

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

Thoughts to Share

SVdP Calendar

Invitation to Lead: President & VP October 20 12:00pm to 1:30pm Register

CMS Training- Beginner's Treasury October 23 10:00am to 12:00pm Register

Spiritual Advisors & Presidents Formation Workshop November 23 10:00am to 12:00pm

Register

Thanksgiving Holiday

November 25-26 Conference Support Center Closed

Feast Day of St. Catherine LaboureNovember 28

Christmas Holiday

December 23-24 Conference Support Center Closed

New Year's Holiday

December 31 Conference Support Center Closed

Click Here for More Details and to Register for Vincentian Events & Trainings

Better Together

As our fiscal year comes to a recent close, it represents an opportunity to reflect. Most of you know as well or better than I, how many of the challenges associated with the pandemic continued to drive uncertainty throughout our communities. One thing that remained constant, though, was your commitment to caring for those in need. We know it hasn't been easy with the starts and stops, opportunities and obstacles, and twists and turns associated with Covid, but we are genuinely grateful for your ongoing "faith in action". In the words of Ignatius Loyola, "In God's eyes our words have only the value of our actions."

At the recent national SVdP meeting in Houston (which was attended by over 600 people even with the restrictions!) it was revealed that worldwide, together we (SVdP) assist and impact 30 million people per day! Wow... let that sink in for a moment. As I told a large group of Vincentians gathered in Chamblee recently, we should all pause from the day to day for a moment to consider the true strength in those numbers. We are truly better together- and when we work as a pair in home visits, or as a group in our Conference, District or Council, the magnitude of our actions and assistance is enhanced significantly. We'll share our statewide metrics soon, but know that you have made a substantial difference in the lives of so many in Georgia. Our collective aid over the last year was delivered to an unprecedented number of recipients.

With the new year upon us, we also want to welcome new leadership in our Conferences and Districts. We are thankful for those of you who have accepted the challenge- and encourage you to reach out to us for support and guidance.

Lastly, thank you to our board members who have joined us over the last year, unselfishly volunteering their time and talent to help guide the organization: Kathy Ames (Southern Company), Christina Bautch (Delta Air Lines), Charlotte Combre (BakerHosteltler), Jacob DiPietre (Chick-fil-A, Inc.), Patricia Falotico (Pathbuilders), Denise Fisher (District 2 President and Council Vice President), Bill Kilburg (Truist Bank), David Malone (Gas South), Phillip Mooney (District 1), and Sr. Mary Francis Power (Spiritual Advisor).

As we enter the season of harvest, I am reminded of the verse from Galatians 6:9,

"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."

Patrick McNulty
 Chief Executive Officer
 678.892.6180 | PMcNulty@svdpgeorgia.org

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

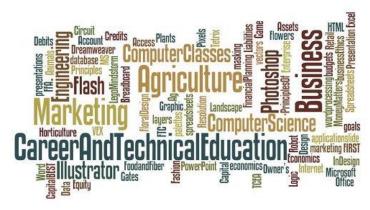
Job locations- North GA (Banks, Barrow, Bartow, Carroll, Catoosa, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dade, Dawson, De Kalb, Douglas, Fannin, Fayette, Floyd, Forsyth, Fulton, Gilmer, Gordon, Gwinnett, Habersham, Hall, Haralson, Heard, Henry, Jackson, Lumpkin, Meriwether, Murray, Newton), Dekalb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

TRAINING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS

EMPLOYERS HIRING TODAY

A list of jobs that are looking to hire ASAP.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES



Georgia Power Online Assistance Portal

The Georgia Power Energy Assistance portal is a free web-based tool for agencies, churches, and public and private charitable organizations to utilize while assisting Georgia Power customers with their energy costs. Many SVdP Conferences who pay GA

Power bills utilize this online assistance portal. If your Conference is not yet signed up, we encourage you to do so!

Use the energy assistance portal 24 hours a day, seven days a week to easily <u>view customer information</u>, as well as <u>make payments or pledges</u> without needing to call, fax or mail.

To access the energy assistance portal, visit energyasssistance.southerncompany.com from your desktop, tablet or mobile device.

Helpful Videos:

Energy Assistance Portal Overview

Retrieving and Reviewing Customer & Account Information

How to Make a Payment

How to Make a Pledge

FEATURES AND BENEFITS

- Pay one or multiple accounts
- •View 12 months of billing and payment history
- Print payment or pledge confirmation
- View account status, pending payments and usage history
- View average daily usage and dollars remaining for PrePay accounts
- •Make payments or pledges on critical accounts
- •Import one or multiple payments or pledges
- View 12 months of assistance history

How Did St. Vincent Practice His Spirituality?

Have you ever wondered what Vincentian spirituality is? And how St. Vincent practiced his faith? The following sections of the *Society of St. Vincent de Paul Rule* provide insight.

<u>Section 2.5 – The Spirituality of St. Vincent</u>. Having been placed under the patronage of St. Vincent de Paul by the founding members, members of the Society are inspired by his spirituality, manifest in his attitudes, his thoughts, his example and his words. For Vincentians, the key aspects of St. Vincent's spirituality are:

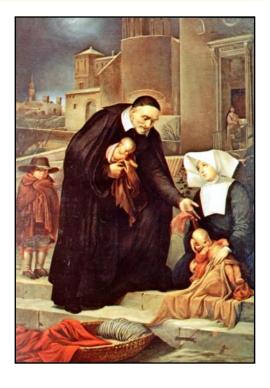
To love God, our Father, with the sweat of our brow and the strength of our arms;

To see Christ in the poor and poor in Christ;

To share the compassionate and liberating love of Christ the Evangelizer and Servant of the poor;

To heed the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

<u>Section 2.5.1 – Essential Virtues</u>. Vincentians seek to emulate St. Vincent in the five virtues essential for promoting love and respect for the poor: simplicity, humility, gentleness, selflessness, and zeal.



There are many spiritual ways of life; e.g., Vincentian, Franciscan, Dominican, Eudist, and others. This means that beyond the doctrines of the Catholic Church, there can be an *additional* fine-tuned focus of spirituality that we choose to follow specifically, as Vincentians, and in addition to practicing our Catholic faith.

The essence of the Vincentian way is to develop our spiritual faith through service to the "suffering Christ" around us (no.2 above). Logically, our Vincentian spirituality then, is infused in ALL areas of our work, not only during the meeting's spiritual reflection, and when we serve neighbors/clients, with prayer. This is why spirituality is our primary focus.

St. Vincent's spirituality was also "To share the compassionate and liberating love of Christ the Evangelizer and Servant to the poor." (no. 3 above) What an opportunity we have to evangelize to those we serve! First though, we must be sure they are open to prayer, as this is where an evangelical friendship normally begins. Ask them, in a simple, humble, and gentle way (section 2.5.1 above), "May I pray with you?" Or, "What would you like me to pray for?" Most of the time people are open to prayer, and often share their own holy insights with us. They minister back to us! These are spiritually-fruitful and fulfilling moments. Do not be surprised if you notice tears, as this may be the first time in their lives that someone offered to pray with them.

Frederic Ozanam and his college friends chose to follow the spirituality of St. Vincent de Paul when they founded our society, making us a faith-based charity. *This means we facilitate all we do with prayer, asking God to guide us*. We pray before, during, and after all of our Vincentian efforts, including (1) conference meetings, (2) during all business efforts, and (3) in service to those who are in need. See no. 4 above: "To heed the inspiration of the Holy Spirit."

Consider asking God this question in your individual private prayer time, asking him to reveal his answer to you, then patiently wait for his answer: "How can I imitate St. Vincent de Paul's spirituality in ALL of my Vincentian efforts?"

Sr. Mary Francis Power, E.S.E.H.
 Council Spiritual Advisor
 patricia.3sons@gmail.com

Welcome Alicia Higginbotham | Grants Manager



Alicia Higginbotham joins SVdP Georgia as the new Grants Manager with the Development Team. Alicia is responsible for managing and coordinating the process of research, cultivation, writing, and submission of federal, state, and local government grants as well as foundation and corporate grants.

Alicia brings almost a decade of experience from international nonprofit, The Carter Center, as well as two years of fundraising in Denver, Colorado. As an English Literature Bachelor's and Master's degree-holder (from UGA and CU Boulder, respectively), Alicia is an avid reader of almost every genre of literature – from waiting room brochures to Greek epics. Alicia also likes to volunteer with high school students to improve high school graduation rates and access to higher education opportunities.

Please feel free to reach out to Alicia if you would like to discuss local grant funding opportunities for your Conference.

Alicia HigginbothamGrants Manager

770-845-1565 | AHigginbotham@svdpgeorgia.org

CMS Update



BEGINNER'S TREASURY TRAINING
Saturday, October 23 | 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Whether you are a new Treasurer, or a current one needing a refresher, this training is for you. In this training, you will learn how

to navigate all the financial areas of CMS from the check approval process to reconciliation & closing the month. Other areas we will cover include: electronic payments, voiding checks, back date checks, add debits and credits, vendor maintenance, and solidarity amount calculation.

This training is designed for Treasurers (current and new).

CLICK HERE TO REGISTER

Missed a training session? Click a link below to view the recording.

Pledges
Case Intake for Beginners

Other topical videos you may be interested in:

Intake and Household Swap
Case Assignment
Simple Casework

More videos can be found here-left side of page.

Vincentian Celebrations



St. Thomas Aquinas parishioners in Alpharetta recently blessed Vincentian's during their Annual Commitment Ceremony.



On October 11th, the SVdP Conference at Our Lady of Perpetual Help in Carrollton conducted a commissioning ceremony for their new officers: Christine Eidson, VP, Theresa Chamblee, Secretary and Linda Winter, Spiritual Advisor.

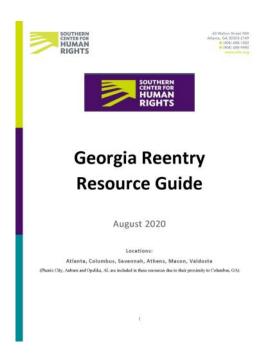
Thank you all for serving in these roles!

Statewide Community Resources

The Southern Center for Human Right's Reentry division publishes a <u>resource guide</u> that identifies statewide community resources that will effectively assist neighbors in need in accessing the services needed to be successful in their reentry. Many of these resources are not just for those re-entering, so we encourage you to check it out and see if there's anything you might be able to share with your neighbors in need!

Some of the resource areas in this guide include:

- HOMELESS SERVICES/DAY CENTER
- FOOD: Soup Kitchens and Served Meals, Food Pantries, Food Stamps
- IDENTIFICATION
- **HOUSING**: Transitional Shelters, Emergency Shelters, Permanent Supportive Housing, Public Housing, Substance Abuse Recovery Shelters/Houses
- **EMPLOYMENT:** Employment Assistance Programs, Temporary Employment Agencies, Training Programs
- CLOTHING
- SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT: Inpatient Facilities, Outpatient Facilities
- TRANSPORTATION
- MEDICAL: Medical Care, Prescription Assistance, Mental Health Treatment
- LEGAL/TAXES
- EDUCATION: Post-Secondary Education/Vocational Education
- RESOURCE GUIDES BY CITY



CLICK HERE TO VIEW THE RESOURCE GUIDE

Welcome Maresha Cash | Vincentian Services Intern



Maresha Cash has joined SVdP Georgia as an intern with Vincentian Services. Maresha will be in the office on Tuesdays and Thursdays and help with casework for the various municipality grants we are administering.

A little about Maresha...

My name is Maresha Cash, and I am currently in my second year of the Master of Science in Social Work program at the University of Louisville. My purpose is to help others enhance their quality of life by serving with integrity. After obtaining my MSW degree, I wish to go into the medical field while volunteering at a non-profit to make a change in my community. Providing individuals with the

resources they need to live a better life is my passion. Being healthy spiritually, mentally, emotionally, and physically is essential for me to give my best to others and address their needs. I have a 4-year-old daughter that I love dearly and a family that pushes me to be my best every day. I love to spend time with my family, exercise, study the bible, and ways to be my best self in my free time.

Changing of the Guard



On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Georgia Council and the staff at the Conference Support Center, we'd like to thank each and every Conference leader whose term has come to an end this year. Leadership is essential to help make the Society a more effective source of help to the needy and allows fresh ideas to be brought into the operation of Conferences, and we appreciate each individual's contribution to our humble successes over the past few years.

Whether you are an outgoing President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer or Spiritual Advisor, we hope that you found growth in personal spirituality and fellowship through leading your

Conference, as well as a broadened perspective and appreciation of the worldwide network of charity that was the vision of Bl. Frederic Ozanam.

And with that, we welcome our new Conference Presidents (and all of their appointed officers):

Cathy Bailey (St. Paul of the Cross), Brendan Brennan (Corpus Christi), Lois Bruining (St. Katherine Drexel—Macon), Betty Campbell (St. Thomas the Apostle), Joann Gorelle (St. Philip Benizi), Karen Miller (St. Ann), Virginia Perez (St. Thomas More), Pete Psyhogios (St. Brigid), Susan Schafer (Sacred Heart of Jesus- Hartwell), and Donella Wilson (Corpus Christi).

Catholic Charities Resources

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE

Information and Referral

Resources

Screening for Financial Assistance

Must be working

Proof of financial hardship

Financial Literacy

Financial coaching
Foreclosure intervention
Credit repair, Budgeting
New home ownership

Mental Health Counseling

Play therapy

Family and trauma therapy Coping Skills Textbot

Veterans Case Management:

Direct Assistance and VA Benefits Housing/Budgeting General Case Management

Immigration Legal Services

Family Petitions

Detention Orientation

Public Benefits

SNAP

Medicare

Phone and Internet Free 1 Yr. Services

ESL

Free classes at different levels Citizenship Classes

ASSISTANCE AND REFERRALS

CCA Help Line 770-429-2369

General Assistance #5 Mental Health Counseling #1

CCA Help Email: help@ccatlanta.org
Immigration Services 678-222-3920

ESL Classes <u>www.catholiccharitiesatlanta.org</u>

Hope Textbot 202-949-7249

Start Code: CCA Stop: Reply "Opt Out"



Do you need Help?



You can also connect to Hope via catholiccharitiesatianta.org/hope/ or Facebook www.facebook.com/HopeCCUSA Sister Hope is for those experiencing a difficult time, feeling distressed, or those that just need someone to chat with.

If you are experiencing suicidal thoughts, please contact the Suicide Hotline: 800-273-8255.

> in need or poner resources at CCA7 final help@coattanta.org or call the help line 770-429-2369

Catholic Charities Atlanta

Pharmacy Client Intake Volunteer Needed

The St. Vincent de Paul 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.

Clothing, Furniture, and Food Drives Helping More Neighbors In Need



In September, the SVdP Conference at St. Peter Chanel in Roswell held a clothing and furniture drive that completely filled three (3) trucks. Their items will help fill the racks at many of our Thrift Stores, helping reach more neighbors in need.

We greatly appreciate their support, as well as the parishioners of St. Peter Chanel and all who contributed to the success of this donation drive.

St. Benedict Catholic Church recently held a donation drive that resulted in just over 10,000 pounds of food and toiletries! We are so appreciative of this parish's support, especially the teens in the Confirmation Program who earned service hours by providing the manpower needed to collect the items and load the trucks. These donations will go a long way in preventing hunger for many families.



SVdP Prayer List

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

- Martin McDonnell
- Lavonne Rippeon
- Marion Chunco
- Bill Chunco
- Sue Konietzko
- Fred and Virginia Hedges
- Mike Cribbs
- **Bob Sundermeyer**
- Orlando Matus
- George Roach
- All members of our military serving our country around the world.
- All who seek to bring peace to the world as Jesus taught.

Sandra Pacheco

- **Eric Huddleston**
- * Susan Munroe
- * St. Gabriel Conference (Mary Harris)
- Repose of the soul of Sandy Byrnes
- Bob Harris (health)
- Bill Dougherty (health)
- Mark Arganetto (health)
- Barbara Herndon
- Al Muegge
- Larry and Janice Sigurdson
- 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.

Reminder: New CMS 4.0 Version Available

CMS 4.0 is now available and is a browser version. This version is accessible on multiple devices through major internet browsers, including those on iPad, Chromebook, Android, and Surface devices.

If you have the CMS App, it will still work but that version will not be supported by the developers in the future so we encourage you to try out the new browser version and bookmark it for quick access!

LOGIN TO CMS 4.0 (https://georgia.cmssvdp.org/)

St. Andrew Conference Expands Food Program Recipients

A few months ago, the SVdP Conference at St. Andrew started a new food program partnership with the Children's Development Academy (CDA) in Roswell. The Conference works with the St. Ann's SVdP Conference in Marietta and the Atlanta Community Food Bank to obtain food for neighbors in need, serving about 50 families per week in the Roswell community, including some of the low-income families who attend the CDA.

This partnership furthers the St. Andrew Conference's impact in their community and the CDA families are very appreciative of their support. It's also a great example of how Conferences can adapt their services to the needs of the community and live the SVdP motto that "No work of charity is foreign to the Society".





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