

# 2016 ANNUAL REPORT & NEWSLETTER

Robert Gazewood  
Chair

Bob Dewar  
1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair

Ron Knox  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chair

Gayle Pizzuto  
Secretary

Joe Bonneville  
Treasurer

Dennis McNulty  
SE Portland

Debbie Fisher  
E Portland

Steve Spitulski  
N/NE Portland

John Moore  
Washington County

Sharon Hills  
Clackamas County



## SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL PORTLAND COUNCIL

### A Family Served

Of the 4,000 families who receive a Christmas food box from St. Vincent de Paul only a very few have the extra blessing of being adopted by a company. When a company does this the family receives not only food but holiday gifts to help sustain them.

This year the phone lines answered by volunteers and staff opened at a brisk pace. One of those calls was a mother of three children who called expecting to get a food box and no more. When we called back to say that a company wanted to adopt her family she burst into tears as she told her inspiring story. She had almost lost her son at birth and he had just come home from a three month stay in the hospital. The same day she brought him home she found a letter telling her that her employer would no longer hold her job. "I am filled with joy that my little boy survived – and I find out I have lost my job." The staff person told her that perhaps God was listening right now and wanted to remind her she was not alone – that others cared. The young mother, father and three children were able to celebrate the birth of Christ and the birth of their son with a small miracle of generosity.

### Our Mission

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a worldwide Catholic organization of laypersons whose members strive to live their faith by serving the less fortunate with love and dignity, and without judgment or discrimination. As a way to help people escape the cycle of poverty, volunteers offer assistance to those lacking the basic necessities of life, offering a hand up rather than a handout

### Impact on the Community

- 385,000 people received services in a five-county area
- 4.2 million pounds of food was distributed
- 3,590 families received food boxes
- \$1.4 million was paid to cover rent, utilities, medical and transport assistance
- 3,684 meals were served in the Mobile Kitchen
- More than 2,000 volunteers provided service to those in need

**For More Information Contact:**  
Brian Ferschweiler | 503-234-5287

### Table Of The King:

Once again, the Portland Council benefited from the generosity of those Providence Medical Group employees who participated in the annual Table of the King event that was held on February 16 of this year. Employees were asked to forgo their normal lunch on that day and instead, enjoy a simple meal of soup and bread, in accordance with a tradition started in France in 1800 by Mother Gamelin of the Sisters of Providence, who stated "Treat the poor with kindness and politeness; they are our lords and masters". This year, the event raised over \$27,000 in support of our programs, and on May 11<sup>th</sup>, two representatives from Providence presented us with the check at our Cornwell location. We wish to thank Providence, and all their employees and guests, for their continued support of our mission.



## Western Regional Business Conference (WRBC) Update:

The 2017 WRBC, held this year on May 25th, 26th, and 27th at the Red Lion Hotel on the Columbia, drew a record number of Vincentians from ten (10) western states, many who were visiting the Portland area for the first time. The Ozanam training on Thursday was attended by over 130 people, and 180 participated in the two day workshops/business meetings on Friday and Saturday. As hosts of the 2017 WRBC, the SVdP Portland Council organized a special treat for Friday night- an excursion to The Grotto, complete with appetizers, guided tours, and a spiritual and beautiful setting that offered a peaceful end to a very busy day. The Mobile Kitchen was on site on Friday afternoon at the WRBC, offering tours and answering questions about how the program worked. It drew many positive comments from Conference attendees and those interested in replicating the program in their community. Special thanks to all those local Vincentians who not only attended the conference but volunteered their time to help when needed. Additional thanks to staff member Veronica Kennedy for the many hours she put into making the WRBC a major success. We're also extremely grateful for the generous support from the following individuals who helped underwrite the cost of hosting the WRBC: Mike and Joani Concannon, Mark and Meg Mertens, Peggy and John Brockamp, Ray and Martha Talarsky, and Steve and Titay Schommer. Thank you all.

## 2015-2016 FISCAL YEAR

Total Revenues	\$7,687,184
Contributions & Bequests	\$2,872,913
In-Kind Contributions	\$4,357,533
Maintenance Fees	\$9,242
Rental Income	\$175,718
Special Events	\$14,260
Others	\$29,222

Total Expenses	\$7,151,184
Emergency Services	\$1,888,944
Food Services	\$4,655,883
Affordable Housing	\$109,429
Management & General	\$410,631
Fundraising	\$86,149

A copy of the **St. Vincent de Paul, Portland Council** 2015-2016 IRS 990 Tax Filing is available on our website [www.svdppdx.org](http://www.svdppdx.org)

## 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Jim Altenhofen Golf Tournament

August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at  
Glendoveer Golf Course  
Shotgun Start at 12:30 pm

Box lunch included. Dinner and awards following the tournament.

Registration and more details at [www.svdppdx.org](http://www.svdppdx.org)

### JOB OPENING

Go to [www.svdppdx.org](http://www.svdppdx.org) for information about the Finance/Business Manager job opening

## A message from the Executive Director

At the end of the Western Regional Business Conference, I took time to reflect on what exactly transpired during those three days at the Red Lion on the Columbia. Participation in Ozanam training, workshops, and small group discussions wove a similar theme throughout: An amazing picture of fellow Vincentians volunteering their time to help those in distress or needing direction and encouragement. I was reminded of the phrase, "Ordinary People Doing Extraordinary Things". As I listened over and over again to what other out of state Councils and Conferences were doing, it made me proud to be part of such an extraordinary organization. Simple individuals offering their time and talent to help the helpless, shelter the homeless, and be a counsel to the addicted. St. Vincent called us to do those very same things so many years ago, and that spirit was alive and well in the hearts and minds of the 180 Vincentians who came together at the WRBC to celebrate and learn what fellow Vincentians were doing in their community.

Of course it takes not only time and talent to run the many programs that we offer, but treasure as well. Therefore, I'm asking that you please consider making a gift to help us continue our good work in serving the less fortunate of our community. Our Emergency Services and Mobile Kitchen programs have experienced an increase in the number of individuals and families asking for help. Please give, so that we can help those experiencing food insecurities and assist those in need of financial support for rent and utilities bills.

God bless you.  
Brian Ferschweiler, Executive Director



Need information with regards to volunteering your time and talent? Please call Stephanie Decker at **503-595-2286** and she will be more than happy to assist you in any way she can.

Need information on making a financial donation? Please call Brian Ferschweiler at **503-234-5287**



Please consider making St. Vincent de Paul a part of your family's legacy by including us in your estate planning. For more info contact Brian Ferschweiler at **503-234-5287** or visit our website at [www.svdppdx.org](http://www.svdppdx.org)



If you would like to donate your car, truck, or motor home, please contact Veronica Kennedy at **503-595-2280**. Vehicles must be in fair to good condition.