



Your generosity helps those in need.

Did you know that the money you give to a parish's St. Vincent de Paul Conference goes to directly help the neighbors in your community?

Neither the Conferences nor the Council office see each other's checks. So, donations made to a parish St. Vincent de Paul group are not listed in this Council Newsletter.

Special thanks go to the donors who give to both the Conference and the Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. You are helping to meet both immediate and long-term needs.

2003 Donors—Under \$100

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We apologize if any information is inaccurate or missing. Please let us know if any corrections to name(s) or address should be made. Our volunteers strive to get the information correct. Please call if you notice any discrepancies so we can make corrections. Fax: (408) 993-0885 (408) 298-7290, ext. 15.



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Auto Program

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 (408) 971-9281

Thrift Stores

Mountain View Store
 Virginia Caldeira, Manager
 2044-A Old Middlefield Way
 Mountain View, CA 94043
 (650) 903-0438

San José Store
 Will Hogan, Manager
 749 Story Road @ Remillard
 San José, CA 95122
 (408) 993-9500

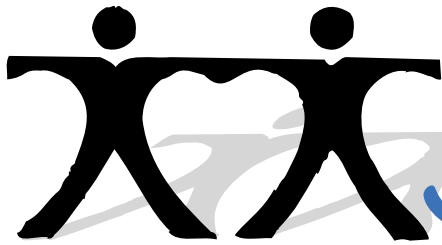


2005 Calendar

- November 6 Regional Planning Group Meeting
Annual Dinner
- November 17 Board Meeting
- December TBD Council Service Project: Christmas
- December 17 Board Meeting

Store Hours

- San José** Monday-Friday: 10:00am-6:00pm
Sat: 10:00am-5:00pm; Sun: Closed
Donation Dropoff: Mon-Sun 10:00am-4:00pm
- Mountain View** Monday-Saturday: 10:00am-5:30pm
Thursday: 10:00am-7:00pm; Sunday: Closed
Donation Dropoff: Mon-Sat 10:00am-4:00pm



Standing Together

A Publication of the St. Vincent de Paul Society of the Diocese of San José 4th Quarter, 2004

What We Do



Services We Provide

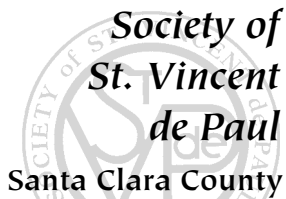
- Emergency financial aid
- Food and clothing
- Furniture and bedding
- Referrals to other resources

Day Worker Centers

- Jobs for Day Workers
- English as a second language (ESL) classes
- Computer training
- Other employment skills

Thrift Stores

- Vouchers for those in need of clothing and furniture
- Community outreach
- Proceeds help provide emergency aid



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Day Worker Services Manager

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[www.svdp.org/santa clara](http://www.svdp.org/santa_clara)

e-mail: support@svdp.org

Newsletter Production

Village Printers

www.villageprinters.com

(408) 354-2826

Letter from the Executive Director

Dear Vincentians and Friends,

As we approach the holiday season this year, we have much to celebrate and even more for which we are grateful. With your continued and generous support, both spiritual and material, Saint Vincent de Paul has not only survived some difficult years of transition and growth, but has indeed been able to implement a new range of services to our neighbors in Santa Clara county.

We have streamlined and refined our practices and procedures to better and more efficiently serve those in need. Some of these changes like the closure of the Gilroy store and the on-going search for a new north county day worker center site were difficult but necessary. On a more upbeat note, we secured funding to re-introduce emergency services such as rental assistance and the introduction of health care services in partnership with O'Connor Hospital.

We invite all of our supporters to visit us in our new home and see for yourselves just what your generosity has enabled us to accomplish. The collaboration with O'Connor Hospital, the Daughters of Charity and Saint Francis Career College, which resulted in the Kelley Park Center, continues to evolve as the community tool for providing multiple services to those in need. Thanks to your support and your prayers, we look forward to improving and expanding on the successes of this past year.

God Bless,

Steve Pehanich

In Service to Our Community

Emergency Services and Day Worker Services

Since moving into new facilities in June of 2003, Saint Vincent de Paul (SVdP) has expanded areas of community service to include emergency rental assistance and referral to medical providers for those in need with limited or no resources. In a partnership of O'Connor Hospital, the Daughters of Charity and Saint Vincent de Paul, the Kelley Park Community Resource Center (KPCRC) collaborative continues to develop strategies to expand existing services and provide new ones in response to the needs of our neighbors.

Some of our Saint Vincent de Paul successes this year include:

- Hiring a Volunteer/Vincentian Outreach Coordinator, Morena Mendoza, who has begun a wonderful program of volunteer recruiting and training for all areas of SVdP and Conferences.
- Securing a grant for three Americorps volunteers who have developed adult an education curriculum, begun teaching ESL and basic math for day workers and marketed the day worker center to employers.
- The installation of a computer lab to enable day workers to learn basic computer and job search skills so essential in today's world
- Development and roll-out of an employer marketing plan to increase availability of jobs for day workers

New services envisioned for the coming year include the development of a Health Navigator program to assist people in all areas of securing affordable and timely health care starting with our partner, O'Connor Hospital; the opening of a permanent Day Worker site in north county and vocational mentoring for those entering or re-entering the workplace.

MUCH has been accomplished and MUCH MORE remains to be done. You can help. Hire a Day Worker and provide a hand up instead of a handout. For more information, visit our website at www.svdp.org or call Dave Gonzales, Director of Emergency Services at 408-298-7290 x 20.

Day Worker Emergency Response

In spite of the sudden unexpected closure of the St. Joseph the Worker Center in Mountain View in September, the Society has taken the following steps to address the immediate needs of our clients in need:

- Emergency Food Distribution
- Rental Assistance
- Emergency Shelter
- Medical Care- Referral
- Utilities and Telephone

While these actions have helped alleviate the hardships imposed on our clients, they are short term pending our seeking a new site and planning a new North County Day Worker Center. We cannot sustain this level of emergency response without YOUR IMMEDIATE HELP. You can help most by hiring one of our capable and available day workers by calling Mary Mendez at 408-923-9019.

Or you can make a cash donation by check or online at our website:
www.svdp.org



Holiday Appeal

Please keep an eye open for our annual Holiday Appeal letter which will come out in the next two weeks. So many of our neighbors count on your continuing generosity at this special time of year. Thank you in advance for your past and future donations.

Steve Pehanich
Executive Director

Kelly Park Center Opens Clinic

There's a new medical clinic in town. In September, O'Connor Hospital welcomed their first patients to the O'Connor Community Clinic located at the Kelley Park Community Resource Center (KPCRC), 749 Story Road in San Jose. As part of the KPCRC collaborative, the clinic provides basic medical services to low income residents of the community, referrals for follow-up treatment and is available to all in the community on an ability to pay basis.

The resident physician, Dr. Peter Nguyen and clinic manager, Chris Hernandez, RN, bring many years of excellent commitment and service to people most in need with the least resources. Clinic hours will be Mon, Wed, Thur, Fri from 9:00AM to 6:00PM and Tuesday 11:00AM to 8:00PM.

Saint Vincent de Paul will collaborate closely with the O'CONNOR clinic to provide basic medical services to day workers through its Health Navigator program set to launch in November. This program is specially designed to provide intake, assessment and guidance to our clients to make medical services available quickly and efficiently.

On Our Wish List—Volunteer Needs

Computer Skills Trainers: to help Day Workers learn work-related skills

Office Work: Mountain View or San Jose (telephone, data input, other)

Retail Work in Thrift Store: Mountain View, or San Jose

ESL Teacher (English as a Second Language): no experience needed

Mentor: to work with a client in basic life skills (paying bills, bus system, etc.), and help with their employment search (form completion, workplace etiquette, etc.)

For more information on how you might serve the community through your volunteer efforts at St. Vincent de Paul please call Morena Mendoza, (408) 298-7290.



Operations Update

To better serve our clients and community, Saint Vincent de Paul has made some personnel changes. **Andrew Tait**, Director of Operations, is now in charge of all store, distribution center and vehicle donation programs for SVdP in Santa Clara County. Andrew joined us in January as Manager of Vehicle Donations Programs where he revamped the entire operation with the result that we are now able to process nearly 80 vehicles per month (up from a two year average of 42 per month) and can accept virtually any vehicle a donor wishes to contribute. He replaces **Mike Birmingham** who has assumed the role of Director of Development and Public Relations.

The local economy still shows few signs of any sustainable recovery and as a result, the thrift store in Gilroy was closed earlier this year as a cost saving measure. Services provided to the south county are now provided through our San Jose location.

Joanne Diaz-Tous joined us as Finance Manager in May. With her years in both private and public sector accounting experience, she has already made contributions in streamlining the accounting and financial practices to make the Society a more efficient provider of services. Dave Gonzales continues as Director of Emergency Services where he works tirelessly providing support and hope to our neighbors in need.

Kevin Krave has taken on the role of President pro tem of the Board of Directors on which he has served with distinction for a number of years. We are grateful for his leadership and wise counsel. Steve Pehanich continues as Executive Director, providing the direction to sustain the viability of the Society in Santa Clara county.



William Kolb 1924-2004

In September of this year, the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul and our entire community joined in mourning the loss of a truly wonderful man who gave of himself to others in the best Vincentian tradition. Bill served his community and Saint Vincent de Paul in many volunteer roles over the years and will be remembered for his steadfast willingness to serve and for his patience and courage.

How do you sum up the essence of a person and express it in words?

When asked to describe Bill, the words “devoted”, “committed”, and “unselfish” were continually used.

This is his legacy; the lessons he taught by example and the images that those of us who knew him will remember.

Our goal now is to build on his legacy, and try to emulate his ever-present smile and his willingness to help others.

