

Simplicity · Humility · Gentleness · Selflessness · Zeal

DECEMBER 4, 2025

The Wish We Live: Personal Relationship in the Heart of Service

When I moved to Georgia almost 34 years ago, it didn't take me long to become a country music fan. Seems unlikely for a hardcore rock and roller who grew up on the beach. But it happened (let me clarify that I do not mean the old time 'twangy' country music of the '50s and '60s; that doesn't do it for me).

There's a song that I especially fell in love with. It has touched millions of hearts over the years. It's by the country music group Rascal Flatts called "My Wish." A song so simple and yet so profound that it transcends genre, age, and circumstance. It



speaks of wishes. Not the frivolous desires we sometimes chase, but the deep, sacred longings we hold for those we love. **Read more...**

THIS WEEK'S FEATURE: Back2Work



SVdP Bridges Access to Reemployment in Iowa through Back2Work Programs

In 2017, two years into his tenure as CEO of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) in Des Moines, Iowa, Steve Havemann had an eye-opening realization: 34% of the people being served by SVdP Des Moines had been incarcerated at some point in their life.

That's just the tip of the iceberg. The 6th Avenue Corridor in Des Moines — a community served by SVdP — is the most impoverished and underserved

in the city, according to Havemann. It is the least accessible by transportation, has the highest crime rate, and has an average household income of about \$11,000. Read more...

A SUCCESSFUL GIVING TUESDAY

Thanks to your help, we had a very successful Giving Tuesday!

Total raised: **\$37,676.58**

Number of donors: **252**

Total impact with match: \$75,353.16

Families helped: Countless

Because of you, families facing eviction will stay housed. Kids will have food on the table. Parents will keep their cars running to get to work. From all of us — and the families you're helping — THANK YOU!

Our end-of-year match continues through **December 31**. If you have not yet made your gift, there is still time to make double the impact. **Donate now...**



FAITH IN ACTION. ROOTED IN LOVE.



SVdP Georgia Receives \$5 Million from Jeff Bezos and Lauren Sánchez Bezos' Day 1 Families Fund

SVdP Georgia, the state's oldest, largest and most-trusted social service safety net nonprofit, announced earlier this week that Jeff Bezos and Lauren Sánchez Bezos are recognizing the organization with a \$5 million grant from the Bezos Day 1 Families Fund. This investment is the largest gift in the

nonprofit's history. SVdP Georgia is part of the eighth annual cohort of organizations across the country receiving funding from the Day 1 Families Fund to deepen their work to help every family have a safe, stable place to call home. **Read more...**

Children and Families Have a Ball with SVdP and the Phoenix Suns

Vulnerable families in Phoenix, Az., experienced an evening of nonstop joy on Nov. 21 thanks to the Phoenix Suns.

Children and parents met their basketball idols like Khaman Maluach, Nick Richards and Ryan Dunn. Kids also played alongside Suns players and learned new



tricks. Following the activities was a delicious dinner served by the Suns to the families, along with appearances made by the team's cheerleaders and Go the Gorilla. The event was made possible by a legacy partnership between the Phoenix Suns, Phoenix Mercury Foundation, and SVdP.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, December 5 at 2:00pm CDT

Poverty Action Committee First Friday Webinar - Reentry

Programs

Wednesday, December 10 at 7:00pm CDT
Leadership Training: Effective Conference Meetings

Tuesday, December 16 at 1:30pm CDT Getting Ahead 101

Tuesday, December 16 at 6:30pm CDT Getting Ahead 101 (Second Session)

Tuesday, December 16 at 7:00pm CDT Multicultural Diversity Committee Meetings



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