



**Your
Compassion
Makes an Impact**



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
SOCIETY OF MARIN

YOUR COMPASSION MAKES AN IMPACT



ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
SOCIETY OF MARIN

FINDING GRACE AND COMPASSION IN YOUR SUPPORT

Dear Friends,

In our 76th year of service, we take a moment to reflect upon our many blessings. From housing hundreds of vulnerable children, families, older adults, and Veterans to serving thousands of warm nutritious meals, we are in awe of the impact your generosity makes. Your gifts change lives. We are honored to have such steadfast support from our community. Thank you.

All these years have taught us that compassion and kindness toward others permeates into every facet of life. No matter how difficult a challenge is, you are right there beside us, moving forward with us to make a difference. Your contributions of time, talent, treasure, and testimony ensure that together we can and **will** make a difference.

As we continue to heal from one of the world's most devastating modern-day pandemics, we are also faced with the collateral damage left in its wake. Covid-19 greatly exacerbated already chronic issues for our most vulnerable neighbors — loss of employment, loved ones, and housing, and increases in mental health diagnoses, food insecurity, inflation, isolation, and drug and alcohol use. While such realities are daunting, our team at SVdP, coupled with your partnership, has allowed us to have an exceptional impact in yet another challenging year.

Moving forward, we carry on in our mission to end hunger and homelessness in Marin. We are stronger together and the outcomes we produce are evident. With a nearly 95% success rate in keeping our chronically homeless community housed and managing to keep our Free Dining Room open every single day since 1981, our hard work is paying off.

We are proud to share the critical impact that St. Vincent de Paul Society had on our community this past year. It is an honor and privilege to partner with **YOU** in our journey to end hunger, poverty, and homelessness in Marin. We will always be transparent with you, and we promise to be excellent stewards of your gifts.

With immense gratitude,

Herb Foedisch
President, Board of Directors

Christine Paquette
Executive Director

Kathleen Lazor Woodcock
Chief Development Officer

“Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for the least brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.” — Matthew 25:31-37

Thank You for Showing Compassion for 76 Years



Photo Credit: Debra Greenblatt, Catholic San Francisco

Left to right: Food and Guest Services Manager Fredy Esquivel, Former Guest Services Associate Jamil Johnson

MARIN'S ONLY FREE DINING ROOM SERVED 180,000 MEALS IN 2022

With rising grocery prices and other economic crises brought about by COVID-19, we have observed an increase in the diners we see daily. Among these children, families, and Veterans are an uptick in older adults who have never previously required our services but are now facing struggles due to living on a fixed income with rampant inflation. With the support of hundreds of compassionate volunteers and our resilient kitchen staff, we served more than **180,000** meals for our hungry neighbors—that is almost 500 meals every single day. No one should go to bed hungry in Marin.

PREVENTING HOMELESSNESS AND PROVIDING EMERGENCY AID

With the compassionate support of our generous benefactors, last year we distributed more than **\$1.1 million in rental assistance and other emergency direct aid** to hundreds of our vulnerable Marin neighbors struggling to make ends meet. Your acts of kindness directly prevented countless evictions and provided families on the edge with a newfound sense of hope.

CONTINUED SUCCESS WITH ENDING HOMELESSNESS

St. Vincent de Paul's mission of ending hunger and homelessness in Marin paired with your belief in our mission continues to produce remarkable results in every layer of our community. Your support has allowed **SVdP's Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)** to continue to work closely with the County of Marin and other local services providers to **house 606 chronically homeless people** since 2016, with a success rate of nearly 95% still permanently housed. In 2022 SVdP housed an additional **298 families, individuals, and Veterans housed through our Rapid Rehousing Program**. This achievement saves our community millions annually.

Forging a Path to Recovery

Please enjoy these notes of gratitude from the people you've helped

OLIVER'S STORY

I cannot fully put into words how much I appreciate the help that St. Vincent de Paul was able to give me. I was going through what I would consider one of the most extreme crossroads in my life, with potentially life or death consequences.

Over the past few years, I've been struggling with addiction, and it has landed me in jail and treatment many times. At the beginning of last year, I was lucky enough to find a program called Marin Services for Men, where I was able to finally find a way to turn my life around and rediscover a healthy and happy way of living.

“ I desperately wanted something different this time and I tried to do the right thing, praying that somehow things would fall into place if I had faith and kept going.”

Unfortunately, I relapsed and was sent to jail. I served seven months, causing me to lose everything that I had built back up. On the day of my release, I had \$100 dollars in my pocket, and no plan of what I was going to do. Every other time I would have gone straight back to drugs and the same vicious cycle I had been putting myself through.

I desperately wanted something different this time and I tried to do the right thing, praying that somehow things would fall into place if I had faith and kept going. I decided to go straight back to the program instead of the streets. I knew I didn't have the money it would take to get in, but I showed up and asked for help. They told me to call SVdP.

I explained my situation and they went to bat for me right away. The program had one bed available, and I had to come up with the deposit that day. SVdP was able to get me the money for the deposit and now I'm safely back in the program and ready to succeed.

I truly believe that the help they gave saved my life and spared me a whole lot of misery. Thank you so much to SVdP. More than anything else you've given me another chance in life, and I intend to make the most of it!

AMELIA'S STORY

In late spring of 2022, I called St. Vincent de Paul while in treatment for substance abuse, as it was suggested I move into a sober living environment. SVdP Case Manager Matt Smith was once my counselor, and I knew he was well versed in treatment and getting people in recovery back on their feet.

Matt and St. Vinnies acted swiftly and seamlessly to secure me two months funding at a sober living environment. I was and continue to be moved and am very grateful for the assistance that was provided to me. Without their help, I don't know where I would be.

Thank you so much Matt and St. Vincent's for the help you provided me in my time of need, as well as the help you offer to our community. I will never forget the compassion and kindness you extended.

“ Without their help, I don't know where I would be.”

To provide support for this program, please specify the designation as the O'Leary Fund on your next gift to St. Vincent de Paul.



...be like-minded, be sympathetic, love one another, be compassionate and humble. — *1 Peter 3:8*



The O'Leary Fund provides financial assistance with securing sober living environments post addiction treatment. Unfortunately, sober living environments are not without their costs and many who need their services are unable to afford them. The O'Leary Fund provides scholarships in partnership with SVdP for individuals seeking a second chance and gifts a support system for people looking to take the next step in recovery.

Recognizing the Heroes Behind the Scenes

Members of the Episcopal Church, Archangel of San Rafael have been volunteering in our Free Dining Room every Christmas morning for several years to hand out presents to our less fortunate neighbors. During the holidays which are defined by giving and warm festivities, their continued support provides our community with much needed holiday cheer and optimism.



Morrow Cater, President and Founding Principal of Cater Communications, volunteers with St. Vincent de Paul to deliver bagged lunches and warm meals to homeless encampments around Marin on a biweekly basis. Campers in these communities are beyond grateful for her kindness and compassion. What a blessing.

Manny Torres, owner of M.T. Landscaping, has been delivering water five days a week to our Free Dining Room since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020. His gifts have made a major impact in supplying our diners with this critical necessity. Much of the homeless population struggles to obtain clean water, especially in recent years with the pandemic shutting down public drinking fountains. Thank you Manny!



See's Candies, a steadfast supporter of St. Vincent de Paul, semi-annually donates thousands of pounds worth of chocolates to present to our clients, landlords, and supporters. Our diners light up in delight when they receive this gift and exclaim how they haven't had See's Candies since childhood.

The Important Work of our Conferences

St. Vincent de Paul is blessed to have 11 conferences throughout Marin County

St. Vincent de Paul's St. Raphael's Conference partnered with the St. Anselm, St. Anthony, St. Hilary, Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, and Our Lady of Loretto conferences to house an immigrant family from Peru with their first month's rent. This beautiful family consisting of Ronaldo and Nancy along with their six-year-old daughter were living in their car when they turned to SVdP.



St. Vincent de Paul's Our Lady of Loretto Conference jumped into action when a family of six was facing homelessness. Having experienced a five-year period of homelessness in the past, they were terrified at the prospect of ending up in that situation again. When the conference heard of their situation, they acted immediately to secure the family with a new home and aid with the deposit and rent. The family exclaimed, "God is good."

St. Vincent de Paul's Sacred Heart Conference was blessed to assist with the financial needs of a distraught client. A compassionate associate member was able to make the first client contact, a successful and heart-warming meeting. Her takeaway: "There is such need out there. I am reminded to be so thankful for all that I have."



St. Vincent de Paul's Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Conference recognized a struggling middle-aged widow's need to meet her housing and food costs while her mental health was quickly deteriorating. The conference not only provided financial assistance but saw that she needed encouragement. After connecting with her several times, she expressed her sincere gratitude for having someone to talk and pray with.

Searching for the Forgotten



Matthew, like many others, have been forgotten and invisible. Chronically homeless but never a disruptor in the community, avenues for help had always overlooked him in favor of a more “serious” case. Matthew had been struggling in silence for decades.

A native of Marin County, 62-year-old Matthew has never known a home elsewhere. He had lived a normal childhood, but things changed drastically for him when he was involved in a serious motorcycle incident in his twenties. The accident left him disabled and unable to regularly work. While he was able to stay employed for most of his life, it was never enough.

Matthew had been homeless on and off for the past 40 years. Those decades were very tumultuous. Two years ago, Matthew was shot in downtown San Rafael. At the time he was living in a local parking garage with two close friends when he was attacked unprovoked. Sadly, his friends died from the attack and Matthew escaped, but not without serious injury. He was shot in the back and leg.

Unfortunately, this is not an isolated case of abuse. Members of the unhoused community are often assaulted without reason.

St. Vincent de Paul found Matthew one year after this incident living in a homeless encampment in San Rafael. This particular encampment was in the process of being shut down with one hold-out—Matthew. Only a single tent remained in the once bustling community, and no one seemed to be offering a helping hand. Recognizing his urgent need, SVdP case managers immediately worked to fill the gap and serve Matthew with wraparound services.

Funded by San Rafael’s Encampment Relocation Program (ERP), newly established in September 2021, SVdP was able to get Matthew started on a path to permanent housing.

He was first housed in **St. Vincent de Paul’s Bridge Housing Program** which acts as a **transitional community in one of seven apartment units located above our Free Dining Room**. This critically important program is funded by **Marin Community Foundation**. Here, SVdP case managers were able to build trust and rapport with Matthew while getting him document-ready to apply for housing. A model tenant, he kept his space immaculate and found his smile again as he was able to focus on bettering himself.

Now under our long-term housing case management clientele, Matthew can access wraparound services for as long as he needs them. St. Vincent de Paul was able to secure him a **Section 8 Housing Voucher**, a permanent housing subsidy, and found him a 1-bedroom apartment in Terra Linda where SVdP will continue to support him as he stabilizes.

This work is critical to our community. While it may be easy to forget those who don’t cause disruption, it doesn’t mean they’re not in need.

Losing Everything but Hope



Anne and her husband Brian had built a beautiful life together. They were true life partners. Married for decades and both heavily involved in their shared passion for theater in the Marin Shakespeare Company, these two were inseparable.

Their biggest challenge as a couple wasn't anything typical like disagreements, but instead Anne's illness. Diagnosed with early onset dementia at only 65, Anne deteriorated quickly to a state where she needed constant care. Brian took up this newfound position as caregiver with great love and while it was difficult, they made it work. Things took a turn for the worse when Brian unexpectedly passed away.

Consumed by grief and left alone with no one to care for her, Anne turned to alcohol as a companion. She was unable to maintain her home. It was not kept clean, and she was behind in rent as her dementia caused her to forget her financial obligations. Anne's physical health was also rapidly declining as she did not remember to feed or bathe herself. Her lack of proper nutrition paired with her mental state and alcohol abuse called for immediate action.

Anne's life was in a state of constant painful chaos and St. Vincent de Paul found her in her moment of her greatest need. **St. Vincent's involvement in Anne's case was in partnership**

with Marin County and the Adult Protective Services Home Safe Program (HSP). HSP is an outreach system that responds to reports of possible abuse, neglect, exploitation, and self-neglect involving older adults age 60+ and disabled adults age 18+.

Upon contact SVdP determined that Anne needed immediate medical attention for both her physical and mental ailments. She was taken to MarinHealth where she spent five months recovering. During this time, SVdP connected her with a primary care doctor who attended to her and helped determine what her next step should be to guarantee her wellbeing.

It was clear that Anne could no longer live on her own. St. Vincent de Paul and the HSP secured her a room in a skilled nursing facility in Marin. In order to make a more compassionate move, SVdP cleaned her apartment and pulled out items of sentimental value or other immediate needs that Anne would desire. Everything else was placed in a storage unit, paid for by SVdP, and Anne was given the key.

Today, Anne is safe and cared for in a skilled nursing facility where she will continue to reside for the foreseeable future. Her protection will never be conditional. Many other older adults like Anne will always find support at St. Vincent de Paul.

Celebrating our Annual Events

***Save The Date for Our Annual Pennies From Heaven Gala
Saturday, October 7, 2023***

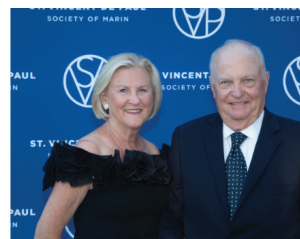


Photo Credit: Mo DeLong, Dudley DeNador



Marin Independent Journal Honor Award
Best Charity/Nonprofit Gala
Best Nonprofit in Marin

Thank you to our generous benefactors!

Celebrating SVdP's Free Dining Room

St. Vincent de Paul proudly operates the **only Free Dining Room in Marin County** which serves not only as a place to find a warm, nutritious meal, but also as the **gateway to our vital safety net services** for individuals and families facing the hardships of poverty and homelessness.

Our program provides a free, nutritious breakfast and lunch, along with a "to-go" dinner, 365 days a year and has not closed a single day in 42 years, even throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. **SVdP feeds between 300 and 500 men, women, and children every single day, serving more than 180,000 meals annually.**

Such a task requires empathy, passion, and expertise. No one embodies this better than **SVdP's Food and Guest Services Manager, Fredy Esquivel**, who has been a pillar in SVdP's kitchen since 2009. Working his way through the ranks in the kitchen, Fredy eventually took over as manager two years ago.

One visit to SVdP's Free Dining Room will reveal a hard-working kitchen staff with a supervisor that is right by their side. Fredy wears many hats in his position. From training his staff to expertly prepare meals that follow food safety standards, to ordering ingredients and ensuring the kitchen has all necessary equipment, Fredy is diligent.

Fredy also oversees the dining area and manages guest services. While historically this area has the potential to turn into a difficult environment, Fredy has fostered a friendly and inviting environment that praises open communication and unconditional support. His dedication to his craft has allowed the program to break down isolation with a communal dining room environment and provide engaging volunteers and staff that offer a compassionate ear and support without judgment.

"I love to see people smiling after a meal," said Fredy. "I thank God for the opportunity that I've been blessed to do this, and I have no plans to stop."

It's because of people like Fredy that our Free Dining Room can **offer food, help, and hope in a compassionate low barrier setting** with a unique culture of **respect and dignity**. Visitors include many families experiencing temporary homelessness or those living in poverty, as well as people considered "chronically homeless."

Our Free Dining Room is truly a lifesaver.



Left to right: Guest Services Associate Paul Shea, Food and Guest Services Manager Fredy Esquivel

“ I thank God for the opportunity that I’ve been blessed to do this, and I have no plans to stop.”



*Left to right: SVdP volunteer, Block Ambassador Montell Totty
Photo Credit: Debra Greenblat, Catholic San Francisco*

Connecting with our Community

Julie Simon Munro grew up as one of seven children on the East Coast in a big Catholic family that deeply valued service. Her father, a Wall Street pioneer and devoted public servant, became a Eucharist Minister later in life who served dying AIDS patients. She remembers stories of what a moving experience it was, and as she herself had grown up getting involved in the community by helping in shelters and soup kitchens, she truly understood how meaningful it is to give back.

Julie has been a Bay Area resident for more than 30 years and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the William E. Simon Foundation. To fulfill her passion for helping others, Julie found her way to St. Vincent de Paul Society of Marin.

Involved for more than 20 years, she first discovered SVdP through St. Hilary Catholic Church. Presented with a volunteer opportunity, Julie began assisting with our **Help Desk, the only one of its kind in Marin County that provides walk-up housing search assistance and direct client aid.** Once a week she comes and talks to clients and provides them with a listening ear, hope, and fundamental items such as a sleeping bag, prescription eyeglasses, toiletries, or a bus ticket.

“It is incredibly meaningful to me to do this kind of work,” Julie said. “I feel the spirit of the grace and such gratitude when I realize that some of these people could have been me, could have been anyone I knew.”

Many clients who seek our services are simply down on their luck. Maybe they or a loved one got sick and ran their savings dry paying for medical costs, or perhaps they were employed but couldn't make ends meet. Sometimes they just need an understanding smile, a little hope, and someone willing to acknowledge their struggle — perhaps a hand up. Julie makes sure she can be that person.

“I feel so blessed to talk to people and hear

their stories,” Julie said. “It is wonderful to be able to give them the dignity to listen when so many others have turned them away.”

As someone that believes helping others was formative in her youth, Julie also wanted to get her children involved in volunteer opportunities. Together, she and her two daughters help serve food in our Free Dining Room, put together socks and hygiene kits for our homeless community, and sing Christmas carols to our diners during the holidays. She tells us how impactful this is for their souls and how beneficial it is to our clients.

“It is wonderful to give them the dignity to listen when so many others have turned them away.”

Julie has also participated extensively in our conferences, where she makes home visits and offers her listening ear for the less fortunate members of our community who simply need a little help. **Being a comforting and helpful force is her superpower** and our clients thank her deeply for it.

She is a devout believer in the mission of St. Vincent de Paul and sees the proven success of our wraparound approach to service. We are so thankful for her longtime dedication to our organization and her fierce love for our community motivates us constantly. It's our wonderful supporters like Julie who move St. Vincent de Paul forward.

“The most important piece is the connection with people,” Julie said. “The biggest gift is getting to know the clients and their stories a little bit and having that really incredible human experience.”



The Munro family bringing Christmas caroling joy to our diners

YOUR GENEROSITY SAVES LIVES

Thank you for joining St. Vincent de Paul on our journey to end hunger, poverty, and homelessness in Marin County!

\$1,000,000+

County of Marin
Estate of Melody A. Palmer
Estate of Alfred Petrofsky

\$100,000-999,999

Marin Community Foundation
William G. Irwin Charity Foundation

\$20,000-99,999

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Raymond Foundation
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See's Candies
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Richard Cairns and Wendy Tonkin
Christine Tunney
Isobel Wiener
Zulu Nyala Game Lodge

\$10,000-19,999

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Dawn Weathersby and Randy Gaynor
Gary and Debbie Ghilotti
Bruce and Eva Gibbs
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Lenore Heffernan
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\$2,500-4,999

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John Delfanti

“And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.”

— 2 Corinthians 9:8

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\$1,000 - \$2,499

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Patrick and Frankie Hunt
Leo Jeffers
Jens and Bente Jensen
Mary Jones
Julie Kalfayan
Gee Kampmeyer
Kathy Kamei Designs
Keith Tadder Construction

“Is it not to share your food with the hungry and to provide the poor wanderer with shelter when you see the naked, to clothe them, and not to turn away from your own flesh and blood?”

—Isaiah 58:7

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Nina Kwan
Nancy McGarry and Catherine Laird
Patricia and William Langley, Jr.
Amanda LaRocca
Greg and Amy Diller Laudenslager
Robert and Judith Leedy
Robert and Rebecca Loback
Cami Loft
Jeff and Kathy Lovold
Grace Lozier
Marvin Lundwall
J. Kenneth and Mary P. Lynch
Lynmar Estate
M. Sheila Merritt and Robert D. Mass
Family Fund
Doreen and Frank Malin
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Andy Martinez
Matrix Winery
Camilla Marvel
Michael Massey
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Jack and Jessica Powell
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Santo Spirits
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Schaaf
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Dr. Peter Eisenberg and Elizabeth
Shortino
Caitlin Weil Smith
Karen Gundry Smith
Scott Merritt Smith
Shelagh Kiley Smith
William J. Smith
Nicholas Snider
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Dana Aftab and Anne-Christine
Strugnell
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Charles Runkel and Marcia Taylor

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Theresa A. Ward
John and Victoria Welisch
Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC
Wesley Middleton
West Monroe
Westamerica Bank
Brian and Ruth Whiting
Patrick and Colleen Williams
The Wine Merchant of Showplace
Square
Michael and Eileen Van Zandt
Sonya D. Winner
Rene Zakhour
John and Marie Zeiter

generous

[jen(ə)rəs]
ADJECTIVE

1. (of a person) showing a readiness to give more of something, as money or time, than is strictly necessary or expected.

2. showing kindness toward others.

Major donors gave the amounts specified to the St. Vincent de Paul Society, District Council of Marin County from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022.

St. Vincent's transformative programs save lives, money, and community resources

SAVING HOMES

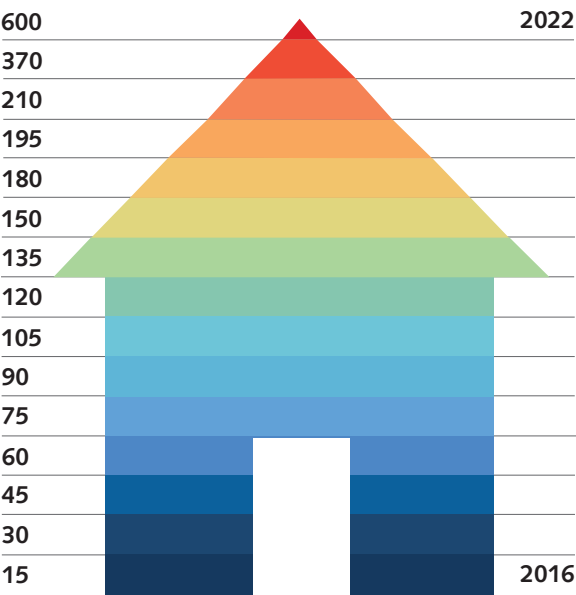
People experiencing homelessness most often need rental assistance (77%) or more affordable housing (61%) to get housed on their own.*

COMMUNITY ROOTS

Marin's homeless community is homegrown. 78% of the current unhoused population lived in Marin County before they became homeless and 53% have lived in Marin for at least 10 years. Please join us in looking out for our neighbors.

Our community saves \$2 million annually by housing 100 high risk people.**

Number of veterans and chronically homeless people housed



* Obtained from the County of Marin Point in Time Report <https://www.marincounty.org/main/county-press-releases/press-releases/2022/hhs-pit-count-analysis-110922>

**Based on the City of San Rafael's Homeless Population data <https://www.cityofsanrafael.org/departments/homelessness/>

LET'S KEEP IT GOING

Community partners are key

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Marin works collaboratively, compassionately, and efficiently using Housing First strategies with other housing and mental health community service providers, city and county officials, law enforcement, congregations, hospitals, and the housing authority.

Future Goals

In 2022, SVdP served 34 households with Veteran status. We are on track to **END** Veteran homelessness by May 2024. We are also on track to reduce chronic homelessness by 50% in Marin County by May 2024. Winning this battle will improve community health and well-being and create a positive environment for businesses to flourish. Thanks to you, the entirety of Marin is striving to end chronic homelessness together—one person at a time.

Please give!

Please help us strengthen this proven collaborative approach that works so well. Your gift right now will contribute to housing more than 100 more people in 2023.

YOUR COMPASSION CONTINUES TO MAKE AN IMPACT!

Your Gifts Make a Difference



WHAT DOES YOUR GIFT DO?

\$20,000 will provide case management for seven individuals, families, Veterans, and seniors to help them find permanent housing.

\$10,000 will provide case management for three families to find permanent housing.

\$5,000 will provide case management for two seniors to move from living in their cars into safe housing.

\$1,000 will keep a homeless Veteran safe in their car by paying for registration, gas, and auto repair while we find them housing.

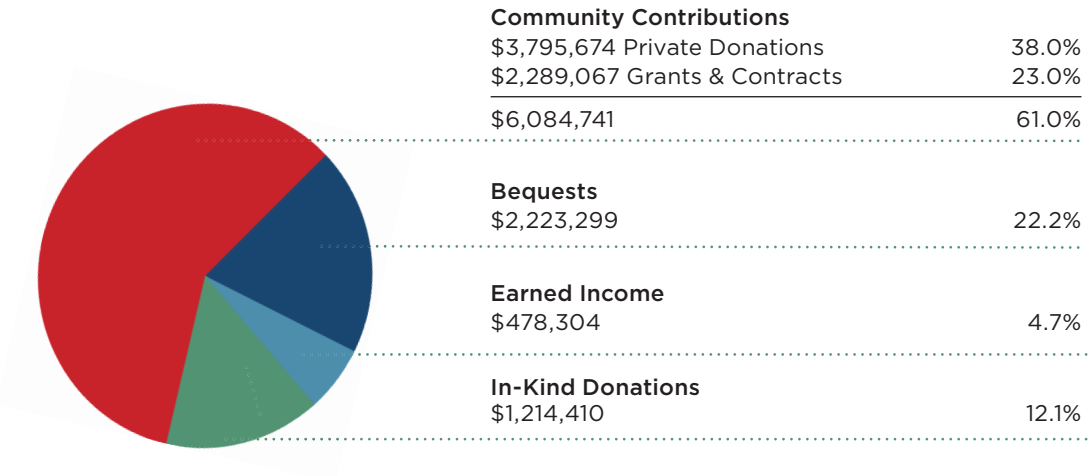
\$500 will pay for a precariously housed family's utility bill for three months to help them stay housed during a crisis.

\$100 will serve 20 meals in our Free Dining Room.

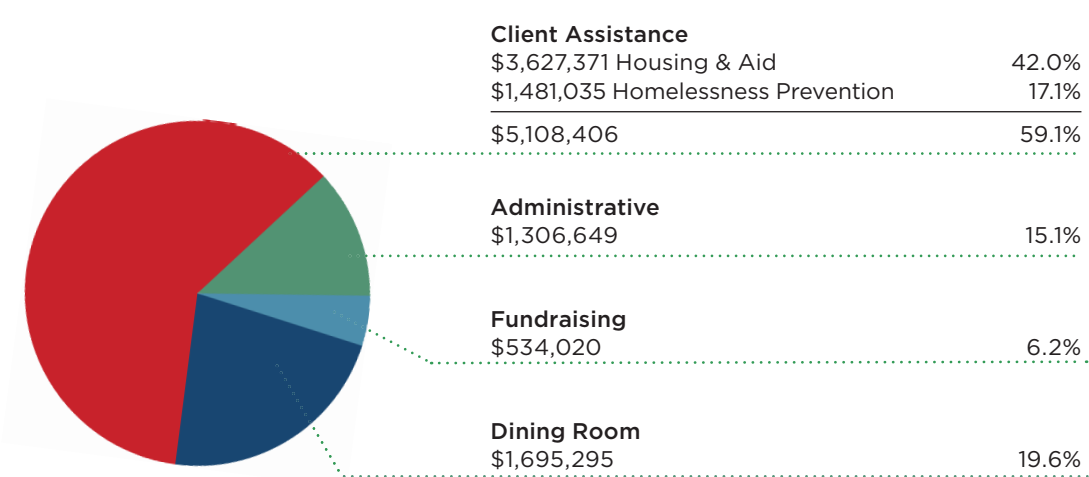
“ I found myself in line for Help Desk with the hope of some assistance with clothing. Thanks to the wonderful people that were there to help, I found blessings and hope when just recently I had none. Every day I want to give up and go back to the bad life I've known for far too long. Now and then something or someone comes along that gives me strength to fight for my life one more day. I believe something, maybe God, guided me to St. Vincent's and once there I found several of God's Angels in the form of the staff members. Very grateful to all of you for being there.”

—Anonymous SVdP Client

TOTAL INCOME \$10,000,754



TOTAL EXPENSES \$8,644,370



The services at St. Vincent de Paul Society of Marin are available to all who reside in Marin County. Your donation stays in Marin County. Generous donations received during the pandemic will continue to be distributed in 2023.

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Transparency
2023

Candid.

SVdP has earned a 2023 Platinum Seal of Transparency with Candid, a philanthropic research database connecting donors and grantmakers with nonprofit organizations.

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Resolution Programs

CONTACT

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**ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
SOCIETY OF MARIN**

St. Vincent de Paul Society of Marin County
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