



The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Detroit

Factsheet

We Transform Lives...

- SVdP Detroit was established in 1884 in the Archdiocese of Detroit and serves people in need regardless of creed, ethnic or social background, health, gender or political opinions.
- SVdP Detroit operates the 40,000 sq. ft. Van Elslander Family Service Center in Detroit which includes a Pre-School, Dental Clinic, Food Depot, Veteran Services, Membership Store, Prison Ministry, Energy Assistance Program, as well as the SVdP Council Central Offices.
- Last year, the Society served over 300,000 people in southeast Michigan in tangible and in-kind services.
- SVdP Detroit carries the highest possible 4 star rating on Charity Navigator, America's largest independent charity evaluator of financial health, accountability and transparency of thousands of charities.

Local Conferences and Vincentian Life

- SVdP Detroit believes that person to person contact through home visits is the core work of our volunteer Vincentians and allows us to best serve our neighbors in need.
- Last year, over 45,000 home visits assisted 180,000 neighbors with rent, food, clothing and furniture.
- The Society currently includes over 2600 Vincentians serving in Conferences at 145 parishes throughout Southeast Michigan.
- The Annual Friends of the Poor Walk in Belle Isle raises awareness and funds for the Conferences to do their important work. Last year's event attracted 733 walkers from 72 Conferences and raised in excess of \$68,000.

Nutrition

- SVdP Detroit operates 42 Food Pantries through our Conferences and Districts
- Matchan Nutritional Center, is a special work of the Oakland District. Last year, the center served over 38,000 Pontiac area neighbors with a hot meal twice a week. (Christian Legal Aid and MI Works also provide services at this location)

Camp Ozanam

- Over the past 95 years, the Society has served over 175,000 children at our own Camp Ozanam on Lake Huron.
- The SVdP Annual Golf Classic raises funds to provide 500 impoverished children with a week-long camp experience free of charge to their families.

Justice Initiative Prison Ministry

- Last year, this special work of the Society's Detroit Council assisted 311 men to transition from prison back into society with clothing, toiletries and other resources.

Bridges of Hope

- This collaboration between SVdP Detroit, Catholic Charities, Ascension Health provides life planning lessons to help jump start those neighbors in need with a desire to move out of poverty.
- To date, 163 individuals were empowered to make systemic changing plans to reach those goals

Journey to Housing

- This special work of the Metro West District helps those needing shelter with rent, furniture and the skills needed to attain financial self-sufficiency. To date, 16 neighbors in need now have a home of their own.

Thrift Stores

- SVdP Detroit supports Conferences through the operation of 9 Thrift Stores in four counties within southeast Michigan.
- 8 trucks are available to pick up donations of slightly used clothing, furniture and household goods that are offered free or low cost at all Thrift Store locations.

Energy Assistance Program

- SVdP Detroit obtained a \$6M grant this year by partnering with several utility companies; a substantial increase from the original grant of \$200K in 2007.
- Last year, The Society assisted 4,468 households in 39 counties to keep their lights and heat on during the winter months
- The Society works with several organizations that provide the education and tools to assist neighbors in need with self-sufficiency efforts.