

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
St. Jude / St. Vincent de Paul Conference
Fiscal Year Report (Oct 2015-Sep 2016)

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a Catholic lay organization, inspired by Gospel values, whose purpose is to foster the spiritual growth of its members by providing person-to-person service to those in need. Here's a financial report & summary of our work over the past year:

Opening balance (Oct 1, 2015)	\$ 19,014
Donations	178,481
Financial aid	186,257
Expenses	4,160
Closing balance (September 30, 2016)	\$ 7,078

Income increased 9% - - thanks to wonderful donations from St Jude and St Vincent de Paul parish collections, our Friends of the Poor Walk, donations from SVdP Women's Guild, St Jude Knights of Columbus, used car donations through our national Vehicle Donation program, and several benefactors. 80% of what is collected in the "For the Poor in Our Community" envelopes goes to the Society. Your generosity is the foundation enabling us to make a difference in the lives of the needy in our community. Your ongoing response to our weekly requests for household and personal care supply items as well as the food & household supplies collection from the school and Scouts is truly appreciated.

In the past year, our conference made 820 home visits, helping struggling families with payments for rent, utilities, and other basic needs. We provided \$74,700 in non-financial assistance (donated food and household items). In total, we helped 2134 people. We provided \$28,000 in "twinning" funds to smaller SVdP conferences in Peoria, enabling another 110 families to be helped. Beyond immediate aid, we bring Christ's love into the homes of the people we visit, praying with them for His grace, blessing and ongoing support.

The Society's Peoria Council operates a systemic change program, *Coming Together to Get Ahead*. More than 200 people from 30 area churches and social service organizations have attended *Bridges Out of Poverty* education workshops. We're now running two 18-week *Getting Ahead in a Just Gettin' by World* classes each year, and have graduated 22 people so far. This program helps individuals from poverty look at their life now, life how they want it to be, and develop a plan to realize their dreams. Each graduate is supported by a mentor who serves as a friend, accountability partner, and connector to community resources. This exciting program provides new opportunities for parishioners with different interests and talents to get involved in the Society's work. It's also opened up increased collaboration with other community churches and social service organizations.

The St. Jude / St. Vincent de Paul conference currently has 76 active and associate Vincentians, 28 from St. Vincent de Paul parish. Please consider joining this wonderful ministry!

"...I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me...Truly, I say to you, as you did this to one of the least of my brethren, you did it to me." (Matt. 25:34-40).