

Work, Wages, and Pathways Out of Poverty
a Voice of the Poor Third Thursday Webinar

Thursday, July 16, 2020

Tom Mulloy, St. Vincent de Paul National Council
Holly Dommer, St. Vincent de Paul Des Moines
Steve Havemann, St. Vincent de Paul Des Moines
Christopher Zahn, St. Vincent de Paul Green Bay



Opening Prayer

“Yours must be a work of love, of kindness, you must give your time, your talents, yourselves. The poor person is a unique person of God’s fashioning with an inalienable right to respect.

You must not be content with tiding the poor over the poverty crisis; You must study their condition and the injustices which brought about such poverty, with the aim of a long term improvement.”

-Blessed Frédéric Ozanam



Work is fundamental to the dignity of a person. Work, to use an image, ‘anoints’ us with dignity, fills us with dignity, makes us similar to God. . .”

-Pope Francis



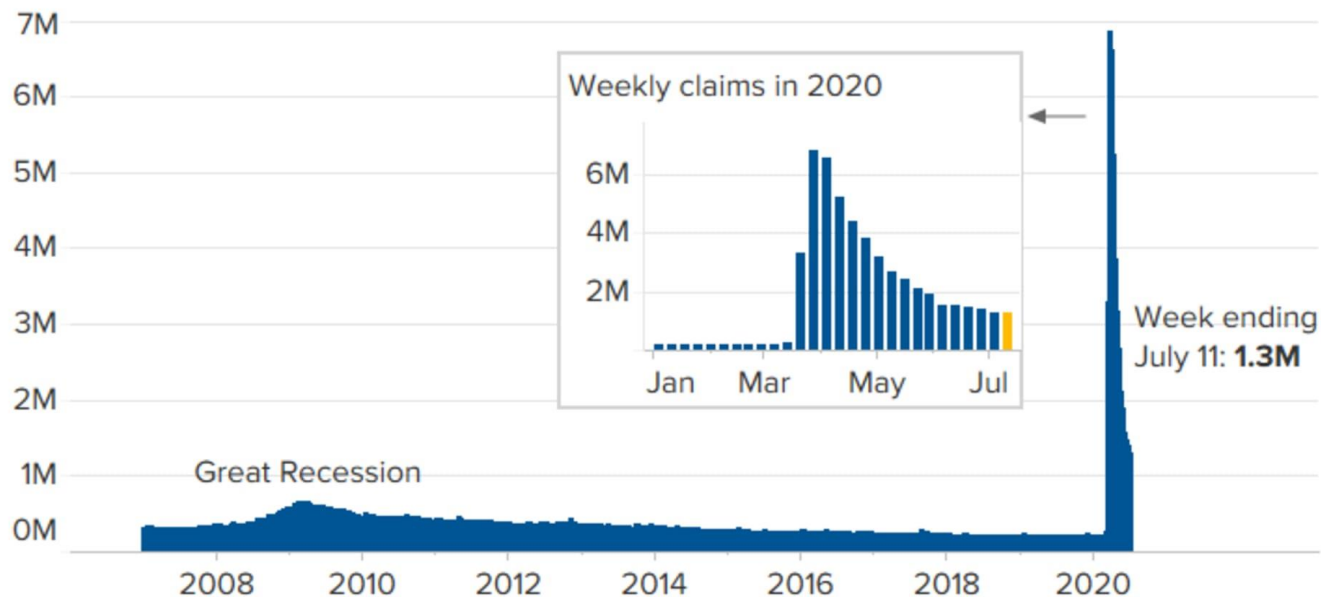
No consideration of the problems associated with development could fail to highlight the **direct link between *poverty and unemployment***. ... poverty results from a *violation of the dignity of human work*, either because **work opportunities are limited** (through unemployment or underemployment), or “because a **low value is put on work and the rights that flow from it**, especially the right to a just wage ...”

-Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI
Caritas in Veritate, No. 63.



Unemployment in the Coronavirus Era

Initial claims for unemployment insurance



SOURCE: Department of Labor. Data is seasonally adjusted. Data through July 11, 2020.



<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/07/16/weekly-jobless-claims.html>



Poverty, Work, and Wages

Family Size	Annual Income
Single, Working-age Adult	\$13,000
with One Child	\$17,300
Adult Couple	\$16,800
with one child	\$20,200
with two children	\$25,500
with three children	\$30,000



Poverty, Work, and Wages

Family Size	Annual Income	Basic Security (2x Poverty)
Single, Working-age Adult	\$13,000	\$26,000
with One Child	\$17,300	\$34,600
Adult Couple	\$16,800	\$33,600
with one child	\$20,200	\$40,400
with two children	\$25,500	\$51,000
with three children	\$30,000	\$60,000

[census.gov/topics/income-poverty/poverty.html](https://www.census.gov/topics/income-poverty/poverty.html)



Work and Wages

MONTHLY COSTS

2 adults and 2 children
Philadelphia/Camden/Wilmington metro area

🏠 HOUSING	\$1,182
🍌 FOOD	\$800
👶 CHILD CARE	\$1,574
🚗 TRANSPORTATION	\$1,137
🏥 HEALTH CARE	\$1,110
🛒 OTHER NECESSITIES	\$800
🕒 TAXES	\$1,077
Monthly Total	\$7,680
Annual Total	<u>\$92,163</u>

- Two Adults & Two Children
 - \$25,500/\$51,000
- Does not take into account savings, state/local taxes, or infant/toddler care.

Economic Policy Institute Family Budget Calculator: epi.org/resources/budget/



Neighborhoods of Hope SM

- *Council* approach to systemically changing poverty in a community.
- Grounded in *Vincentian spirituality* and *Collective Impact*.
- Focus on small geographic area.

svdpusa.org/noh



Neighborhoods of Hope

NOH successfully reduces poverty by focusing on 4 principles:



Enhanced
home visits



Efforts aligned
with outcomes



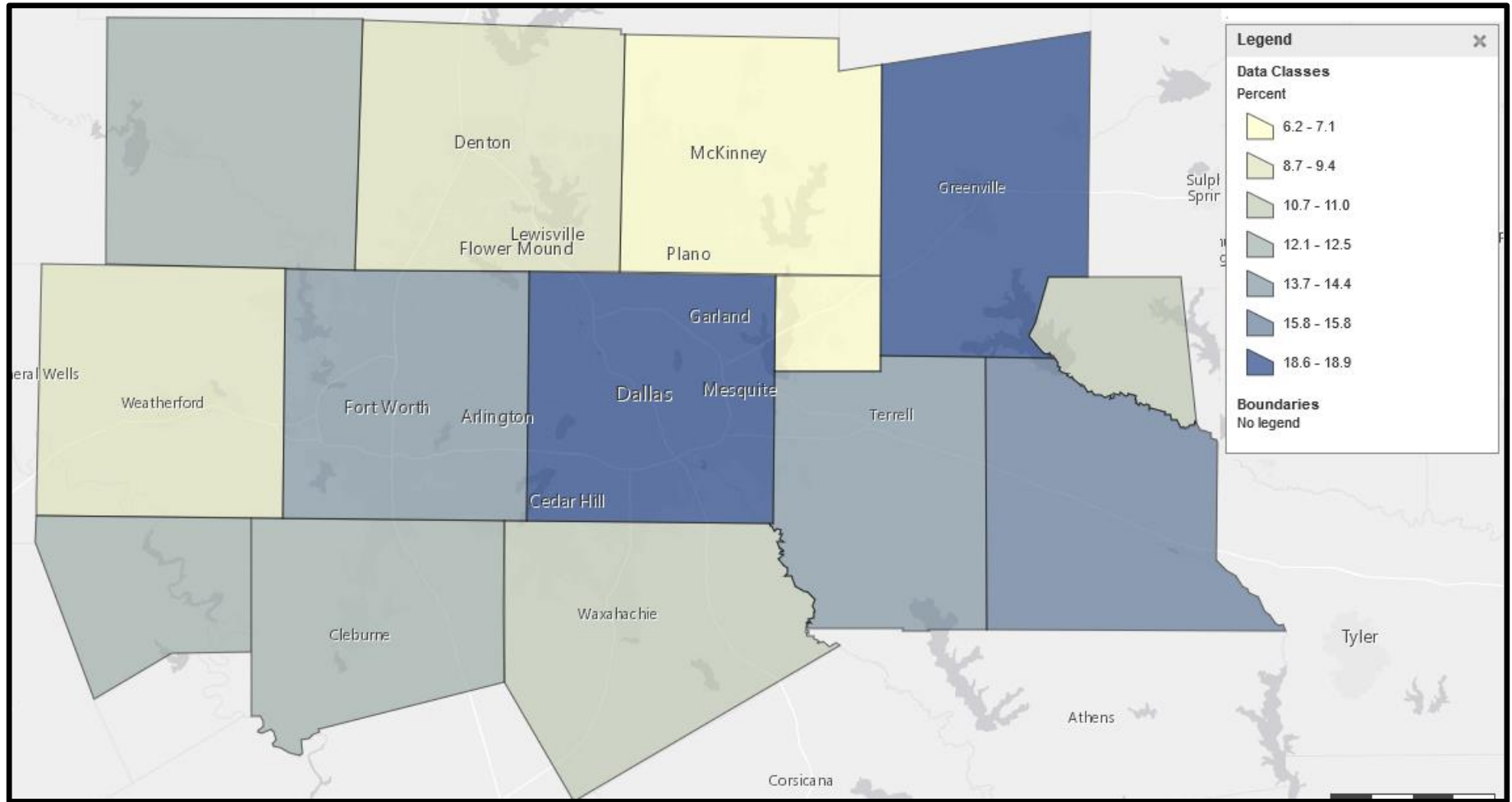
Outcome-based
collaboration



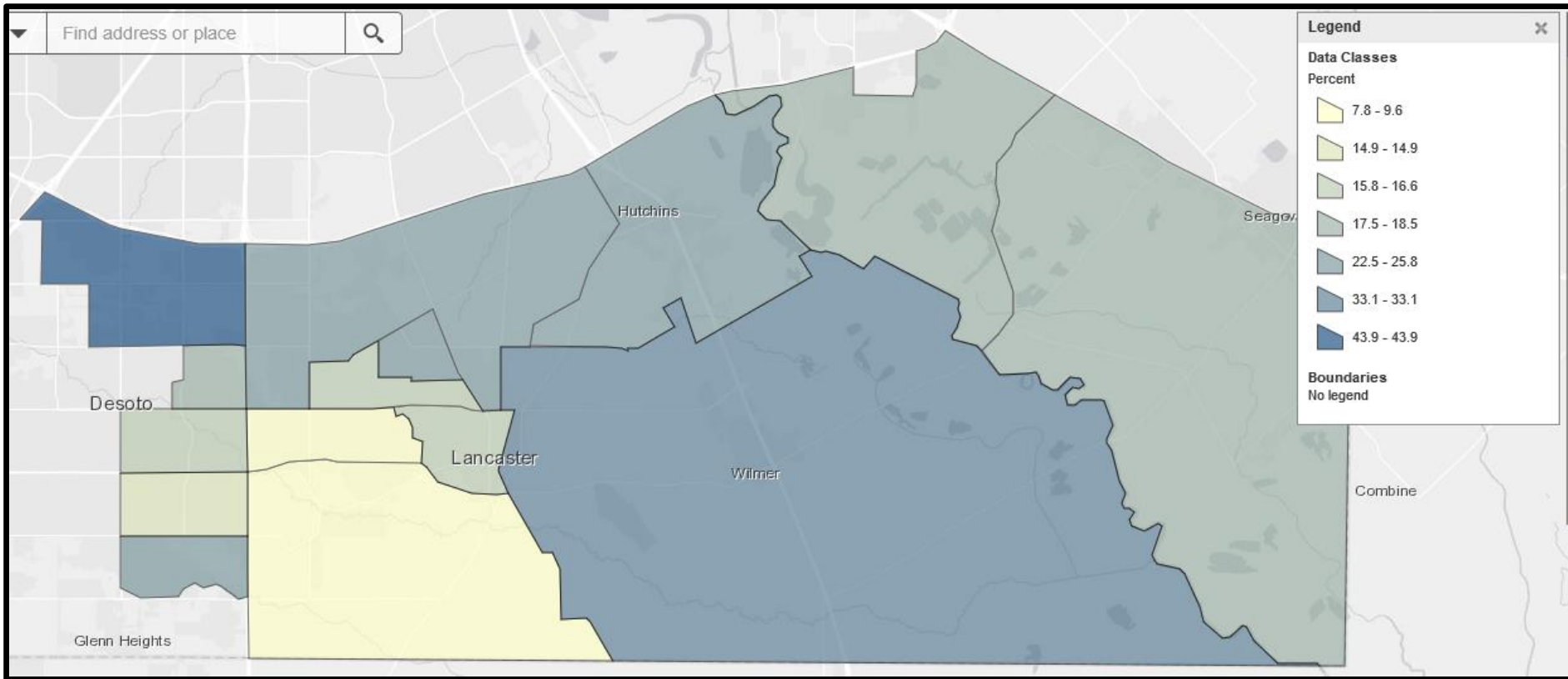
Neighbors engaged
in planning



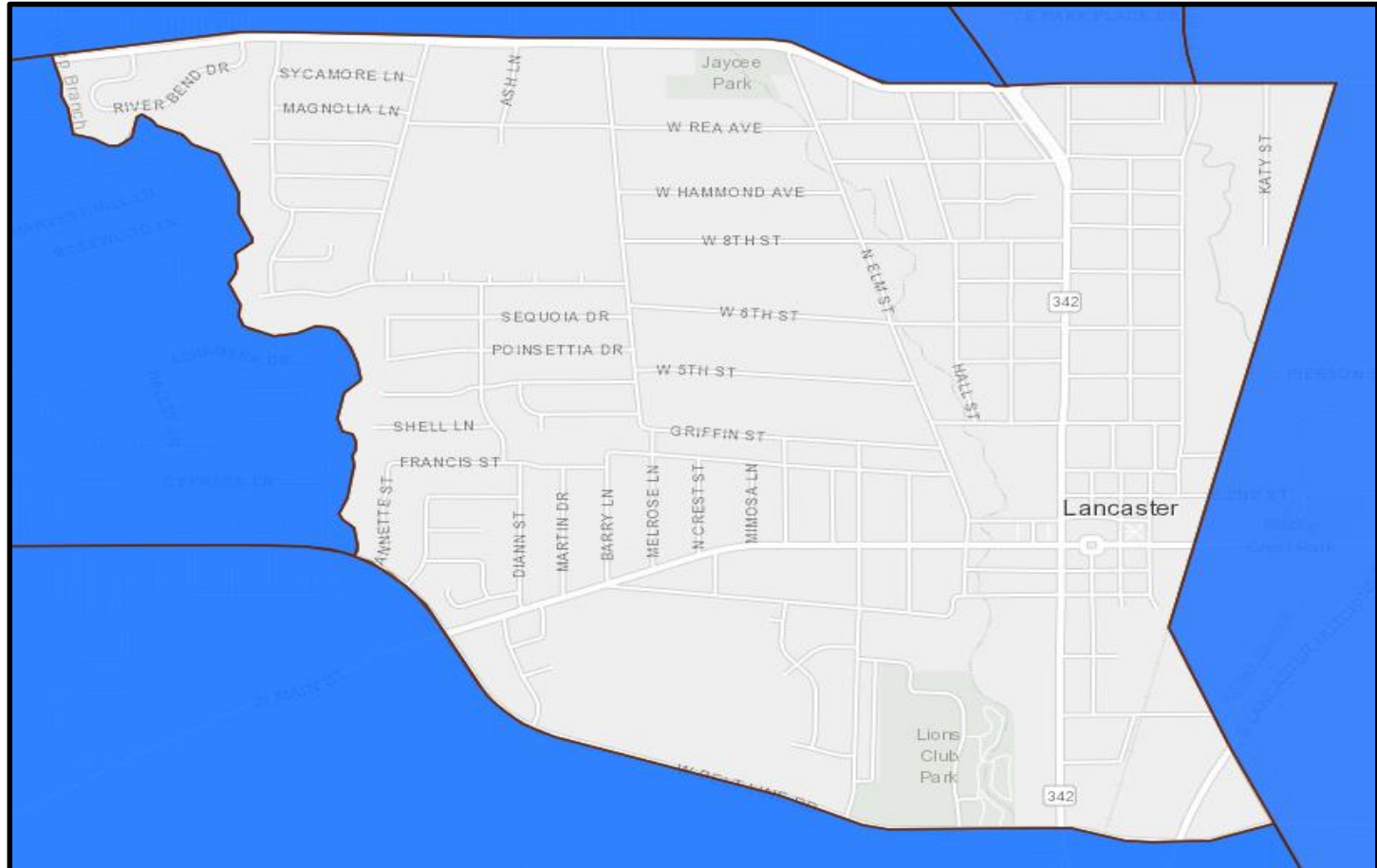
Poverty by ZIP Code, Dallas Council



Lancaster Area



Neighborhood



svdpusa.org/nob





Who Are We

Steve Havemann

Executive Director

St. Vincent De Paul

Des Moines, IA

execdir@svdpdsm.org

Holly Dommer

Back2Work Coordinator

St. Vincent De Paul

Des Moines, IA

back2work@svdpdsm.org





- Unique, new opportunity
- 8 days of Classroom focused on Work Preparedness
- Up to 180 Hour Internship linked to a Trade Career Pathway
- Opportunities will vary and are assigned
- Employers offering internships should have full-time positions to fill
- **ULTIMATE GOAL: Employment!!**





“The two most important qualities of a candidate are that they can show up on time, consistently, and are willing to work.”





Points to take into Consideration

- Barriers potential participants have
- Non-judge mental staff and volunteers
- Combination of paid facilitators as well as volunteers is important
- Volunteers must be trained in the effects of poverty and self-sufficiency best practices





Curriculum Key Points

- Career Pathways
- Labor Market Information
- Importance of the Internship
- Workplace Expectations
- Introducing Yourself
- Role of Your Team Members
- Asking Questions
- Employment Process
- Workplace Communication
- Employment Interviews
- Being a Good Team Member
- Staying Motivated
- Trade Skills
- Goal Setting
- Financial Literacy
- What to expect the 1st day





Make B2W CUSTOM

- Replication needs to be creative
 - Prisons/jails
 - Others???
- Program details must and can be adapted to your region
- Program concepts should be personalized by the facilitators
- B2W is responsive to the specific needs of each cohort
- Innovative delivery of the B2W Program
- Creativeness in internship placement/direct hire
- Program details must and can be adapted to your region
- Program concepts should be personalized by the facilitators
- B2W is responsive to the specific needs of each cohort





B2W is UNIQUE!!

- Broad recruitment pool, but program not for everyone
- Very intense, fast-paced classroom
- Intentional, multiple touches by the entire team
- Classroom schedule adaptable to meeting critical participant needs
- We are REAL





B2W is UNIQUE!!

- Flexible funding sources allow assistance for non-traditional program supports
- Highly interactive, dynamic material, based on what is expected by employer partners
- Employers trust us to make the matches!
- Not suited for everyone:
 - Need to be dedicated
 - Need to be motivated





B2W is INTENSIVE

- Cohort size not recommended to exceed 10 participants (Covid 19 –social distancing awareness)
- Innovative ways to hold Cohorts
 - Virtually
- Time intentionally built into curriculum to resolve issues impacting employment
- Portions of the curriculum are intentionally repetitive





Des Moines Success Story:

Jennifer- Cohort 4





B2W in Action: Green Bay





- The Back2Work program blends the best aspects of traditional workforce programming concepts with a new approach, modernizing the learning model
- The priority of the program:
 - Is inclusive of all persons interested in an opportunity to start a new career pathway
 - Creates accessible entry
 - points open to all education
 - and skill levels





- Each Back2Work cohort grows and evolves to adapt to the ever-changing needs of the greater Green Bay community
- Both for participants looking to gain new skills and for community business partners who are looking to expand and enhance the workforce
- It is imperative that Back2Work be more than a classroom experience for participants to grow and share their stories
 - Interactive
 - Fun
 - Safe-space



Questions?



Stay Active and Stay Tuned!

- Sign up for action alerts
votervoicenet.org/SVDPUSA/home
- Check out upcoming webinars every
Third Thursday at 3:00 PM ET
Archive: svdpusa.org/members/Programs-Tools/Programs/Voice-of-the-Poor/What-Has-Been-Accomplished

Tom Mulloy tmulloy@svdpusa.org

