ Spirituality Resources
- ✓ Leadership Resources
- ✓ Marketing Toolbox
- ✓ Recruitment Information and Materials
- ✓ Community Resources by County
- ✓ SVdP USA Member Website Link for additional resources
- ✓ Formation and Training On-Demand Library
- ✓ And much more!



Check it out!

www.svdpgorgia.org/members

Advent Season — A Time of Solidarity?

A website we seldom hear about is the Vincentian Family Information Network, www.famvin.org. Visiting their site, I came across this YouTube [video](#). Focused on the season of Advent, it is a video that was created by the St. Vincent De Paul Young Adult Center in the Germantown neighborhood of Philadelphia. It takes a little over two minutes to watch, and is produced very well.



As their website reminds us, *“This Christmas let us pray that our faith may move past the doors of our churches so that we may encounter Christ more intimately and find his gaze in the unexpected ordinary people and places of our lives. We pray that the longings of our hearts may be fulfilled not in luxurious places, but rather in the simple manger of our hearts and find perfect fulfillment in him.”*

Please take a few minutes to discern the words of the above quote, which captures the essence of living the life of a Vincentian. We take our faith outside of our Catholic Church buildings, to see the faces of the “suffering Christ,” wherever they may be. We serve them with simplicity, humility, gentleness, and prayer.

When we serve them with prayer, especially prayer at the end of our service to them, we personally experience the joy, peace, and fulfillment of God’s Will for us. If our work is done without prayer, it is only work; it is not spiritual. And St. Vincent de Paul Society is a faith-based organization, which means we pray during ALL of our Vincentian works, including business matters. This is what sets us apart from other charities, which are not faith-based.

During silent prayer with God, and in anticipation of waiting for the Baby Jesus, ask God to reveal what his Divine Will is for you, specifically in your work as a Vincentian. He likely has much more in store for you. He is still waiting for you to receive even more of his amazing graces. Let him use you as his vessel, to reach those who are waiting for you to serve them. As we learn the will of God for us, and as Vincentian parishioners, we then work together in solidarity, and in the true spirit of Christmas, when we conduct a coat drive, collect and deliver gifts, serve hot meals, and pay utility bills.

“We anticipate the coming of someone extraordinary, who comes to us in the ordinary. We must learn to seek the light of Christ and find him in the unexpected ordinary places. St. Vincent continuously found the face of Christ in unexpected ordinary people. He believed the true face of Christ was always present in the marginalized.” (www.famvin.org).

This Christmas, may we nurture our calling together in solidarity to serve those who have no place to lay their head down at night, except a dirty, smelly place because they have nowhere else to go. Sadly, our Savior, Christ the King, the Baby Jesus, was born in a place like this - a stable for animals.

From the spirituality committee and myself, may you and your families experience the joy and peace of the Advent and Christmas Seasons. May your New Year be spiritually fruitful, not only in serving your marginalized neighbors, but also spiritually fruitful in all of your Vincentian business matters. *Remember to pray first before ALL Vincentian works. Then watch the hand of God at work!*

- SVdP Spirituality Committee

Sr. Mary Francis Power

John Kirksey

Charles Jones

Deacon Bill Boyd

— Sr. Mary Francis Power, ESEH
Council Spiritual Advisor
patricia.3sons@gmail.com

St. Patrick's Vincentians Give Holiday Cheer

The St. Patrick's Conference celebrated Thanksgiving with 21 needy families from their community. Each family received a Thanksgiving box filled with all of the essentials and trimmings needed for a traditional Thanksgiving meal, (including a very nice sized turkey!)

The families were so appreciative of the holiday food boxes so that they could enjoy a nice Thanksgiving in this challenging year.

We extend deep appreciation to the 10+ Vincentians who assisted in this program and provided hope during the holiday.



Not much time passed before the St. Patrick's Thanksgiving helpers turned into elves for the Conference's Christmas event on December 4th.

The Conference hosted 22 families with 55 children at this special event. All of the children received gifts, sponsored by parishioners and friends of the St. Patrick's Vincentians. During the event, the children participated in games such as musical chairs and four corners, and prizes were distributed to the winners. The story of the birth of Christ was well received by the children, and they also sang Christmas carols in English and Spanish. Each attendee left full from a nice meal provided by over 15 Vincentian volunteers.

This was a great event for this small, but mighty Conference and their neighbors in need. They even had an elf in attendance to bring more Christmas joy to the children!



Upcoming Formation/Training/Meetings — Virtual

Home Visit Orientation (Part 3 of Ozanam Orientation) [REGISTER](#)

December 14 | 6:00pm to 8:00pm

The home visit has been the foundation of our work since the Society was founded. Despite years of practice, there are still ways we can make our visits more rewarding for our neighbors and for us. Whether you are making your first home visit or you have made many, this is your chance to hone your skills, share insights and ask lingering questions.

CMS Training– Gift Cards & Voucher [REGISTER](#)

December 15 | 12:00pm to 1:30pm

In this training, we will discuss and demo the difference between in-kind gift cards/vouchers and those that are purchased with conference funds; how, and where, they should be entered into the system by both the Caseworker and Treasurer; and how you can track them by using various reports in the system. We will also discuss a new gift cards/vouchers tracking planned enhancement. *Target Audience Roles: Caseworkers and Treasurers*

SVdP Georgia Town Hall Meeting [REGISTER](#)

January 25 | 12:00pm to 1:30pm

The objective of the SVdP Georgia quarterly town hall meetings is to update you on Council Operations/Programs, for you to share how your Conference is managing in this environment, and generally to share experiences and best practices on how we can all continue to serve our neighbors in need safely and effectively. *All Vincentians and Conference leaders are welcomed to attend.*

Spiritual Advisors Formation [REGISTER](#)

January 29 | 10:00am to 12:00pm

Presented by Sr. Mary Francis Power, ESEH, SVdP Georgia Council Spiritual Advisor

Spiritual Advisor Formation is held annually for new, prospective or seasoned Spiritual Advisors. Conference Presidents and VPs are also strongly encouraged to attend. Since the beginning of the Society, a Spiritual Advisor has been appointed to help foster spiritual life within the Conferences and Councils under the guidance of the Holy Spirit and in conformity with the Rule and Statutes of the Society. The Spiritual Advisor plays an important role in the conference. This formation will refer to the Spiritual Advisor Handbook as well as provide many resources for the SA to use in his/her Conference.

Vincentian University (Ozanam Orientation) [REGISTER](#)

February 8, 2022 | 12:00pm to 2:00pm | PART 1

February 9, 2022 | 12:00pm to 2:00pm | PART 2

February 10, 2022 | 6:00pm to 8:00pm | PART 3

Whether you've been a Vincentian for two days or two decades, this Vincentian University includes Ozanam and Home Visit Orientation, offering you an opportunity to be inspired, informed, refreshed and renewed in what it means to be a member of the Society and how that membership is to be lived in the Conference and everyday life. Throughout the sessions we will cover the topics of Mission, History, Spirituality, Structure and Home Visits in a virtually lively and interactive way.

Have you missed a training/formation event? Check out what's in our On-Demand Training Library to watch at your convenience!

[ON-DEMAND RECORDINGS](#)

**Note: Ozanam Orientation sessions are not available on-demand. These opportunities must be attended live.*

Southwest Conference Leaders Meet for Annual District Meeting

District 5 held its annual Leadership District Meeting on November 6th. Over 35 leaders from the district's 10 Conferences attended and shared their Conference activities from the past year before breaking out into officer-based small-groups to discuss items specific to their role. The District Spiritual Advisor, Deacon Mark, also presented a thoughtful and moving Spiritual reflection and discussion that challenged attendees to personally consider the characteristics of Vincentian Spirituality and reflect on this question *"Does our lifestyle (ministry, structures, expressions of our faith, etc.) lead us to a flexible response or is it an obstacle to our service on behalf of the poor?"*

Many responded to the question and then the discussion led to the notion that, "We sometimes feel inadequate (empty) when we can't see our temporary help as changing anything", where then the District President shared this excerpt published a few years ago in this newsletter which is a great reminder for us all:

St. Vincent DePaul said, "It is the trick of the Devil, which he employs to deceive good souls, to incite them to do more than they are able, in order that they may no longer be able to do anything." Those of us with generous hearts can be overwhelmed by the needs of people who ask us for help, "There are so many calls on our helpline. There are so many people in line at the food pantry. We have to make this home visit right now because the power is going to be cut off". IF WE ARE NOT CAREFUL, WE CAN BE TRICKED INTO THINKING THAT WE NEED TO BE SAVING PEOPLE, INSTEAD OF THE SAVIOR, JESUS CHRIST. Sometimes we may feel like we can't go on anymore. At those times, pray!

God will let you know whether it is time to stop and rest awhile, or it is time to go beyond your comfort zone, trusting in God's strength, not our own.



We Want to Know Your Neighbors In Need

St. Vincent de Paul Georgia is growing and we are excited to share the following open job positions with you. Please feel free to share these opportunities with your network and/or neighbors in need who may be interested.



We're hiring!

Join Our Team

[Apply now](#)

Open Positions:

- ☒ Administrative Specialist
- ☒ Communications Manager
- ☒ Controller
- ☒ Corporate Giving Manager
- ☒ Staff Accountant

MORE INFO AVAILABLE AT
WWW.SVDPGEORGIA.ORG/CAREER-OPPORTUNITIES

Click a link below for the full job description:

- [Administrative Specialist](#)
- [Communications Manager](#)
- [Controller](#)
- [Corporate Giving Manager](#)
- [Staff Accountant](#)

Are You Having Trouble with CMS?

If you have experienced any issues with CMS recently, it may be because you are not using the newest version (and the only version that is currently being supported). This new version, CMS 4.0, is available and accessible on multiple devices through major internet browsers, including those on iPad, Chromebook, Android, and Surface devices.

We strongly encourage you to switch to the new version today and bookmark the webpage for quick access!

[CLICK HERE TO LOGIN TO CMS 4.0](https://georgia.cmssvdp.org/)

(Or copy and paste this url into your browser- <https://georgia.cmssvdp.org/>)

Visit the [CMS Support Community](#) to learn more about CMS 4.0, as well as to access our library of training videos of beginner and advanced topics.

We Finalized Our Strategic Plan!

Dear Fellow Vincentians:

Thank you so much for your time and thoughtful input into our strategic plan. We heard from Vincentians around the state and have incorporated many of your suggestions. We hope you will be pleased with the direction we are headed. Our 2021-2024 Strategic Plan builds on the historic strength of SVdP Georgia: Assistance to our neighbors in need, delivered discreetly, with kindness, compassion, and respect, one family at a time. With this plan, our time and resources will be devoted to:

CONFERENCE SUPPORT: Enabling our 3500+ volunteer workforce with the training, manpower, technology, information, financial resources, and spirituality so they can provide hope and help to more neighbors throughout the state. We believe these initiatives are essential to effectively respond to the increasing complexity, volume, and amount of assistance requested.

PROGRAMS & SERVICES: Improving the efficiency, effectiveness and accountability of all Programs offered, and expanding those services to address housing needs in response to the effects of the pandemic and the impact it will continue to have on our state. By providing financial assistance with rent and mortgage payments, we play a critical role in helping neighbors avoid eviction. In some cases, we also help in eviction recovery, so this strategy will build on the experience of our unique Motel to Home program that helps families transition from emergency housing to self-sustainability.

The successful implementation of this plan will lead to lives improved, flourishing Conferences, and the ability to prove the impact of the work we do. We hope you will spend a few minutes reviewing the plan in detail by clicking the button below. You can expect to receive periodic updates on our progress. If you have particular expertise or interest, and would like to volunteer to help in the implementation process, please contact Denise Fisher at denisefisher9040@gmail.com.

Sincerely,

Mike Mies
President

Patrick McNulty
Chief Executive Officer



[Click Here to View/Download the Strategic Plan](#)

Saint Joseph's Vincentians Continue Thanksgiving Tradition

Volunteers from Saint Joseph's St. Vincent de Paul Conference and the Knights of Columbus Council 4599 distributed over 8 tons of food in over 210 Thanksgiving food boxes, complete with 2 turkeys and 60+ pounds of food to local Cobb County families in need. This is an annual event for the outreach ministries of Saint Joseph's Catholic Church. Through generous contributions from the church parishioners, SVdP and the Knights were able to collect over 16,000 pounds of food and meat which was enough for a complete dinner for over 210 families with plenty of leftovers.



St Joseph's SVdP & Knights of Columbus Council 4599 would like to thank all those that contributed and volunteered to make this year's event another huge success!

Pharmacy Client Intake Volunteer Needed

The SVdP Georgia Community Pharmacy is growing rapidly and we are seeking additional help to assist the pharmacy team with reviewing, processing, and submitting applications for patients who are eligible for the pharmacy program.

Hours of Operation: Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday | 9am-3pm (flexible shifts available)

Responsibilities:

- Assist pharmacy team with reviewing and processing client applications
- Assist Vincentian caseworkers with the on-line application process
- Call clients and Vincentian caseworkers when necessary to obtain missing application information
- Screen clients for program eligibility
- Input appropriate client information into the pharmacy software system
- Maintain confidentiality of client information in accordance with HIPPA

Qualifications/Skills:

- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Excellent listening skills
- Compassionate and empathetic
- Computer skills are mandatory
- Friendly and helpful attitude
- Ability to multi-task
- Bi-Lingual Preferred

Interested?

Please email Anterior Leverett (Volunteer Services Manager) at aleverett@svdpgeorgia.org for more details and to apply.



SVdP Prayer List

Please keep the following Vincentians and their families in your prayers.

- * Terry Rolla, wife of Vincentian, Tom Rolla, for healing.
- * Peggy Falke, sister of St. Thomas the Apostle Vincentian, for healing.
- * Repose of the soul of John Gernaat, St. Thomas the Apostle Vincentian
- * Robert Richards
- * Repose of the soul of Judy Franklin, St. Gabriel Vincentian
- * Mark Arganetto (health)
- * Frieda Brazeale (health)
- * Bill Dougherty (health)
- * Virgil Acosta (health)
- * Sympathy to Janice Ward, All Saints Co-President on the loss of her mother, Mae Ward
- * Health and speedy recovery for Gigi Rolfes, District President and Board Member, after an injury
- * All members of our military serving our country around the world.
- * All who seek to bring peace to the world as Jesus taught.
- * The health and well-being of all affected by the Coronavirus Pandemic, comfort those whose loved ones have suffered lost loved ones, peace for those living with uncertainty, patience to those who are quarantined and isolated, and strength for our medical professionals, caregivers and researchers, and all involved in our National response efforts.
- * Fred and Virginia Hedges
- * Mike Cribbs
- * Bill Bradford - brain tumor
- * Bob Pennington, St. Marguerite Vincentian (healing)
- * Larry and Janice Sigurdson

Give the Gift of Hope



Not sure what to add to your Christmas List? Add the gift of hope!

A gift featured in St. Vincent de Paul Georgia's [Giving Catalog](#), **provides help and hope to neighbors in need across Georgia.** For those facing challenges such as poverty, job loss or sickness, there is nothing more meaningful and impactful. **We invite you to share this Giving Catalog with your friends and family.**

Year-end giving reminder: Special tax deduction helps most people give up to \$600 to charity, even if they don't itemize.

Conference Support Center Staff Information

Patrick McNulty – Chief Executive Officer

678.892.6180 | PMcNulty@svdpgeorgia.org

Patrick is the legal and functional senior executive of SVdP Georgia and is responsible to the Board of Directors for the management of all aspects of the operations of the organization. As the chief advocate and spokesperson for the Society he also promotes the work of the Society with donors, supporters, elected officials and other organizations.

Cheryl King – Chief Financial Officer

678.892.6172 | CKing@svdpgeorgia.org

Cheryl is responsible for overseeing the organization's finances, the accounting department, managing the Council's budget, financial reporting, cash flow and the annual audit.

Jerry Veltri – Chief Mission Officer

678.892.6170 | JVeltri@svdpgeorgia.org

Jerry has leadership responsibility for support of all 73 SVdP Georgia Conferences. This includes Formation and Training, Vincentian Support, and strategic community alliances and partnerships.

Darrell Hooker – Chief Operating Officer

678.892.6176 | DHooker@svdpgeorgia.org

Darrell facilitates the logistics and coordination of the operations of SVdP Thrift Stores, Family Support Centers, Food Recovery and Distribution Program and the Warehouse & Recycling program in Chamblee.

Elizabeth Sirk – Chief Development Officer

678.892.6171 | ESirk@svdpgeorgia.org

Contact Elizabeth for donor information as well as information on Planned and Monthly Giving.

Nichole Harris – Chief Program Officer

678.892.6171 | NHarris@svdpgeorgia.org

Nichole has leadership responsibility for all current and future programs that the Council operates, including the Community Pharmacy and Jobs Center.

Mary Gee Panos – Director of Administration

678.892.6161 | MGeePanos@svdpgeorgia.org

Amanda Stricklin – Director of Vincentian Services

770.576.4080 | AStricklin@svdpgeorgia.org

Amanda coordinates, develops, and delivers training for Vincentians and Conferences through the Vincentian University program. She is responsible for providing administrative, formation and technology support. Contact Amanda for registration/scheduling of Vincentian University, and any promotional, formation and leadership materials.

Dr. Samantha Ricks – Director of Pharmacy

678.892.6181 ext. 1004 | SRicks@svdpgeorgia.org

Dr. Ricks is responsible for all aspects of the SVdP GA Pharmacy operations, growing our client base, and educational programs for those we serve. Contact Dr. Ricks for questions about client referrals to the pharmacy.

Sequoyah Moody – Senior Accountant

678.892.6173 | SMoody@svdpgeorgia.org

Sequoyah is responsible for managing grants and Capital Campaign financial reports.

Alicia Higginbotham – Grants Manager

770-845-1565 | AHigginbotham@svdpgeorgia.org

Alicia manages research, development and writing of grant requests for Conferences and the Council. She also reports to funders on grant spending. Alicia works with Conferences in obtaining and managing funding through the Emergency Food and Shelter Program. Contact Alicia if your Conference would like to apply for a grant or for any other grant related questions.

Linda Gurrant – Operations Manager

678.892.6165 | LGurrant@svdpgeorgia.org

Linda manages the donation line and mapping for the truck drivers as well as processes and maintains EFSP (Emergency Food & Shelter Program) cases, schedules Conference pick-ups for the Food Distribution Program and coordinates Food and Clothing Drives.

Anterior Leverett – Volunteer Services Manager

678.892.6168 | ALeverett@svdpgeorgia.org

Anterior is responsible for recruiting, coordinating and overseeing volunteer support for the Family Support Centers, warehouse, food pantries, thrift stores, and special events.

Eileen Parker – Case Manager

678.705.7828 | EParker@svdpgeorgia.org

Eileen coordinates casework at the Lakewood and Dallas Family Support Centers. Contact Eileen if you have questions regarding casework or community resources.

Alejandra Cadiz – Caseworker (bi-lingual)

678.892.6174 | ACadiz@svdpgeorgia.org

Alejandra operates out of the Chamblee Family Support Center and handles referral cases from partnering Conferences and United Way.

Nana Darfoor – Staff Accountant

678.892.6166 | NDarfoor@svdpgeorgia.org

Nana processes accounts payable, direct aid, and supports the Finance Department in various areas.

Ebony Baldwin – Accounting Clerk

770.687.2603 | EBaldwin@svdpgeorgia.org

Ebony provides support to Thrift Stores and Conferences for financial reporting. Contact Ebony for information regarding monthly/annual reporting and treasury questions.

Tori McCormick – Development Coordinator

678.892.6164 | TMcCormick@svdpgeorgia.org

Tori is responsible for donor database management and donor relations.

Elizabeth Langston – Receptionist

678.892.6160 | ELangston@svdpgeorgia.org

Contact Elizabeth for food and clothing vouchers.

St. Vincent de Paul Conference Support Center

2050 Chamblee Tucker Road | Suite C | Chamblee, GA | 30341

Receptionist: 678.892.6160 Donation Pick Up: 678.892.6162 Fax: 770.457.3021 Assistance Line: 678.892.6163