



Society of St. Vincent de Paul  
203 Park Ave. SE  
Aiken, SC 29801

*Society of St. Vincent de Paul Ministry  
2024 Year End Report*

St. Vincent de Paul St. Mary's Conference is a food pantry that supplements grocery items for the poor in our community. We are open to the public 4 days a week from Monday - Thursday 9am to 1pm. We help those who have utility problems with cut off dates and medications that are within reason. Our goal is the help as many people we can that find themselves in need.

For the Year 2024 we provided groceries to 3,389 families (8888 total people). Thanks to the ability to purchase food at a reduced cost from Golden Harvest Food Bank and to food received at no cost from many of our local supermarkets, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture we were able to provide approximately 247,791 pounds of food for the cost of \$44,291.

Because of your extremely generous donations throughout the year and because of the great need in our community, we were able to maintain our services in Aiken County by providing emergency financial support to avoid utility service shut-off, providing food to our families in need and providing our homeless assistance with food and hotel services in certain circumstances. St. Vincent DePaul provided \$134,077 of financial assistance to 1971 families to prevent cutoff of vital utility services. We provided \$4,290 for prescription medications.

Our Thanksgiving and Christmas basket program has been such a success every year. For the Year 2024 we provided 75 Thanksgiving Baskets and 75 Christmas Baskets. A big thanks goes out to all our volunteers, especially Joe Tillman and the parish youth who make this program work.

We received several grants that helped us to purchase 2 new stainless steel refrigerators for our deli products. These grants also funded the Fan and Space Heater program. We purchased 100 fans for the hot months of summer and 100 space heaters for the cold months of winter. These were distributed to 200 families. Both efforts went extremely well and we hope to be able to do this again next year.

A special thank you goes out to youth of the parish for partnering with our Conference to provide 360 Sunday lunches to those in need each month. A total of 4,320 lunches for the year and 540 Homeless food bags totaling approximately \$6,000 to support both of these programs. Thank you to the fine young men, Daniel Colleran and James Ivy for helping with SVdP 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday night monthly collection after 5pm Mass.

As an outreach ministry, we have overhead expenses such as electrical costs due to heating and air conditioning and many refrigerators and freezers. We also have expenses for water, telephones, internet service for client research and trash collection. Since all of our members are unpaid volunteers, we are able to keep this overhead to less than 10% of our expenses.

We are always looking for volunteers.

## Jobs:

Caseworker: Answering phones to fill appointment times for food pick-up. Aiding with utility bills with cut-off date. Caseworkers are assigned to a Team. There are 6 teams and each team works one 4 day week every 6 weeks from 8:45am to 1:15pm.

Grocery Packer: Bags food for families with appointments. Packers work 1 to 2 times a month normally.

Runner: Takes grocery cart to curb to clients for them to load their car. Runners are assigned to a Team and work the same schedule as a caseworker.

Grocery pick-ups: People that volunteer to go to designated grocery stores to pick-up food items, and putting that food away in Pantry.

L2F Data Entry of daily transactions into a database operated by Golden Harvest Food Bank. There are on average 18-20 transaction per day. You would work one 4 day week approximately once every 6 to 7 weeks. This data entry is done at home. Training and a manual will be provided.

Stockers: Stock shelves with can foods that arrive from Golden Harvest.

Please contact me, Lauren Alexander at [ewalexan@yahoo.com](mailto:ewalexan@yahoo.com), or 803.552.6085 if you are interested in any of these volunteer positions.

God Bless and Happy New Year!