



# St. Vinnie's Voice

Summer 2022 News from the St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Inc. [www.svdP.us](http://www.svdP.us)

## Veteran families stabilize thanks to help of SSVF

Something truly disastrous must happen before some veterans will seek help like what's available from Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF).

Take Trudy "Jess" Boykin. Now a firefighter, this U.S. Army veteran served from 2007 to 2009 in Iraq, where she suffered physical injuries — including shrapnel to her leg from an improvised explosive device — and PTSD related to her high-stress convoy security duty.

In other words, she's not one to shrink in the face of much, or seek help without some overwhelming need. That's exactly what arrived Labor Day weekend of 2020, when the Holiday Farm Fire devoured the rented manufactured home in Blue River where she lived with daughter Ellie, now 12. The blaze consumed all of their belongings, and Boykin believes that the flaming trauma felt up and down the McKenzie Valley led to her father's fatal heart attack not long afterward. "I felt like the fire took everything from us," she says.

The two lived in a FEMA-funded motel room and then in a camp trailer before securing replacement



**Veteran Jess Boykin and daughter Ellie, above, lost their Blue River home to wildfire. SSVF helped them secure new housing.**



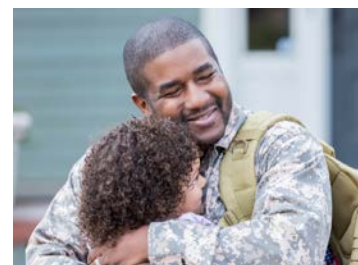
rental housing with SSVF's help more than a year after the fire.

"I knew I couldn't afford to replace a home, while replacing everything in it, without help," Boykin says. After enrolling in SSVF in late 2021, she secured a two-year fixed rental subsidy from the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs (VA), along with security-deposit aid to get into a replacement rental in Blue River.

SSVF is one of SVdP's supportive housing programs aimed at preventing homelessness, and specifically supports low-income

veterans and their families. SSVF offers case-management and financial help to keep veterans in stable housing, sponsored by a VA grant and aided by donations to help families with minor expenses.

Boykin says she didn't know about SSVF until she needed help, but now admits, "they're a lifesaver!"



### Read More Online

- SVdP's Veteran Services program page: [bit.ly/svdP-veterans](http://bit.ly/svdP-veterans)
- Read more about how SSVF helped veteran Jess Boykin regain stable housing, in a story under "News & Events" at [svdP.us](http://svdP.us).



**DID YOU KNOW?** SVdP has developed more than 1,700 units of affordable housing since 1988!

## Letter from Leadership:

## Building opportunities for brighter futures

So many hopeful things are on the horizon, it's hard to know where to begin. But the building at 888 Garfield St. in Eugene is a tremendous starting place.

Daylight pours through high windows on every side of this former American Steel manufacturing plant dating to 1957. Its interior now also shines with a new promise: to help remedy a severe housing shortage for low-income Oregonians.



SVdP recently secured title to this long-underutilized jewel of industrial property in west Eugene. Work is underway to upgrade it into a modern factory that will produce mobile homes quickly and at lower cost for those in need of affordable housing, including many who lost homes to wildfire. Supported by funding from the State of Oregon and Oregon Community Foundation, this innovative enterprise will operate under a nonprofit structure that's unheard of in the industry. You'll learn

more soon about HOPE Community Corporation (the acronym stands for Housing Options Production Enterprise), a nonprofit entity to operate alongside SVdP. We project a start to manufacturing in 2023's second quarter, and a fall 2022 opening of a new St. Vinnie's "as-is" thrift store in front of the future HOPE factory.

We are excited about many other emerging developments, including eight units of transitional housing in south Eugene for families experiencing homelessness. Plans also are in motion to build 10 units of transitional housing for veterans in Santa Clara. And we recently opened The Phoenix House, a sober-living house for eight unhoused women coming out of treatment, at our 717 Hwy. 99N Hub Campus.

We remain committed to providing a social safety net of emergency shelter, food assistance, and services to help our community's most vulnerable. As these new initiatives show, we also seize every opportunity to build long-term stability through housing, job creation, economic diversity, and sustainable solutions — many realized through creative partnerships and donations from supporters like you.

We see hope on the horizon, and we hope you'll join us for the journey.

Terry McDonald  
Executive Director

Bethany Cartledge  
Deputy Director

## St. Vinnie's Voice

St. Vinnie's Voice is the quarterly newsletter of St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County, Inc. (SVdP).

2890 Chad Drive  
Eugene, OR 97408  
541-687-5820; [www.svdP.us](http://www.svdP.us)

**Terry McDonald**  
Executive Director  
[terry.mcdonald@svdp.us](mailto:terry.mcdonald@svdp.us)

**Bethany Cartledge**  
Deputy Director  
[bethany.cartledge@svdp.us](mailto:bethany.cartledge@svdp.us)

SVdP's Community Engagement office produces St. Vinnie's Voice.  
Contact editor Joel Gorthy:  
[joel.gorthy@svdp.us](mailto:joel.gorthy@svdp.us)

## ABOUT US

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County (SVdP) is Lane County's largest nonprofit human service organization. We serve those most vulnerable in our community, including individuals and families experiencing homelessness; at-risk youth; formerly incarcerated individuals; seniors; veterans; and community members living on low incomes. SVdP manages more than 1,600 units of affordable housing and two day access shelters for those experiencing homelessness, as well as emergency shelters; offers low-barrier employment; administers many programs that foster long-term stability; and operates a variety of innovative environmental stewardship and recycling-based initiatives.

## OUR MISSION

We assist the poor and those in need of consolation, seeking out and utilizing every resource. Being mindful of the sanctity and dignity of all, we know that any charitable work that advances those goals is within the mission of St. Vincent de Paul.

## SVdP BOARD of DIRECTORS

Louise "Molly" Westling, Acting Chair  
Ruben Garcia, Vice-Secretary  
J Edwin "Eddie" Roberts, Treasurer  
Paul Atkinson • Trudie Atkinson  
Laurence Hamblen • Marianne Nicols  
Jennene Norblad • Joseph Parkman  
Marjory Ramey • Justin Schmick  
John Webster • Myron Williamson

Get St. Vinnie's Voice by mail!  
Scan to sign up for SVdP mailing list:





# Women come home to sobriety at Phoenix House

**L**ike the mythical bird that inspired its name, The Phoenix House represents renewal and restoration. It's a place where unsheltered women, striving to sustain sobriety, can rise from the ashes of addiction to find peace and stability.

A sober-living house for women 18 and older who are completing addiction treatment and lacking permanent housing, The Phoenix House is a program of St. Vincent de Paul Society of Lane County located in a five-unit modular apartment at SVdP's Hub Campus, 717 Hwy. 99N. Directly across the driveway is The Hub, a clinic that provides basic medical, mental-health, and addiction recovery services for the unhoused.

"I really see a need for this for women, especially unsheltered women who are coming out of treatment," says Roxann O'Brien, SVdP's Director of Homeless & Emergency Services. "Because where do they go from there, other than the streets? ... It's all about getting back on track, moving forward on their sobriety, and getting into permanent housing."



From left to right above, Tawnee Best, house manager Jessica Hampton, and Judy Bullard are among the first residents of SVdP's new sober-living program for women, The Phoenix House.



The house's first eight residents, all referred by addiction treatment provider Willamette Family, Inc., moved in to their furnished and decorated suites starting May 1.

Willamette Family, which also partners with SVdP to operate The Hub, provides case management and housing navigation help, and a house manager employed by SVdP supports residents day-to-day.

The sober-living home "provides much-needed supported housing for women completing residential treatment," says Willamette Family's Executive Director, Eva Williams.

## Read More Online

- Phoenix House program page: [svdp.us/phoenix-house/](https://svdp.us/phoenix-house/)
- "Sober living the focus at SVdP's new Phoenix House": [bit.ly/thephoenixhouse](https://bit.ly/thephoenixhouse)
- Willamette Family, Inc. homepage: [wfts.org](https://wfts.org)

Assisting people in need since 1953

## 2021 Year of Impact

Love and respect for all people



**303,302**

Meals served



**119**

Families warmed by emergency shelter



**150**

Kids enrolled in First Place Kids



**3,867**

Residents in SVdP affordable housing



**718**

Families served at First Place Family Center



**2034**

Adults warmed by emergency shelter



**274**

Veterans served

**DID YOU KNOW?** SVdP supported quality jobs through \$25 million in 2021 wages, benefits & payroll taxes!

*St. Vinnie's Locations:*

## Know where to stop, shop, and donate!

St. Vinnie's operates 12 retail-thrift stores and one car lot in Oregon, covering Eugene-Springfield and the greater Lane County area — and extending north to Albany, Salem, and The Dalles. See addresses and phone numbers for all of our locations below.

Note that most stores are open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and have a drive-up donation lane, with a few exceptions. For all hours and donation details, scan the QR code at bottom.

### EUGENE:

201 Division Ave.; 541-762-7837  
705 S. Seneca Road; 541-345-8036  
2890 Chad Drive; 541-743-7117  
2167 W. 11th Ave.; 541-284-5024  
1175 Hwy. 99N (car lot); 541-607-4541

### SPRINGFIELD:

4555 Main St.; 541-747-5811  
199 Q St.; 541-746-7784

### JUNCTION CITY:

333 Ivy St. (Hwy. 99); 541-234-2672

### FLORENCE:

2315 Hwy. 101; 541-997-8460

### OAKRIDGE:

47663 Hwy. 58; 541-928-1559

### ALBANY:

2220 Pacific Blvd.; 541-928-1559

### SALEM:

445 Lancaster Drive NE; 503-400-7550

### THE DALLES:

505 W. 9th; 541-370-1231

Scan for  
all locations  
& hours!



**St. Vinnie's**

## St. Vinnie's Car Lot provides value for donors, workers, families in need

**Y**ou probably know that you can donate all kinds of surplus stuff to St. Vincent de Paul for resale and recycling, which generates revenue to support our human-services programs and supports a variety of warehouse, sorting, retail, and other jobs. Most of our dozen stores have drive-through lanes where you can drop off items seven days a week.

But did you realize that St. Vinnie's also accepts donations of used cars, trucks, motorcycles, and other vehicles, running or not? Your unwanted rig can also generate resale/recycling proceeds to help people in need, might earn you a tax deduction, and can provide



**In 2021, the median price for a vehicle sold at St. Vinnie's Car Lot was \$1,000.**

something desperately needed by your most vulnerable neighbors.

"Things are tough in America," says Dave Bartlett, manager of the St. Vinnie's Car Lot. "A lot of times when folks come in off the streets here — whether it's an individual, maybe a military veteran or a young couple with children — when they buy one of our vans, they're buying a place to live. So, if you think you've got a beater van that no one is going to want ... we want it!"

### St. Vinnie's Car Lot

1175 Hwy. 99N, Eugene; 541-607-4541  
Hours: 9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Mon.-Sat.



SCAN ME



*Scan this QR code to play a video about the St. Vinnie's Car Lot. Learn what a difference donations make!*

## Spin New Good From Old Wheels!



Donated car need a tow? **Call 541-607-4541**



# Mattress-recycling growth ahead

Oregon's mattress stewardship law, championed by Sen. James Manning of Eugene, will take effect Jan. 1, 2024. Mattresses alone take up about 1 percent of space in landfills across the country, so this is one of the state's most significant new recycling bills in 40 years.

Did you know that SVdP already recycles some 250 mattresses and box springs every day in Eugene? If not, it'll surprise you to learn that in 2000 SVdP founded the nation's first viable mattress-recycling business, DR3 Recycling, which processes 1,400 pieces daily at three California sites. In all, SVdP diverts 45 tons of mattresses and box springs from landfills every day — a number that will surge as Oregon's recycling mandate creates new opportunities for job creation, environmental stewardship, and revenue to support SVdP's social services!



**SVdP's Terry McDonald long ago saw the great recycling potential in mattresses.**

To learn much more about DR3 and SVdP's mattress-recycling efforts, visit [www.mattressrecycling.us](http://www.mattressrecycling.us).



*Cascade  
Corner:*



Sharing expertise SVdP has gained over 50 years of retail operations and 30 years of recycling initiatives, Cascade Alliance is an invaluable resource for nonprofits seeking to engage in an environmental stewardship model by tapping waste streams to secure stable funding.

We currently work with 18 member nonprofits across the country and are growing our network as mattress-recycling legislation gains traction in more states including Washington, Minnesota, and recently Oregon and Massachusetts. It was our pleasure to have several partners recently visit us here in Lane County, to meet and work alongside our retail-thrift and mattress-recycling staff. Thanks to our guests from Global Neighborhood Thrift of Spokane, Wash.; SVdP of Northern Idaho; and EMERGE of Minneapolis, Minn.

To learn more about this important SVdP project, visit [www.cascadealliance.us](http://www.cascadealliance.us).

## Life of a Donation:

*The life cycle of your clothing donation to St. Vincent de Paul*



### **SORT**

Every donated item of clothing is touched and inspected for stains, tears, brand and season. Seasonal products and accessories are set aside.



### **PROCESS**

Each employee processes a minimum of 500 articles of clothing per day, reaching 47,000 pieces per week. That's a lot of clothes!



### **HANG**

After each item is hung by size, the sorters clip clothing with color-coded tags to help the store staff when putting these items out on the floor.



### **DISTRIBUTE**

Sorted, processed, and hung clothing are boxed up and shipped to our distribution warehouse to be allocated to one of our 12 retail stores.

**DID YOU KNOW?** SVdP recycling programs kept 20,876,792 pounds of waste out of landfills in 2021!

## Many Ways to Support SVdP

### Shop, Donate & Recycle

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



SCAN ME

for a full list of  
our stores and  
donation sites.

### Volunteer

We'd love to have your support as an individual or group! To start, fill out the application at [www.svdP.us](http://www.svdP.us).

### Follow & Tell a Friend



@ShopStVinnies  
@SVdPLaneCounty

### Buy or Donate a Vehicle

1195 Hwy. 99N, Eugene  
541-607-4541



### Grow a Legacy

Consider adding SVdP Society of Lane County to your will or as an estate or life insurance beneficiary.

### Become a Financial Donor



SCAN ME

to make an  
online donation  
to SVdP.

OR mail donations to P.O. Box  
24608, Eugene, OR 97402.

Learn more at [www.svdP.us](http://www.svdP.us)

### Why I Give to St. Vinnie's:

## Appreciation for the good work of SVdP

We at SVdP find it inspiring and energizing to receive incredible support from our community here in Eugene and beyond. It has been an amazing year so far with support from you all, and we are deeply thankful for your continued support! Here, in donors' own encouraging words, are reasons for that generous giving:

"I donate to St. Vincent de Paul because I want my money going to a place that actually takes action and helps people. It's a joy to give to SVdP and be a part of the work you all do."

"Terry [McDonald] has made such an incredible impact on Eugene. His creativity and passion is inspiring."

"We love all of your diverse programs, and would be more than happy with our donation going to support any one of them."

"Thank you SVdP for everything you do in our community. You make Eugene a better place for everyone."

"During the hardest time of my life, St. Vinnie's was there for me. Now that I have a job and a home it's more than a pleasure to give back and help others."

"SVdP does so much for our community through so many different programs. If you want to help Eugene, support SVdP."

## Second SVdP Art Show will celebrate participants' visions of home, heart

This just in: This coming October, you'll be able to enjoy the striking and creative artwork of SVdP's many wonderful program participants, on display at the New Zone Art Gallery in Eugene.

The Second Annual SVdP Art Show is open to participants in all SVdP programs including Youth & Family Services, Affordable Housing, Veteran Services, Connections, and Emergency Services. Please come and admire the unique creations of these individuals as they put color and paper to the theme "Home Is Where the Heart Is."



Interested in sponsoring this event?  
Please call Jack Boisen, 541-321-5902,  
or email [fundraising@svdp.us](mailto:fundraising@svdp.us).

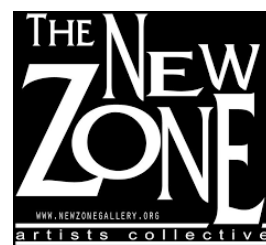


A 2021 SVDP Art Show entry by Jayson, age 6.

### Mark your calendars for Oct. 7!

The Second  
Annual SVdP  
Art Show will  
open Oct. 7 at  
New Zone

Gallery, 110 E. 11th Ave. at Oak Street in Eugene. Gallery hours are noon to 6 p.m. daily. The exhibition will last through the month of October. As the time nears, watch for updates at [www.svdP.us](http://www.svdP.us) and [www.newzonegallery.org](http://www.newzonegallery.org).





# Girls Youth House grads ready to move forward

**D**anielle, Ariana, and Winter are several tenants of St. Vincent de Paul's Girls Youth House who will soon complete their two-year residencies and move on to a new, more stable next phase of life.

After entering the program as unaccompanied minors aged 16-18, they'll exit it as young adults prepared to achieve permanent housing and employment; to pursue education and training beyond high school; and to confidently create stable lives in which the threat of homelessness is only a memory.

SVdP opened the Youth House in south Eugene in 2018 as a secure and supportive home environment for 13 female-identifying teens at a time, as they prepare for life without homelessness. Residents each sign a two-year lease to live at the Youth House, where they can save money, complete school, build a positive rental history, and work with case managers committed to improving their chances of becoming successful young adults.

"I don't think I'd be where I am now if I wasn't in a stable environment like I am now," Danielle says.



**Danielle, top, and Ariana, above, are soon to conclude two-year tenancies at SVdP's Girls Youth House, designed to prepare teens for successful adulthood without homelessness.**

"I didn't even know where to start" with many next steps, Winter says, adding that she'd be "so lost" without the Youth House's help.

"I really appreciate the Youth House for helping me and pushing me and giving me a place to stay for the past two years," says Ariana. "I wouldn't know what to do if it wasn't for the help I got here."

A variety of life challenges brought these three to the Youth House, but each will leave similarly equipped to meet the new opportunities ahead.

## Read More Online

- Youth House program page: [bit.ly/GirlsYouthHouse](http://bit.ly/GirlsYouthHouse)
- Read about how Ariana, Winter, and Danielle have thrived at the Youth House, in stories under "News & Events" at [svdp.us](http://svdp.us).



## Thank you, SVdP grant funders!

### First Place Kids funders:

LaneKids and United Way

### Youth House funder:

WLS Spencer Foundation

### First Place Family Center funder:

Nordstrom Cares

### Arbor Park Playground funder:

Nike Community Impact Fund

### Motel Emergency Shelter funder:

Lane County

*For \$2,500 you could fund one month of healthy youth activities in our affordable housing!*

# SPONSORSHIP

*Interested in sponsoring one of our programs?  
Call Jack Boisen at 541-321-5902 or email  
[fundraising@svdp.us](mailto:fundraising@svdp.us) to find out more.*

## Thank you, monthly Sustainer's Circle donors!

Oregon Community Foundation

United Way of Lane County

Garden Way Church

Our Saviour's Lutheran Church

Amy Thompson's Homes

Hope Evangelical Lutheran Church

**DID YOU KNOW?** SVdP's programs provided 303,302 meals to our neighbors in need in 2021!



# 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



[www.svdp.us](http://www.svdp.us) | 541-687-5820  
@SVdPLaneCounty | @ShopStVinnies



*DID YOU KNOW? SVdP today operates 12 retail-thrift stores (and one car lot) in eight Oregon cities!*