Living Royally

Glenn Sofge says he lives in Springfield’s high rise. Reva Moen calls it a castle. By whatever name, St. Vincent de Paul’s Royal Building is the setting for an “ever after” happy in the companionship, healthy meals, and peace of mind these good neighbors enjoy.

Located at 5th and Main, the Royal Building embodies 33 multi-family units on four upper floors, crowned by a community room with a spectacular view across the rooftops of Springfield to the Coburg Hills. Energy efficient and secure, the Royal Building is part of an affordable-housing portfolio that will top 1,000 units with the opening this fall of the Donald L. Lamb Building at West 11th and Hayes in Eugene.

Reva was Royal’s second occupant. In her mid-60’s and suffering multiple health problems, she had set out to live with her sister in Florida but became stranded and broke. She returned to Eugene and the home of a friend, a disharmonious living situation.

So Reva was delighted to see a newspaper article about the Royal Building and to realize that her modest income qualified.

“When they took me up to see my apartment that Saturday, they had to grab me because I almost passed out,” she recalled. “I’ve never seen anything so elegant.”

Glenn Sofge was widowed after more than 50 years of marriage. A retired handyman, he stayed in his longtime Springfield home until last fall when his daughter suggested the Royal Building.

“I came and took a look, and I moved in,” Glenn said. They met by chance as Reva maneuvered her walker out of the elevator. Upon learning that she hadn’t been able to hang curtains or pictures, Glenn offered his help. At six-foot four, he could reach everything.

Glenn wasn’t so good at managing his diabetes. He lost weight and was hospitalized.

For Reva, it was payback time. Glenn returned to home-cooked meals. They still share Reva’s cooking or that delivered by Meals On Wheels.

And they get around. Royal is conveniently located for LTD and RideSource.

Reva thinks of Glenn, now 82, as her adopted father. Each evening they retire to their respective apartments – his with its ever-changing view of the hills and hers with its handicap accommodations and beloved cat.

Glenn wouldn’t change a thing and greatly appreciates his low utility bills thanks to Royal’s ground-source heating system.

“I can look over top of City Hall and watch snow fall on the Coburgs,” he said. “I can snore and not bother anybody.”

Reva has some thoughts on countertop top design “for people who roll from place to place,” and she wishes for a little more space – especially at Christmas. But she credits her apartment and Glenn’s help for her not needing a wheelchair.

“I’ve made a living room-dining room out of my living room,” she said. “It’s accessible. The situation helps me maintain.

“And I’ve got somebody to talk to. I’m not just rattling around the apartment.”

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St. Vincent de Paul will have developed more than 1,000 units of affordable housing by the end of 2010.
From Our Director

Terry McDonald (right) thanks volunteer Jim Kooiman (left) for his work on the Egan Warming Center

This is a strange time. People are still struggling to find work. Financial markets are seriously disrupted, and people continue to lose their homes. Our partners in Europe are struggling as the EU goes through a difficult time.

The bright spot in all of this? Difficult times bring us together. What we find during periods of challenge is the value of community. With your help, St. Vincent de Paul continues to work hard to serve people working through the challenges life throws at them. In the last six months we have opened new housing projects. We took on new projects such as the Egan Warming Center. We added Styrofoam recycling to our repertoire of services. We continued to add jobs during a period when many businesses were laying people off.

The need in our community remains great. I was shocked when the director of our Social Service Office told me that they had seen a 75% increase in the number of clients they saw from the previous year. But with your continued support, we are confident we will continue to do even more to help people in need in Lane County. By supporting St. Vincent de Paul, you are truly making a difference. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Terry McDonald
Executive Director

Albany St. Vinnie’s has Widespread Appeal

To illustrate the widespread popularity of St. Vinnie’s Superstore & Donation Center in Albany, Manager Marge Bearden says some of her best customers come all the way from Newport to shop for clothing, jewelry and antique furniture.

Located at 2220 SW Pacific Blvd., west of Big 5 in Albany, the Superstore and Donation Center opened last November to a huge crowd. Business has since exceeded the expectations of staff and volunteers.

“Albany is the best new store we’ve had,” said Mike Favret, chair of SVdP’s Stores Advisory Board.

Like its sister stores, St. Vinnie’s Superstore serves as a resource for an SVdP conference, St. Mary’s-Albany. In response to requests for assistance, conference members write vouchers to be redeemed at the store.

“The response from the Albany community to the new store has been positive and the people we serve really appreciate the SVdP vouchers,” said Michael Thomson, president of the St. Mary’s-Albany Conference. “They can shop in the store as if they had cash.”

The Superstore won’t be St. Vinnie’s newest for long. By summer, an outlet for miscellaneous thrift will be open in the former Rife’s Home Furnishings location at 2nd and Q streets in Springfield. It will bring to nine the number of St. Vinnie’s thrift stores in Eugene, Springfield and Florence.

If all goes as planned, its staff will hear words similar to these recently overheard in Albany:

“I could shop in this store for hours.”

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705 S Seneca Rd.
Eugene, OR 97402
Phone: 541.687.5820

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Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.
Two months into her new job as Intake Specialist at First Place Family Development Center, Gloria Walker still hasn’t told her own children about her near brush with homelessness. If she does, she’ll likely mention a St. Vincent de Paul social-services network that maintained her hope and housing when she might otherwise have been on the street at the age of 62.

“"I was on the brink, looking into the abyss,” Gloria said of the four months she spent in school, pleased to update her skills but constantly in fear of losing her home. “I faced two evictions,” she said. “St. Vinnie’s went to bat for me both times and got the landlord to let me stay.” 

“St. Vinnie’s went to bat for me both times and got the landlord to let me stay.”

Gloria’s kids didn’t want her to leave California in the first place. Raised among farmers in the ethnically diverse Imperial Valley, she was a career nurse back in 2002 when her husband died unexpectedly at 49. Afterward, she just wanted out of the Bay Area with its memories.

Her kids recommended Eugene for its athletics and relative safety. Gloria worked in rehabilitation and mental-health facilities until 2008 when she sustained a back injury while lifting a patient. The problem was partially corrected, but Gloria’s insurance ran out and she was barely cleared for light duty. In late 2009 jobs were scarce and light duty unheard of.

Gloria qualified for occupational retraining and was taking classes at LCC when she first trekked to St. Vincent de Paul’s Social Service Office to ask for utility assistance. The staff immediately identified her as a prime candidate for homeless prevention and Self-Sufficiency Services.

An assessment by the Self-Sufficiency staff determined that Gloria’s computer skills and Spanish skills were readily marketable. It was just a matter of time.

Gloria’s fortunes really turned with the opening at First Place, St. Vincent de Paul’s day shelter for homeless families with children. She was summoned by the Self-Sufficiency Program Manager Jul Orr who said, "They need someone right now, and we told them about you.”

During a meeting with First Place Director William Wise, Gloria realized that the job was a perfect fit for her skill set and physical abilities. But it wasn’t until after a tour and introductions that he asked if she wanted the job.

“If I didn’t think it was inappropriate, I would have kissed him,” she said.

Now, homeless families report first to Gloria’s desk, and she’s eager to match needs with resources. She readily shares her own experience with them, if not her own kids.

“You have to stay focused on what you’re doing,” she said. “If that’s a job search, stay focused. If it’s housing, try as many resources as are in the community.

“A lot of people’s pride gets in the way, but don’t ever be too proud to ask for help. St. Vinnie’s baled me out, and they didn’t know me from Adam.”

---

Self-Sufficiency in 2009

**American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA)** helps homeless individuals and families obtain employment readiness skills. ARRA helped 183 people in 2009.

**Ruby Tuesday** helps women find employment in the mainstream workplace by providing professional attire and mentorship. In 2009, Ruby Tuesday helped 145 people.

**Supported Work Experience (SWEX)** clients are referred by the Department of Health and Human Services to gain work experience. Participants are placed at various St. Vincent de Paul worksites between six and twenty-four hours per week. In 2009, SWEX helped 212 people.

**Second Chance Renter’s Rehabilitation** gives people with poor rental and/or credit history the tools they need to regain housing stability. The 10 week educational series is both an intervention and prevention program. Second Chance helped 212 people in 2009.

**Vocational Rehabilitation** provides skills assessment, training, job placement and follow-up for adults with multiple barriers to employment.
Arthur Hopper’s former Vet LIFT roommate reconnects with his kids and moved to be closer. Now Arthur hopes to do the same, and his chances are good because Vet LIFT is all about reconnecting with society and family. Arthur also channels his energy more productively than in decades past. He was the angry child of parents who fought bitterly. After their divorce, Arthur alternated between their distant households, leaving when his welcome ran out. At 15 he took up cigarettes, his personal gateway to alcohol and meth. He fought, and as his reputation and record grew, even fights he didn’t start landed him in jail.

“I got to see a lot of judges,” Arthur said. “The more I graced their presence, the more effective they wanted to be.”

After a stint in the Army, Arthur worked in the Texas oil fields and as a car salesman in southern California. He married and had three kids. The marriage was “screwed up,” Arthur said. But the divorce dealt his toughest blow.

“I never thought my ex-wife would keep my children from me,” Arthur said. “That affected me a lot.” Plagued by nightmares and substance abuse, he plummeted. For 10 years he was the listless patron of shelters and bridge abutments. When a computer search revealed that two of his children might be here, Arthur came to Eugene. He was at the Eugene Service Station when a woman asked, “Are you a veteran?”

It was Susan Harrison of the Eugene Reintegration Center, scouting for Vet LIFT candidates. She urged Arthur to attend the weekly support meetings that link homeless veterans with the opportunity to rebuild broken lives through sobriety, community, case management, and transitional housing.

Weeks later, Arthur finally went as promised. “(Susan) made me believe that she really cared about me,” he said.

Assured that Vet LIFT addresses both symptoms and underlying issues, Arthur gave it a shot. Halfway into the two-year Grant and Per Diem program, he has passed his college entrance exams and is learning through intensive case management to control negative influences and savor the good.

“I had never been drift fishing ’til I came here,” he said. “When my birthday rolled around, I had two cakes!”

---

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County recently completed its first solar hot water retrofit on an affordable housing project.

In partnership with Pacific Solar and Rain, a local solar installer, St. Vincent de Paul installed 16 solar panels on the Mary Skinner Apartments in Eugene. This system is expected to save approximately 29,015 kilowatt hours per year (approximately $2,200 in annual savings) and provide hot water for showers, laundry and kitchen use.

Funding for the Mary Skinner solar project came from a 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant from the Housing and Community Services Agency of Lane County in partnership with the Lane County Human Services Commission. The Eugene Water and Electric Board will also provide a rebate to this project for some of the energy savings.

St. Vincent de Paul is seeking to retrofit several of its existing affordable housing projects with solar hot water systems. Future retrofits will include Bagley Downs (30 units) and Mill Street (10 units). This technology lowers utility bills for tenants while also providing a benefit to the planet.

Currently, St. Vincent de Paul has 118 units of housing served by solar hot water systems. The Eugene Service Station, a day center for homeless adults, also has a solar hot water system providing more than 100 showers each day.

Adding this system to Mary Skinner will give St. Vincent de Paul an additional 40 units served by solar hot water systems. The Lamb Building, which will open this fall, has been designed with solar hot water (35 units).

Interested in helping retrofit future projects? SVdP is seeking investors. Contact Terry McDonald at (541) 687-5820 for more information.
Lamb Building: Efficient, Affordable!

At West 11th and Hayes in Eugene, it's easy to see what's new. The Donald L. Lamb Building rises above its neighbors, mirroring the sky with many windows. Even the roof is reflective to reduce heat in the attic and, consequently, the load on its high-efficiency heating/cooling system.

So workers wear sunglasses on the spongy white rooftop. Studies using infrared photography indicate that such roofs stay cooler than their asphalt counterparts and might be useful against global warming, said Mike Magee of Bergsund DeLaney Architecture.

Come fall, 35 households will enjoy that and other energy-saving features of the building named for the late Donald L. Lamb, a longtime SVdP volunteer and advocate for the poor and persons with disabilities.

"Don had been a member of the Board of St. Vincent and really backed our housing efforts," said Terry McDonald, Executive Director. "The Board felt this building was a suitable remembrance of his good works."

The building will feature one-bedroom units, community room, laundry facilities, an outdoor terrace, and high-speed internet. Rent will be $385 to $410 per month. It replaces a thrift store and auxiliary buildings long past their useful life.

"Rather than selling the site, it was felt important to help revitalize the neighborhood that St. Vincent had grown up in over the past 50 years," said Terry McDonald.

"We are excited to bring more housing and a great commercial space to this neighborhood," added Kristen Karle, Project Manager for SVdP. "We hope future tenants enjoy the building as much as we've enjoyed developing it."

Interested in coming to the Grand Opening of the Lamb Building? Contact Rebecca Larson at (541) 743-7121.

Arthur’s Story  continued from page 4

Arther returns the favors, applying skills acquired in prison bakeries. His brownies are a favorite in the Vet LIFT office.

Mostly, Arthur strives to see his now-grown children. Before Vet LIFT, it was out of the question.

"I have a nice place to stay, and I’m doing positive things with my life," he said. "All my kids have to do is look. "And they’re my kids. They’ll look harder than anyone else."

Special Housing Programs in 2009

**Connections Transitional Housing** helps homeless families transition from repeated episodes of homelessness to stability. 15 families graduated in 2009.

**Living Independently Following Treatment (LIFT)** provides permanent housing for individuals and families. Participants have clinically assessed, co-occurring mental illnesses with addictions and are in recovery having received inpatient treatment. Currently, LIFT is serving eight individuals and ten families.

**Valley Individual Development Account Program (VIDA)** helps rural households achieve major life savings and financial goals through matched savings, training, and support. Since 2002, VIDA has had 26 graduates; ten people graduated in 2009.

**Veterans Living Independently Following Treatment (Vet LIFT)** provides assistance to homeless veterans who are dually diagnosed with substance abuse and mental health issues. Vet LIFT housed 34 individuals and families in 2009.
Starfish Casts Family into a Home

The Bucherts, from left, Joe, Barry, and Brandon are no longer homeless, and are now in stable housing thanks to Project Starfish.

Caseworkers from three agencies collaborated to qualify Barry Buchert and his two boys for housing, but Project Starfish got them across the threshold of their comfortable farm-style home in West Eugene. That extra boost came from folks like the Irish Echo whose annual St. Patrick’s Day feast and songfest drew 300 people and raised $3,500.

Barry, 49 and a single dad, made parts for bicycle trailers ’til a company layoff three years ago. He hung onto his Springfield apartment for two years before becoming homeless with Brandon and Joe, now 9 and 7.

Barry swallowed his own despair and, for his boys’ sake, framed the experience as an adventure. Thanks to a tax refund, they could afford motel rooms and token payments to friends and relatives for use of their couches.

Barry also contacted the local assistance agencies. He and the boys had been in Catholic Charities emergency housing for nine days when a caseworker referred him to the Connections office at St. Vincent de Paul. The Bucherts were approved for the 2-year program of case management and transitional housing that has given help and validation to more than 300 families.

Handed papers to sign, Barry acknowledged that he didn’t have money for deposits or rent. That’s when he was embraced by another helping arm, that of Project Starfish, which covered both. Just two hours later Barry learned he’d been hired for a seasonal job and could cover subsequent rent payments.

“That was a very special day,” he said.

In the year since, Barry has returned to school and is working on an associate’s degree in human services. Eventually he’d like to work with autistic children or the elderly.

The boys are thriving in neighborhood schools and have friends on the block and a backyard garden.

“They are definitely my inspiration,” Barry said.

He is eternally grateful for that financial boost from

continued on page 7

Thanks to our Conferences who bring a personal touch to SVdP’s emergency services through home visits.

- Eugene Christian Fellowship
- Our Lady of the Dunes
- St. Alice Catholic Church
- St. Benedict Retreat & Conference Center
- St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church
- St. Jude Catholic Church
- St. Mark Catholic Church
- St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Albany
- St. Mary’s Catholic Church in Corvallis
- St. Mary Catholic Church in Eugene
- St. Paul Catholic Church
- St. Peter Catholic Church
- St. Thomas More Newman Center

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Echoing Our Thanks

Even St. Patrick gets in on the raising o’ funds to help struggling families get into housing. His holiday is celebrated generously by the Irish Echo whose fans packed the community hall at Marist High School for an evening of traditional fare and song, topped by some good old rock n’ roll.

This year’s event drew 300 people and raised $3,500 for Project Starfish. Others faithful to Starfish are the students of O’Hara and St. Paul Catholic schools, and Marist High School. Thank you!
Emergency Services in 2009

**Atkinson Food Room** provides food boxes to folks in need. In 2009, more than 11,500 food boxes and 2,500 holiday food boxes were given.

**Eugene Service Station (ESS)** provides homeless adults with a warm and welcoming place where they can meet their basic needs (food, day shelter, clothing, laundry, showers, supplies) and get assistance stabilizing their personal crises.

The ESS helped more than 3,200 adults in 2009, and gave out more than $40,800 in clothing vouchers, 87,300 meals, and 21,600 showers.

**Social Service Office (SSO)** provides emergency services to low-income families and individuals, in conjunction with our fifteen parish conferences. Services include emergency rent and utility assistance to prevent homelessness, emergency prescriptions, and much more.

In 2009, the SSO distributed $3,000,000 in utility company assistance, $23,400 in prescription medications, $32,500 in rental assistance, $16,900 in propane for heating, and more.

The Social Service Office helps more than 58,500 people each year.

---

Day Shelter Offers Time to Breathe

Time. To breathe. To think about what to do next. For that and a safe place to park at night, 52-year-old Delores is grateful to St. Vincent de Paul.

Delores is no stranger to homelessness, especially these past four years, since a succession of illnesses claimed her closest relatives. She has moved around the West Coast, chasing opportunities that didn’t pan out. She has unrolled her sleeping bag in bus shelters and under canopies of both the metal and leaf varieties.

“People who are homeless have different reasons. They have lost homes, jobs...and they’re trying to get back on their feet.”

Delores knows well that feeling of being scrutinized, perhaps misjudged, for having nowhere to go.

“I think society just doesn’t want people hanging around,” she said. “Here, they are off the corners. Off the streets.”

“Here” is St. Vincent de Paul’s Eugene Service Station. “They” are the homeless adults who rely on the facility for basic necessities and something equally important: comfort.

“There’s no place in the world like it,” Delores said. “We can do laundry, which is good because it costs a lot of money. If we want food it’s here, and that’s good.”

Delores counts herself among the lucky because she has a car, purchased when she had a job in Bandon. She has worked as a cashier, in sales, and in various eateries. She would love to find a job that would last a few years.

That car is her nighttime shelter, parked safely under the umbrella of St. Vincent de Paul’s Overnight Parking Program. A partnership with the City of Eugene and area businesses, the program allows up to 90 days of legal parking with restroom facilities provided.

And to Delores, that’s precious.

“People who are homeless have different reasons,” she said. “They have lost homes, jobs... And they’re trying to get back on their feet.

“In spite of what people say, when you’re homeless you need time to sit and understand what’s going on. Deal with it in your head.

“Once you’re done, you can get back up and do what you need to.”

---

Starfish Story

Starfish that got his family into a home, as it has done for 101 other families.

“In my opinion, the funds from Project Starfish were the turning point,” he said. He also credits caseworkers at ShelterCare and Catholic Charities – as well as St. Vincent de Paul – for their combined advocacy.

“Through the efforts of all, the ducks lined up for us,” he said. “But it was only because of Project Starfish that I was able to accept this place.”

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Emergency Services in 2009

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The Social Service Office helps more than 58,500 people each year.

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Spring 2010  7
First Place a Haven for a Mother

Rosa, a homeless mother helped by First Place

even though it seemed all downhill from the start, Rosa tried to maintain her marriage. She left a couple of times but returned, hoping the latest remedy – be it counseling or anger-management classes – would turn the tide of abuse that washed endlessly over her and her two small boys. Rosa had even moved her family west last winter, leaving Missouri and all that was familiar, to live near his folks in lane county.

“i am not the type to just give up,” she said. “it was my first marriage. i wanted it to work.”

but as 2010 set in, Rosa realized her situation was not going to change. She told herself, “i am done. The kids have suffered enough, and i have, too.”

the end began at midnight when Rosa grabbed all the belongings she could and raced through her desolate neighborhood, flanked by friends of her husband. There was no time to look back or collect the kids from his mother’s nearby home.

“His friends got me away,” she remembered. “we took what we could and ran down the street as fast as we could.”

on the recommendation of a friend, Rosa went to SvdP’s First Place Family Development Center for help. Assistant Director Diana Wise was an immediate advocate. Armed with a court order and deputy assistance, she and Rosa picked up the kids and got fast-track approval for Interfaith Night Shelter.

This involves some moving around, but Rosa likes that for now. She feels safe, relief that her kids are fed and secure, and grateful for a bed.

By day, while 4-year-old Austin keeps a busy schedule in First Place’s Kids Center, Rosa keeps up with 18-month-old Jonah plus meals and laundry. First Place provides those services, along with the time and tools needed to explore the possibilities beyond, and boundless moral support.

“These people are here to help, not cut you down or degrade you, or make you feel alone,” she said. “we don’t have to worry about physical and mental abuse.”

Rosa has been accepted into SvdP’s Connections Transitional Housing program and has a job in a local elder-care facility. Her positive experiences of late have made Oregon feel more like home.

“I was in a shelter once before that was nothing compared to this,” she said.

“These people are so caring and loving; i feel I have family here and we’re not even blood-related.”

Picnic Supper Thank You!

The steel magnolias steel drum band had folks dancing among the tables at the Picnic Supper, a benefit for homeless families with children at First Place.

The event, held April 30, drew 160 people to the “Hawaiian island” of St. Paul Parish Hall, where they dined on tropical cuisine, contemplated choice items in a small silent auction, enjoyed Steel Magnolias, and heard how First Place Family Development Center served as the launching pad for Rosa’s new life (read the story above).

More than $8,800 was raised which will help First Place provide for families year-round. Thank you!

First Place Family Development Center in 2009

First Place provides crucial assistance to families with children who are in transition due to homelessness, job loss, or other critical problems. In 2009, First Place helped more than 460 families, with over 850 children.

First Place Kids Center offers a safe environment for children three to six years of age while their parents search for housing, work, attend GED classes, etc. 300 volunteers helped provide over 4,130 hours of caring in 2009.

Interfaith Night Shelter is a consortium of more than 30 faith communities who offer night shelter, food, recreational activities, and comfort to 10-15 families per night, throughout the school year (September to June). More than 2,200 volunteers make this outreach possible. In 2009, over 6,500 nights of shelter were provided to 55 families with 82 children.

Overnight Parking Program provides legal camping, free garbage disposal, and portable restrooms to homeless families living in their vehicles. In 2009, 27 families with 41 children, and 81 single adults, were helped.
In 2009 a coalition of faith communities, nonprofits, local governments and activists banded together to form the Egan Warming Center, a temporary homeless shelter that opens during extreme cold weather. The Center was named in honor of Major Thomas Egan, a gentleman who froze to death during a cold spell in 2008.

This year St. Vincent de Paul served as a lead agency for the Center, which opened for 11 nights in November and December of 2009. Seven faith communities in Eugene and Springfield opened their doors to 442 people, providing them with a warm place to sleep, a hot meal, and good company. More than half (232) of the people served at the shelter slept in a vehicle or on the street the night before they came to the Egan Warming Center.

The project was made possible by over 150 volunteers who gave countless hours to set up and tear down the temporary shelters, serve food, and help guests at the shelter. SVdP is grateful for these volunteers and all the members of the Coalition, who truly made this community effort possible.

These churches hosted our homeless neighbors during their time of critical need: Ebbert Memorial United Methodist Church, First Christian Church of Eugene, First Church of the Nazarene, Grace Community Fellowship, Temple Beth Israel, and Valley Covenant Church. Thank you!

The Lane County Human Services Commission provided $30,000 for this project. Additional donations came from Bergeson-Boese & Associates, United Way of Lane County, Veterans Reintegration Service, ALSOCO, Trillium Community Health, and individual donors. For more information about the Egan Warming Center please visit www.eganwarmingcenter.org.

Elisa Baskin volunteered at the Egan Warming Center. She had just acquired a travel trailer, but with no heat or water, she came to the Center to stay and help out.

Dinner Theatre 2009 raised over $100,000 for homeless families with children!

Thank You to our Title Sponsors!

Thank You to our Media Sponsor!

and thank you to...
St. Vincent de Paul is proud to partner with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to replicate our Social Mission Business Development Model in other parts of the country. Thanks to a two-year, $584,161 grant, St. Vincent de Paul will partner with nonprofits in at least two communities around the United States to set up mattress recycling operations.

St. Vincent de Paul’s mattress recycling program is the largest such program in North America, recycling over 150,000 mattresses per year. A successful mattress recycling program can help other nonprofits generate sustainable sources of revenue, create jobs, and responsibly reuse/recycle resources.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation focuses on the pressing health and health care issues facing our country. As the nation’s largest philanthropy devoted exclusively to improving the health and health care of all Americans, the Foundation works with a diverse group of organizations and individuals to identify solutions and achieve comprehensive, meaningful and timely change.

For more than 35 years, the Foundation has brought experience, commitment and a rigorous, balanced approach to the problems that affect the health and health care of those it serves. When it comes to helping Americans lead healthier lives and get the care they need, the Foundation expects to make a difference in your lifetime. For more information, visit www.rwjf.org.

Recycling in 2009

In 2009, St. Vincent de Paul diverted the following from the Lane County landfill:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Weight (lbs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scrap Metal</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textiles</td>
<td>2,900,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Books &amp; Magazines</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wood Waste</td>
<td>360,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Glass</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Composite plastic &amp; upholstery foam</td>
<td>206,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belts / Purses</td>
<td>180,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronics/Computers</td>
<td>144,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total weight diverted in Lane County: 10,010,000 POUNDS!

SVdP’s DR³ recycling facility in California recycled 107,000 mattresses, diverting from regional landfills: 5,350,000 POUNDS!

Total Amount St. Vincent de Paul diverted in 2009: 15,360,000 lbs. from landfills!
In October 2009, St. Vincent de Paul began our newest business venture: recycling expanded polystyrene (EPS), commonly known by the brand name Styrofoam. For many years NextStep recycling was Lane County’s only Styrofoam recycler, but they discontinued their program in July 2009. SVDP was excited to step in and help fill the void.

Thanks to a $20,000 grant from Lane County, St. Vincent de Paul purchased a machine that shreds the EPS and condenses it into blocks. The blocks will be shipped to a recycler and converted to building materials or biofuel. By April, St. Vinnie’s had collected over 17,000 cubic feet of Styrofoam.

“Lane County was happy to partner with St. Vincent de Paul on this project,” said Sarah Grimm, Waste Reduction Specialist with Lane County Waste Management. “The community made it clear to us that they still wanted an opportunity to recycle Styrofoam after the old program ended. We’re glad it’s happening at an agency that provides so many great social services along with their resource conservation programs.”

Recyclable Styrofoam can be dropped off at SVdP’s locations at 201 Division Avenue in Eugene, 705 Seneca Road in Eugene, or 4555 Main in Springfield. Only white block Styrofoam (look for recycling symbol #6) and peanuts are accepted. Please bag them separately. Businesses should call (541) 743-7167 for more information about our program.

Thank You to our Generous Grantors!

To Support VIDA
One Economy Corporation, $6,500
Woodard Family Foundation, $4,000
Sterling Savings Bank, $1,000
Florence Kiwanis Foundation, $750

To Support Resident Services
Trust Management Services, $8,000
KeyBank, $3,000

To Support First Place
FOOD for Lane County, $2,000

The Golf for Kids 2009 Tournament raised over $23,700 to support children living in SVdP’s affordable housing

Thank You to our Sponsors!

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Want to Golf and Help Kids?
Join SVdP’s 11th Annual Golf for Kids Tournament!
Friday, September 10 at Springfield Country Club
Call Tamara at (541) 743-7144 or email tandreas@svdp.us for info
Did you know?

Your purchases and donations help St. Vincent de Paul to:

- Keep a family in their home
- Provide affordable housing
- Give employment training
- Keep the lights on
- Give emergency prescription medicine
- Feed the hungry

Shop at St. Vinnie’s!

- Have some fun.
- Save some money.
- Do something nice for your neighbors.

Visit www.svdp.us for store locations & hours.