



St. Vinnie's Voice

News of St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Oregon

Winter 2022

Stability, affordability, community in bloom

SVdP's Iris Place unfurls as beautifully beneficial low-income housing on River Road.

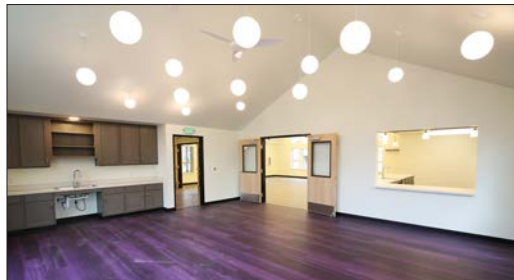
We at SVdP believe *everyone* deserves a safe, stable, affordable place to call home. We have developed more than 1,600 quality rental housing units for low-income families in Lane, Linn and Marion counties. Now, add to that 53 one-, two- and three-bedroom apartments at Iris Place, our newest affordable-housing property.

The thoughtfully and sustainably designed River Road complex boosts Eugene's short supply of affordable, fixed-rent housing.

"We're happy for this project to wrap up after more than a year of construction, but more importantly, we're excited for the new opportunities created by Iris Place for many of our low-income neighbors," said SVdP Executive Director Terry McDonald.

What's more, the Iris Place project represents a forward-looking, community-engaged approach to low-income housing development.

"The project was thoroughly vetted and included the support of the neighborhood association throughout," McDonald said. "It's a model that respects the neighbors, the neighborhood, and the process for rewarding this type of site for responsible development."



Clockwise from top: Aerial view; an apartment kitchen; community building interior.

On her first visit to Iris Place, Mayor Lucy Vinis said "I am both delighted to see it because it's just beautiful, but I'm also inspired by this project because it incorporates so many of the elements that we consider priorities. It meets everything that we want it to meet in the City of Eugene."

Julie Hulme, of the River Road Neighborhood Engagement Team, said a spirit of "mutual respect, creativity and collaboration" with SVdP led to a result compatible with the interests of neighbors. "It has just been truly a wonderful project — one that I hope will be replicated throughout the city."



"I'm still amazed by the price. Oh my gosh, that feels good, to know I don't have to worry about that!" —Sarah



"I've been so blessed, you have no idea. I'm so very thankful for everything St. Vinnie's has done for me." —Amy



"I have my own place to lay my head every night and bring my baby home. St. Vinnie's is a lifesaver." —Jennifer

Iris Place is changing lives! Read these tenants' stories and watch a video about the project at www.svdps.org

Letter from Leadership

Dear Friends,

Thirty-eight years ago, when I took on the leadership of St. Vincent de Paul, one of the problems I saw in the community was the timber recession. Many, many people were struggling and there just were not enough resources to go around. I swore then that the next time our community faced such extreme need, we — St. Vincent de Paul — would be prepared to contribute in a much more robust manner and actually **save people's lives**. All these years later, we are doing just that.

At this moment, it's winter and we are trying to get as many unhoused individuals off the street as we can. SVdP continues to partner with the City of Eugene and Lane County to find new ways to address the local homelessness crisis with additional capacity. Between the various programs that we now run, every night we provide one form of shelter or another for about a thousand people. *Every single night!*

But temporary shelter is not enough. Ultimately, we must develop places for folks to live long-term. SVdP is striving to get **permanent, affordable housing** built at a much faster pace than in the past. We are excited about current legislation that will facilitate rapid development of new modular housing units.

Opportunities are evolving quickly for us, and the Oregon State Legislature's current session (convened Feb. 1) will also see the reintroduction of a mattress-recycling bill sponsored by Senator James Manning of Eugene. If it passes, we will be able to start diverting mattresses from Oregon landfills. This will have an **immediate positive impact** on the environment *and* on our extensive recycling and wasted-based businesses, which provide meaningful employment and revenue for a wide range of social services.

My 38-year journey with SVdP has proved to me that **we can make a difference**. If each of us puts our oar in the water and rows, we will carry our neighbors in need — and our entire community — into a better future. Thank you for joining us as we continue this exciting journey in 2022!

Sincerely,

Terry McDonald, Executive Director




The Many Ways to Support SVdP



Shop, Donate & Recycle

Every donation and purchase at our retail thrift stores funds our life-stabilizing programs.



Scan here for a complete list of donation locations.

Follow & Tell a Friend



@ShopStVinnies
@SVdPLaneCounty

Learn more at www.SVdP.us

Become a Financial Donor

Use included envelope to mail a check or card info to P.O. Box 24608, Eugene, OR 97402.

Or scan here to donate online & support SVdP financially.



Volunteer

We'd love to have your support as an individual or group! To get started, please fill out the online application.

Buy or Donate a Vehicle

1195 Hwy. 99N, Eugene, OR 97402 / 541-607-4541



Grow a Legacy

Please consider adding SVdP Society of Lane County to your will or as a beneficiary to your estate or life insurance.

Egan Warming Center activations save lives, thanks to volunteers

During five activations in the snowy, icy week after Christmas, several Egan Warming Center locations in Eugene and Springfield — operated by St. Vincent de Paul — provided 842 beds and 1,696 meals to keep unhoused individuals safe from dangerously cold temperatures.

Then, during two more potentially lifesaving activations Jan. 26-27, the warming centers provided 355 more beds and 710 meals.

Many people made this possible, but a special thank-you goes out to community members who stepped up to do the hard work of operating these emergency shelters. During the series of activations after Christmas, for example, volunteers worked 645 shifts totaling more than 2,300 hours.



Egan season continues until March 31, and an ongoing need exists for trained volunteers to cover future activations. All it takes to become a volunteer is a 90-minute Zoom call and background check.

Visit eganwarmingcenter.com for details about volunteer trainings, and a donation link. If you're not able to volunteer, please consider donating to help sustain this life-saving service. *Questions? Email info@eganwarmingcenter.com.*

Mayor honors SVdP with service award

Congratulations to SVdP's Homeless & Emergency Services teams! During her Jan. 5 State of the City Address, Eugene Mayor Lucy Vinis honored them with a 2021 Community Service Award in recognition of SVdP's ongoing work around homelessness and filling gaps in services for the local unhoused community.

We couldn't be more proud of our SVdP colleagues for their dedication and the compassion they continually show for our most vulnerable neighbors.

The mayor's address is viewable online at <https://bit.ly/3lIT9Vw>. Links on the page allow skipping ahead to the award presentation, accepted on SVdP's behalf by Director of Homeless & Emergency Services Roxann O'Brien.

SVDP WORD FIND

The names and acronyms below all refer to housing, emergency shelter and homelessness services offered by SVdP. Find the words vertically, horizontally and diagonally at right.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING
ANNEX NIGHT SHELTER
ATKINSON FOOD ROOM
CONNECTIONS
DAWN TO DAWN
EGAN WARMING CENTER
EUGENE SERVICE STATION
FIRST PLACE FAMILY CENTER
FIRST PLACE KIDS
LIFT
MOBILE HOMES
PALLET SHELTERS
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
RESIDENT SERVICES
SAFE PARKING
SAFE SLEEP
SECOND CHANCE
SSVF
THE HUB
THE YOUTH HOUSE
VETERAN HOUSING
VETLIFT

P	L	J	J	A	Y	E	F	I	L	I	K	R	Z	S	A	F	E	S	L	E	E	P	C
L	S	M	U	J	V	I	G	I	L	O	T	O	K	T	X	T	H	E	H	U	B	P	N
W	J	A	K	Z	B	R	T	A	R	P	T	T	W	M	R	H	C	I	P	G	P	M	L
L	W	A	F	K	D	Z	Z	Z	N	S	A	U	M	M	I	I	U	S	C	E	R	Z	O
K	P	N	F	E	K	F	C	M	L	W	T	Z	T	Q	A	W	V	L	M	N	O	G	M
R	V	N	G	F	P	Q	V	S	Y	B	A	P	R	L	D	M	H	U	O	E	P	L	T
L	L	E	W	L	O	A	I	V	D	O	J	R	L	Z	L	Z	N	A	O	S	E	R	H
I	P	X	T	C	C	R	R	E	F	E	J	U	M	A	O	X	J	S	L	E	R	E	E
U	A	N	F	L	J	K	D	K	X	F	M	T	T	I	C	G	E	R	V	R	T	S	Y
X	L	I	W	P	I	T	A	A	I	L	U	K	M	U	N	E	D	R	L	V	Y	I	O
X	L	G	H	J	N	F	Q	U	B	N	I	J	H	L	G	G	K	L	F	I	M	D	U
S	E	H	Y	D	U	L	T	M	Q	L	G	F	E	O	B	W	C	I	M	C	A	E	T
L	T	T	P	Z	A	Q	C	O	N	N	E	C	T	I	O	N	S	E	D	E	N	N	H
D	S	S	P	G	M	W	Y	S	S	V	F	H	W	K	V	T	A	X	N	S	A	T	H
T	H	H	A	T	K	I	N	S	O	N	F	O	O	D	R	O	O	M	G	T	G	S	O
R	E	E	W	X	S	Y	Y	T	C	W	Z	P	P	U	Q	V	K	K	I	A	E	E	U
I	L	L	N	C	K	W	H	X	O	E	K	D	R	Z	S	T	J	R	B	T	M	R	S
K	T	T	N	M	D	I	V	I	E	D	R	W	P	Q	D	I	U	N	E	I	E	V	E
X	E	E	N	J	Y	E	B	X	Z	Q	A	C	C	S	H	S	N	V	Z	O	N	I	A
I	R	R	P	O	C	M	G	H	S	Z	L	W	A	O	H	K	E	G	D	N	T	C	N
A	S	E	C	O	N	D	C	H	A	N	C	E	N	V	J	H	B	A	G	Z	U	E	V
R	P	T	B	V	P	R	U	M	O	B	I	L	E	H	O	M	E	S	C	Z	H	S	W
V	T	F	I	R	S	T	P	L	A	C	E	F	A	M	I	L	Y	C	E	N	T	E	R
J	A	V	E	T	E	R	A	N	H	O	U	S	I	N	G	R	X	X	Z	Y	G	D	K

Stumped? Answers: <https://bit.ly/3HgW8E5>

2021

Year of Impact

SVdP Services Make a Difference!



1,206

Adults warmed
by emergency
shelter

93

Families safe in
night shelter

194

Veterans
enrolled in SSVF

123

Now in stable
housing

113

Households
served through
First Place Kids

1,000+

Households
with children
served at
First Place
Family Center

SVdP-born Cascade Alliance grows network of sustainable nonprofits

Cascade Alliance continues to develop strong partnerships with nonprofits across the United States and now mentors 18 members through its founding organization, St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County (SVdP).

Cascade Alliance developed thanks to initial funding from Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF), with the goal of creating jobs and generating revenue in nonprofits interested in social enterprise and waste-based businesses. As a result of Executive Director Terry McDonald's strong advocacy for this model of revenue generation, SVdP was invited to apply for a grant through RWJF.

Already well established on the West Coast, SVdP began by recruiting potential East Coast partners. Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises (GBCE) in Bridgeport, Conn., joined as a partner to learn how to generate revenue through mattress recycling. In 2013, the state contracted with the nonprofit to recycle mattresses under a Connecticut stewardship law.

"Launching a new venture in the nonprofit context is daunting; doing it within Cascade Alliance gives us comfort and courage from knowing there is a compass for traveling these uncharted waters," said Adrienne Houel, GBCE's director.



A worker deconstructs a mattress at Greater Bridgeport Community Enterprises, a Cascade Alliance member.



In 2021, GBCE recycled 68,186 mattresses — diverting 2.2 million pounds of waste from landfills.

Through Cascade Alliance, SVdP continues to partner with nonprofits engaged in mattress recycling, retail thrift and book sales. The objective is to prioritize sustainable job creation, financial stability and environmental justice in the nonprofit sector.

Representing the knowledge and experience SVdP has gained over 50 years in retail and 30 years in recycling, Cascade Alliance is an invaluable mentorship resource — McDonald calls it "the go-to place for nonprofits that want to create waste-based business and do social enterprise for a variety of tasks that help fulfill their missions."

Cascade Alliance currently includes nonprofit members in 15 states all across the country, from Washington to Florida. And as more states adopt mattress-recycling and other stewardship laws, more nonprofits will likely seek out sustainable funding through waste-based enterprises.

Learn more at cascadealliance.us.

Know where to stop, shop & donate!

St. Vinnie's operates 12 retail stores in Eugene-Springfield, across Lane County, and in several markets north of Lane County. See this list for addresses, hours and phone numbers of all our locations. Note that most stores also have a drive-up donation lane open during business hours, with a few exceptions as noted.

Eugene-Springfield, Lane County:

201 Division Ave., Eugene
Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. every day
Phone: 541-762-7837

705 S. Seneca Road, Eugene
Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. every day
Phone: 541-345-8036

2890 Chad Drive, Eugene
Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. every day
Phone: 541-743-7117

2167 W. 11th Ave., Eugene
Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. every day; not currently accepting donations.
Phone: 541-284-5024

4555 Main St., Springfield
Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. every day
Phone: 541-747-5811

199 Q St., Springfield
Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. every day
Phone: 541-746-7784

333 Ivy St./Hwy. 99, Junction City
Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. every day
Phone: 541-234-2672

2315 Hwy. 101, Florence
Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. every day
Phone: 541-997-8460

47663 Hwy. 58, Oakridge
Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. every day; not currently accepting donations.
Phone: 541-928-1559

Outside Lane County:

2220 Pacific Blvd., Albany
Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. every day
Phone: 541-928-1559

445 Lancaster Drive NE, Salem
Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. every day
Phone: 503-400-7550

505 W. 9th, The Dalles
Hours: 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Tue-Sat; donations accepted Fri., Sat. OR until trailer is full.
Phone: 541-370-1231

Thank you, SVdP grant funders!

Along with donations and revenue from retail/recycling operations, grant funding is essential to the ongoing delivery of SVdP services aimed at alleviating poverty and homelessness. We thank and applaud these organizations for their recent funding of the SVdP programs and service areas listed:

Oregon Dept. of Veteran Affairs:
Veterans Housing Project

Chambers Family Foundation:
Youth & Family Services

Oregon Dept. of Human Services:
Youth & Family Services

Oregon Health Authority:
Youth & Family Services

Juan Young Trust:
First Place Family Center

Key Bank Foundation:
First Place Family Center



THRIFTY THRILL: WE SUPPLY IT.

You might know us affectionately as St. Vinnie's, that store full of nifty, thrifty things. It's true — we'll thrill your inner shopper, whether you're on the hunt for affordable clothing and furnishings for your household, or books, records and other treasures. But we're more than a thrift store! Every purchase supports St. Vincent de Paul's vital human-services programs. So when you shop St. Vinnie's, you'll have some fun, save some money, and do something nice for your neighbors. **541-687-5820 • svdp.us**



Meet an Employee: Virgil Jackson, helping others thrive



Virgil Jackson

Who: Program manager of Second Chance Renters' Education; senior case manager/housing navigator for Dawn to Dawn's S.T.A.R.R. Housing Team; City of Eugene equity panelist; DEI Steering Committee member; SVdP Safety Committee member. Virgil is based at SVdP's Lindholm Social Service Office.

Virgil Jackson is a valued member of the SVdP family, which he joined more than five years ago as a volunteer for the Supported Work Experience (SWEX) program.

At that time, he had just taken the impactful steps that would lead him out of homelessness — namely, enrolling in Second Chance Renter's Education classes. In January 2018, Virgil was hired as a case manager. And the rest, as they say, is history!

Virgil now serves as the program manager for Second Chance, which consists of a series of eight tenant-education classes designed to build skills, boost confidence and empower participants to overcome barriers to stable housing.

"There's a misconception that you take the class and I place you

somewhere," Virgil says about Second Chance. "I teach others to help themselves and to thrive.

"I have lived experience with homelessness and went through the Second Chance program. I want to share with others that you can come out on the other side of it."

Virgil says his goals for the program in 2022 include publishing a Second Chance renter's workbook and adding a morning class session that will make it possible to increase enrollment to 100 participants every eight weeks.

Beyond his primary duties, Virgil serves SVdP and the greater good in many other meaningful ways — including his active work with SVdP's company-wide diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) initiatives.

Thank you for all you do, Virgil!

WE'RE HIRING!

FLEET DRIVERS



DONATIONS



ONLINE BOOKS



CLOTHING PRODUCTION



RETAIL



WAREHOUSE PRODUCTION



For more information, visit www.svdP.us/about-us/job-opportunities/

SVdP, In Others' Words

“In a world too often characterized by greed and inequity, St. Vincent de Paul represents equity and the antithesis of greed. Research on effectiveness of St. Vinnie's programs, from Dawn to Dawn to The Annex, will turn up good news about good projects.

Director Terry McDonald and his bevy of benevolent assistants are brilliant thinkers, planners, and entrepreneurs. They do the hard and gritty work that I can't do or don't do. I'm not proud of shrinking from the tough stuff, willing to let someone else do it. I'm grateful St. Vinnie's saints are there, sympathetic to the marginalized, day after day, working programs that set people on their way toward self-sufficiency.

Be assured that St. Vinnie's will use your donations with efficiency and efficacy and great love.”

—Brenda, SVdP donor and advocate

“Homelessness is an issue that cries out for a compassionate response, and SVdP is one of the go-to organizations for all kinds of homeless services. As an Egan Warming Center volunteer, I'm able to provide moral support and hospitality to the guests at our sites. They are grateful and thankful, and it feeds my soul.”

—Trena, Egan Warming Center and First Place Kids volunteer

“Coming here [to SVdP's Youth House], they sort of push you to be independent and do things on your own, but they'll help you. It teaches you that you can do things on your own and you can be successful.

If I wasn't able to come here, I probably would have dropped out of high school ... I'd probably be couch surfing or living on the streets, something like that. I really don't know.”

—Kelly, SVdP Youth House graduate

“When my days have begun to turn from bright warming sunlight and into a looming darkness without any hope of warmth ... If I reach out for a pair of hands to help pull me out of the darkness, I have found those hands will come from out of the doors of St. Vincent de Paul.”

—Part of a poem by an SVdP veterans' services client



row an enduring legacy.

To include St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County in your estate plan is to leave a lasting, loving impression on your community's future.

Please call 541-600-8454.



Join the Sustainer's Circle

As a Monthly Donor, You WILL Help Your Neighbors in Need! For Example:

\$20 supplies clothes, food, showers for 1 unhoused neighbor.

\$50 provides food, clothes & showers for a struggling family.

\$100 supports a veteran with job training & housing stability.

\$500 shelters one unaccompanied teen at our Youth House.

Sign up: svdp.us / 541-600-8454 / fundraise@svdp.us



Our 2021 Holiday Joy sponsors brought smiles to 1,491 people (741 of them kids)!

Spin New Good From Old Wheels!



Donated vehicles, *running or not*, support SVdP's community services. Learn more: 541-607-4541



St. Vincent de Paul

Society of Lane County, Inc.

P.O. Box 24608

Eugene, OR 97402

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Eugene, OR
Permit No. 487