GIRLS YOUTH HOUSE: A PLACE TO CALL HOME

ESTABLISHING A NEW TRAJECTORY FOR HOMELESS TEENS

In 2018, SVdP partners and supporters launched the Girls Youth House initiative to positively impact the lives of homeless teen girls in the Eugene community. Their generous contributions helped create a program that interrupts the potentially devastating trajectory that homeless youth face. The intervention reduces the likelihood of chronic homelessness, school drop-out, and a life of crime.

Since opening, 20 teens have lived in the Youth House. Four residents exited the program into stable housing, including three who graduated from high school in 2019. Two girls are now enrolled in college programs and are recipients of a generous Rotary grant that provides rent subsidies during their first year of college.

The first year of operations presented many opportunities for SVdP to refine and improve the program. To deliver the best possible outcomes, we adjusted partnerships and evolved our program objectives.

Our Youth House Model Works and Needs Continued Support: The Youth House program has a $400,000 annual operating budget. While initial partnerships provided for 50% of first year expenses, the program now relies on funding from private donations and grants for 95% of operating costs. Unfortunately, there is still no established federal, state, or city funding stream to support homeless teens who are not enrolled in the foster care system.

Please Help Sustain this Program: Corporate sponsor Banner Bank and an anonymous donor have generously initiated a Girls Youth House giving challenge. Every dollar donated through September 30 will be matched 1:1 up to $20,000.

Support this program today and DOUBLE YOUR IMPACT!
To make a donation, contact Eileen Sigler, Chief Development Officer, at 541-780-5137.

Youth House Graduate Thrives

Kelly Flanagan came to the Girls Youth House in May 2018, at age 17. She was parentless and homeless for two years following her father’s passing and a dysfunctional home-life with mom, who eventually moved to Bend. As a cheerleader at Willamette High School, Kelly maintained a solid GPA despite frequent couch-surfing in sometimes unsafe homes. With help from the Bethel School District, Kelly became the first Youth House resident.

Committed to finding stability, Kelly got a part-time job at KFC and graduated last June. She also recently left the Youth House to move into her own apartment. Thanks to a scholarship from Southtowne Rotary, half her rent is covered for a year. Kelly is excited to attend Lane Community College full-time in the fall.

“...A lot of people don’t know a lot about it - what it’s like to be homeless...To be an unaccompanied minor and not be able to focus on school or do an extra-curricular because you’re always worried about where you’re going to sleep at night or how are you gonna get to school or what you’re going to wear.”

Kelly Flanagan in her new apartment
Dear Friends,

As an avid gardener, I know that summer is a time for growth. St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County (SVdP) has seen many successes and changes this season, and I’m confident they will help our community flourish.

Staff Update
A source of pride is SVdP’s ability to be agile and adaptive. Earlier this year, our Chief of Staff, Pete Kerns, chose to continue his family’s legacy at Serenity Lane as their new CEO—we wish him well. With his departure, I appointed a new leadership structure.

We welcome back Ashley Raman, who stepped into the position of General Stores Manager and has already demonstrated tremendous success. This position was formerly held by Leisha Wallace, our new Personnel and General Facilities Director. Curtis Bowser, who long worked with SVdP’s stores and warehouse leadership team, is SVdP’s new Efficiency Manager for Oregon and California operations. Bethany Cartledge recently assumed the role as SVdP Economic Development Director following the retirement of Susan Palmer. I’m also pleased to welcome Mary Dawn Elkington as my new Executive Assistant.

In our social services operations, Roxann O’Brien took on an expanded role as Director of Emergency and Social Services programs agency-wide. Mike Yoshioka joined Roxann’s team as the new Director of SVdP Youth and Family Services following the departure of Eileen Chanti.

Affordable Housing
Our portfolio of affordable housing continues to grow. On July 20, we celebrated the completion of the Oak Leaf Mobile Home Park rehabilitation in NE Portland. New and existing tenants will move into 21 brand-new manufactured homes. Through a partnership with First Congregational Church of Christ in Eugene, SVdP also broke ground on two homes for use by our Connections Transitional Housing program. This collaboration will help establish a model for future projects that help increase the local stock of affordable housing. Finally, SVdP will break ground on 53 units at our new River Road Affordable Housing project next spring.

Backpacks for Back-to-School
To expand this year’s SVdP Back-To-School drive, we partnered with local and outlying school districts to distribute more than 2,200 backpacks, lunch boxes, and thermoses that came to us through a generous partnership with Pottery Barn.

I’m grateful for this new crop of leadership, and I trust this powerful and dedicated team will thrive. I’m especially thankful for the generous support of our entire workforce and community supporters, whose efforts and generosity will help prepare St. Vincent de Paul for a prosperous Fall and Winter.

With Gratitude,

Terry McDonald
Executive Director
Meet the Paulo family: Michael, Reanna, Lui (4), and Logan (2). They arrived in Eugene early in 2019, determined to reverse a long decline toward substance abuse and homelessness. After Reanna completed a residential program at Willamette Family Treatment Center, she and Michael used resources offered at First Place Family Center including restrooms with showers, a full-service kitchen, laundry room, and computer lab. They also stayed at the Emergency Night Shelter, and the kids attended the First Place Kids preschool, a program tailored to kids who experience homelessness in their early years.

The Paulos’ determination and First Place’s help quickly yielded transformation. Michael now works for a local steel fabricator; Reanna as a caregiver. With financial assistance from First Place, they were able to pay the deposit for an apartment near the fairgrounds. The boys still attend First Place Kids over the summer, and Lui is getting special help for a previously undiagnosed hearing impairment.

Michael and Reanna describe recent years as a decade of “trials and errors.” The memories only strengthen their resolve to move forward. While proud of their progress, they are mindful of the help received along the way. Said Reanna, “Without First Place, we couldn’t have done what we did.”

First Place Family Center: An Agent for Transformation

Where but in Lane County can there be TWO paella fundraisers on the same day and enough volunteer paella chefs to cook for both? On behalf of the event’s beneficiaries—families that visit First Place Family Center, the Night Shelter, and the First Place Kids Early Childhood Program, we thank the paella artisans for their expertise, generosity, and hospitality. Nearly 200 guests showed up at Hayworth Estate Wines to tip a glass or two and sample some of the best paella outside of Spain.

Many thanks to our presenting sponsor Murphy Company, Hayworth Estate Wines, Lo Nuestro, Jantina Clifford & Seho Chon (coordinators), and paella artisans:

- Seho Chon
- Tony Corcoran
- Paula Ciesielski
- Anuncia Escala
- Richie Weinman
- Justin Gonzales
- Mee Wai Lam
- Annalisa Morton
- Marsha Taylor
- Kiki Tong
- Jazz Khalsa
- Drew Sizemore
- Laural O'Rourke
- Mike Kinnison
- George Grier
- Cindy Grier
SVdP Community Tours

Have you ever wondered how styrofoam is recycled? Curious about what SVdP does with all the donated clothing? And, what services do people receive at the Eugene Service Station?

Each month, SVdP invites the community to take a behind-the-scenes look at our local operations.

**Recycling Tours:** Learn how SVdP recycles styrofoam, mattresses, books, clothing, and more.

**Social Services Tours:** Stops may include the Eugene Service Station, First Place Family Center, First Place Annex, and Affordable Housing sites.

To register for a tour, please call 541-600-8446 or email jessie.johnnes@svdp.us.

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A Day of Thanks for Valued SVdP Volunteers

More than 150 volunteers and their guests joined us to celebrate a year’s worth of dedicated time to SVdP. The party, held July 21 at Alton Baker Park, featured delicious meals from local food trucks, refreshing beverages, ice cream, and door prizes.

Special thanks to wine and beer sponsors:

SVdP also thanks the generous vendors that helped make the day a success:

- DW Smokehouse
- Every Day Kine Grindz from Hawaii
- Cornerstone Tailgates
- Coconut Bliss
- Threadbare Printhouse

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Leave a Legacy of Hope for the Unhoused

With a planned gift to St. Vincent de Paul, you can pair your desire to support a charity with your overall financial, tax, and estate planning goals. Planned giving offers you a special connection with SVdP. For now and years to come, you will positively impact social and environmental responsibility, and support members of our community who experience housing insecurity.

Many of SVdP’s supporters take advantage of special gift arrangements that also often provide significant financial benefits such as increased income, lower income tax, bypass of capital gains, elimination of potential estate taxes, and others.

Upon passing, donors with estate plans in place ensure the sustainability that St. Vincent de Paul needs to continue to provide high-quality and much-needed services to the community.

To learn more about options for creating a legacy through estate planning, please contact **Eileen Sigler, Chief Development Officer at 541.780.5137.**
BACKPACKS FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL
Help a Child Start or Return to School Feeling Confident and Equipped

Many children living in poverty start school without the necessary supplies. In partnership with Oregon Community Credit Union, SVdP collects backpacks, lunch boxes, school supplies, and funds to help prepare our local youth for success in school.

Please visit any local St. Vinnie’s, Oregon Community Credit Union, Bi-Mart, Fred Meyer, or Berkshire Hathaway location to make a donation.

Monetary donations accepted at OCCU or by mail to:
SVdP School Supplies
PO Box 24608
Eugene, OR 97402

If you need supplies, visit www.svdp.us

3,025 children served in 2018!
Our Development Team Puts the “PART” in Party!

The St. Vincent de Paul development team helps ensure the agency has ample financial resources and community support to effectively serve our neighbors in need. With the addition of three new staff, our team is ready to:

**PLAN, ASK, RECRUIT, and THANK YOU!**

The trio below brings a love of community, experiences abroad, first-rate skills, and a “get-it-done” approach to the business of helping others. Whether you are a donor, attend one of our fundraising events, or give your time as a volunteer, you’ll likely meet at least one of these vibrant staff members!

Are you ready to “PARTY” with SVdP? Start by contacting:

**Katie Lively, Volunteer Coordinator**
SVdP is powered by volunteers, and Katie is the wrangler. She is a native Oregonian with a bachelor’s degree in anthropology, and is pursuing a Master of Nonprofit Management. Katie spends her time recruiting volunteers, fostering kittens, and performing foot tricks. Please contact her at katie.lively@svdp.us.

**Sarah Firth, Community Engagement Coordinator**
As an event-planner and social media extraordinaire, Sarah delivers amazing results for SVdP events and community drives! She has a bachelor’s in International Studies and Romance Languages from the UO, and joined SVdP after working for years in South America. To get involved, please contact her at sarah.firth@svdp.us.

**Jessie Johnnes, Annual Fund Coordinator**
Whether you’re a current or past donor, Jessie works diligently to enhance your experience and bring added value to your charitable giving. She brings expertise as a fundraiser for public broadcasting and is recently back from an extended stay in Thailand. Please contact her at jessie.johnnes@svdp.us.
HOLISTIC SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES IN NEED

SVdP’s Resident Services team works with tenants in a way that is nonjudgmental, non-intrusive, confidential, and that promotes resident empowerment. Our holistic, Wraparound approach includes:

- **Resources and Referrals** to help tenants navigate community resources, eliminate barriers to accessing services, and follow lease agreements to stay in housing.

- **Food, Clothing, and Household Assistance** to address essential basic needs. This helps tenants stretch their funds and increase financial stability without compromising basic quality of life.

- **Community Activities** to prevent social isolation and promote strong, healthy, and connected neighborhoods.

Free Youth Programs encourage positive social development, offer education, and provide respite for parents. We engage nearly 100 children annually.

Please Support the Resident Services Program Through this Tournament

**Sponsor 🏌️ Play 🏌️ Donate**

Info at www.svdp.us or 541.743.7119
Look Inside!

3,025 children were served in 2018 by SVdP’s Backpacks for Back to School program.

Empower A Child. Donate.

A Moment in Time Gala

Save The Date

November 22, 2019

Wheeler Pavilion
Eugene, OR

Providing an umbrella of support for our neighbors in need

For tickets or sponsorship opportunities, contact gala@svdp.us