



# Frederic's e-Gazette

an e-newsletter from

THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE U.S.  
SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL



## Donate Today to the 2024 Disaster Appeal!

October 31, 2024

### A LETTER FROM YOUR SERVANT LEADERS



Michael Pazzaglini  
National Vice President,  
South Central Region

**BOO!** I am your scariest trick-or-treater! Yes, I've been told that I have a face for radio.

It's that time of year, and today's the day that we're going to see the little gremlins coming to our door, yelling "trick or treat." I can't wait for it to get started. Much like our upcoming elections, it's exciting and scary at the same time.

We are in the midst of a chaotic, tumultuous time in our nation. We need the Society of St. Vincent de Paul more than ever. No matter what the outcome of the upcoming elections, we will be called upon to be the face of Christ amidst the exuberance of winning, the

depression of defeat, celebrations, anxieties, and anger. As Vincentians, we need to be the hopeful voice and the peaceful face.

Like you, I am weary of all the focus and hype surrounding the election. The never-ending television commercials, the mudslinging in social media, and the talking heads who continue to hype the contests. In the spirit of full disclosure, I am a political junkie, but even I have reached my limit. I am ready to cast my vote and wish that Election Day would be over.

[Read More](#)

Thank you for all you do in His Name — may God bless you,  
Michael Pazzaglini  
National Vice President, South Central Region

## UPCOMING WEBINARS & EVENTS

### **Poverty Program Committee Meetings**

Voice for the Poor, *First Thursdays at 4PM Central* [See you on Zoom](#)

Poverty Action, *Fourth Tuesdays at 1PM Central* [See you on Zoom](#)

Homelessness Prevention, *Fourth Wednesdays at 3PM Central* [See you on Zoom](#)

### **Thursday, November 7 at 10:30AM CENTRAL**

#### [Webinar: Workforce Shared Interest Group - Kitchen of Champions](#)

Join us to learn about Alameda, CA Council's "Kitchen of Champions Culinary Training and Job Placement Program", which has provided opportunities for over 100 people to transform their lives, while also serving over 500,000 meals to disadvantaged men, women, and children.

### **Monday, November 18 at 12:00PM CENTRAL**

#### [Webinar: Lessons Learned from Facilitators & Investigators](#)

The Getting Ahead program offers a transformative journey for both facilitators and investigators. Join us as share insights and lessons learned from the perspectives of those who have participated in the program.

### **Wednesday, November 20 at 6:30PM CENTRAL**

#### [Webinar: Annual Reporting for Councils](#)

This tutorial begins with an overview of gathering and organizing Council information and includes a walkthrough of completing the report within the online Members Portal. This tutorial is specially designed for leaders of smaller Councils that don't have special works or paid staff.

### **Thursday, November 21 at 2:00PM CENTRAL**

#### [Webinar: Voice of the Poor - Advocacy that Makes an Impact](#)

Join Steve Uram, National Director of Poverty Programs, as he debunks some popular myths around grassroots advocacy and explains the keys to a successful meeting with your legislators. Steve will also explore the impact of social media advocacy.

To view the complete calendar, [click here](#).

## NATIONAL COUNCIL UPDATES

## Fall Newsletter

Thank you for being a part of the SVdP family! We're excited to share with you the Fall Issue of *Serving in Hope*, SVdP USA's quarterly newsletter. Every issue moving forward will highlight a local Council and the amazing work they are doing in their local community. Your service as a Vincentian helps care for millions of neighbors in need every year. Check it out [here!](#)



## Latest Annual Report Available Now

Thank you for an incredible year, Vincentians! Thanks to you, SVdP served more than 5 million neighbors in need last year and provided an astonishing \$1.7 billion in services to the most vulnerable among us. [Read the full Annual Report here.](#)

## The National Council Is Hiring

The National Council is seeking qualified candidates for the open positions of:

- [Chief Advancement Officer](#)
- [Senior Director of Finance](#)

- [Development Coordinator](#)

## RECRUITING NEW VINCENTIANS TO JOIN YOU



Testimonials are powerful tools. We've filmed several Vincentians talking about their heartfelt experiences serving a neighbor in need with the Society St. Vincent de Paul. These testimonial videos are available for YOUR USE on your Conference's social media, at your next parish fair, or during a pulpit talk. Recruit your friends and family to become Vincentians today!

Visit <https://vimeo.com/showcase/11431825> to see all the videos available for your use.

## DISASTER SERVICES UPDATES

### **Tornado Strikes After Helene**

Michelle and her husband lived in their dream home with nine dogs and six cats. Last month, the backlash of Hurricane Helene sent a tornado their way, and that dream home was reduced to rubble. All of their dreams were shattered.

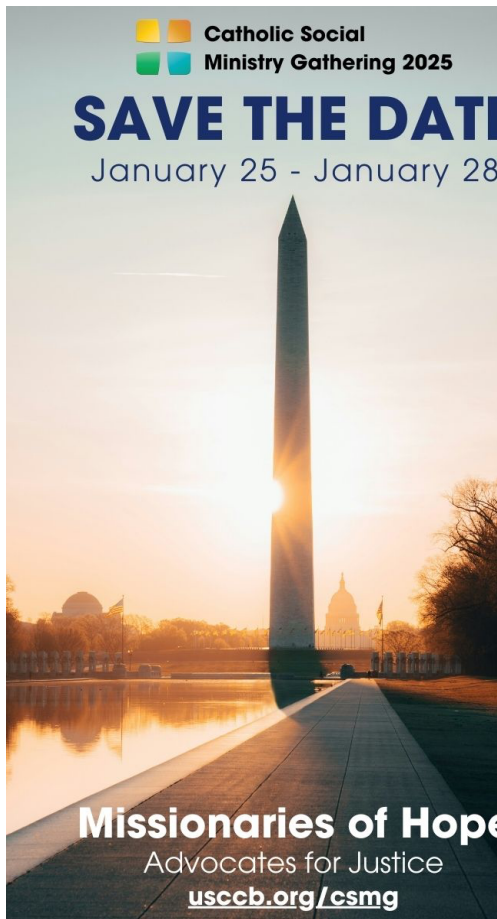
An empty lot is all that remains now, after the debris had been cleared away. They were living in their vehicle to protect what was left of their property from looters. DSC assisted this family with emotional



and spiritual care, conducted their intake for FEMA, and provided them with Walmart Gift Cards.

Your donations make an impact to our neighbors in need! Please consider [donating to our Disaster Relief Appeal](#) today.

## POVERTY PROGRAMS UPDATE



Don't miss this transformative gathering for leaders in Catholic social ministry and advocacy! We



**Join the discussion and be part of the solution!**

Register before November 22, to take advantage of special early bird registration. Visit the CSMG 2025 Home Site: [Register Now!!](#)

When registering use this passcode: **NCOREG25** As a reminder, this registration code is for restricted use only and should not be shared.

The Registration Fee is \$400. The last day to register online is January 10, although on-site registration is allowed.

will gather to pray, learn, and work together on our Catholic call to be missionaries of hope and beacons of God's love for the world. The 2025 Catholic Social Ministry Gathering celebrates and shares a bright vision for our world and will equip leaders to become advocates for justice and peace. [Click Here](#) for more details.



Curious about starting a Getting Ahead program? Don't know where to begin? Our program practitioners have updated the Getting Ahead Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document. Both in webpage and document format, this comprehensive FAQ material will provide tips on how to begin a program, how to find investigators (participants), and how to find mentors. Read it [online](#) or download the document [here](#).

A coalition of faith-based organizations, including SVdP USA, sent a letter to the Chairman and Subcommittee Chairs of the House Ways and Means Committee making a strong pro-family argument for supporting the Child Tax Credit. The letter can be found in the Coalition Letters area of our website. [Click here](#) to read the letter.



### Reporting Deadline Is December 31

All listening sessions should be completed, and feedback provided on or before this date. Thank you to those who have already provided their feedback.

#### The VisionSVdP Prayer

Come, Holy Spirit, open our eyes, our hearts, and our imaginations to Your inspiration as we embark on our VisionSVdP journey and seek to discern the Father's holy will for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and how it will adapt to a changing world.

Come, Holy Spirit, transform our doubts, ignite our zeal. Help us discern new and innovative ways to bring more people into the joy of service in the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

Come, Holy Spirit, grant us the simplicity to share honestly with each other, the humility to serve a mission greater than ourselves, and the gentleness to listen to each other without judgment.

Amen

#### Oración de la VisiónSVdP

Ven, Espíritu Santo, abre nuestros ojos, nuestros corazones y nuestra imaginación a Tu inspiración Divina mientras nos embarcamos en nuestro viaje hacia la VisiónSVdP y lograr discernir en la santa voluntad del Padre, en cómo se adaptará la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl a un mundo cambiante.

Ven, Espíritu Santo, transforma nuestras dudas, ilumina nuestro fervor. Ayúdanos a discernir con formas nuevas e innovadoras de llevar a más personas a la alegría del servicio en la Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl.

Ven, Espíritu Santo, concédenos la sencillez de compartir honestamente los unos con los otros; la humildad para servir a una misión más grande que nosotros mismos; y la gracia de escucharnos unos a otros sin juzgarnos.

Amén



#### Vision SVdP Online Form Now Available

You can now enter Vision SVdP observations online. The [easy-to-use form is located here](#). This online submission form is not intended to replace discussions from shared sessions at Conferences, Councils, stores, or other groups — it has been created for additional observations. We highly recommend participating in a group discussion before using the form. If you have questions, please contact [techsupport@svdpusa.org](mailto:techsupport@svdpusa.org)

**Every Voice Matters!**

It takes extra effort to reach and include all voices. Let's to include everyone in our conversations, in our thoughts, ideas, etc. for the future of our Society.

¡TODAS VOZ IMPORTA! Este es solo otro recordatorio de que muy probablemente se necesitarán esfuerzos adicionales para llegar a todas las voces e incluirlas. Todos sabemos que no se trata solo del lenguaje. Sigamos abriendo nuestras mentes para incluir a todos en nuestras conversaciones, en nuestros pensamientos, ideas, etc. para el futuro de nuestra sociedad.

**Please see the full list of Spanish resources available below.**

Spanish VisionSVdP material/tools:

*(Los materiales y herramientas de la VisiónSVdP están disponibles en español.):*

<https://ssvpusa.org/vision-svdP-resources/>

Archbishop Andrew Bellisario's Welcome Video in Spanish:

*(Video en español de bienvenida del arzobispo Andrew Bellisario):*

<https://vimeo.com/975263440?share=copy>

Spanish PowerPoint Presentation:

*(La presentación de PowerPoint en español):*

[VisiónSVdP-Fase-III-Diapositivas-1.0e](#)

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

**Q: How do Council leaders report the hours they spent at a national meeting? Is it counted as 24 hours a day, 8-hours in a given day, or is it strictly based on the total number of hours actually present at meetings (including workshops, committee meetings, presentations, general session attendance, Masses attended, meals shared in a Vincentian group, etc.)?**

**A:** It can be approached two ways. One, start with the first scheduled event for the day and run through the last event scheduled for the day. Sometimes this is 8 hours, sometimes 12. The second is to use the first method plus the time spent "on-your-own" if it is effectively in meetings with other Vincentians. 24 hours per day is unreasonable, but 8 hours average per day works also.

**Q: Who actually casts a vote for the District Council President? Is it any Conference member who is defined as fully active or just the members (Conference Presidents) of the District Council?**

**A:** Formal voting is done at the District Council meeting designated for this process. However, many times the Conference Presidents bring the information about the candidates to their Conferences and ask the Conference members to vote. The Conference President then takes that vote to the District meeting and casts the vote on behalf of the Conference. If this is done, each Active (Full) Member has one vote, and it must be cast in person.



The voting members of the District Council are the Presidents of the Conferences in the District and the District Council President. Traditionally, the District Council President does not vote unless there is a tie. The only exception to this is when your District Council Bylaws do not correspond with the Nationally Approved Bylaws and your DC bylaws specify additional voting members.

To view this week's Q&A, including the Spanish Translation, [click here](#). Find the full [Q&A Index](#) here, and visit the [SVdP Thrift Store website](#) for stores-related Q&As.

Submit your questions to Pam Hudson Johnson at [phudson@svdpusa.org](mailto:phudson@svdpusa.org)

## GOVERNANCE

### What Is Meant by "Hoarding" in a St. Vincent de Paul Context?

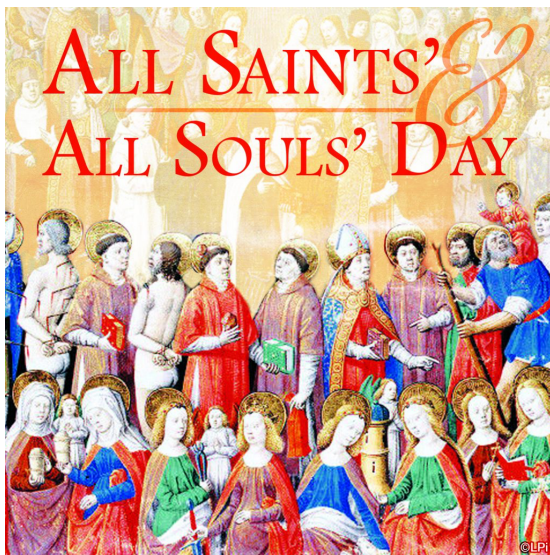
Hoarding is prohibited in a number of instances within the documents of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Our Rule, for example, tells us that "Money must not be hoarded." However, since there is no specific place where hoarding is actually defined, the National Governance Committee deemed it appropriate to provide a formal definition.

Considerations related to hoarding within the Society are slightly different when looking at this from a Conference perspective and a Council perspective. These are addressed in a document developed by the Committee which treats Conference considerations and Council considerations separately. [Click here](#) to read this important information.

### Questions Regarding Governance and Membership Services?

Contact Pam Hudson Johnson, National Director of Membership Services  
(314) 576-3993 ext. 214 or email [phudson@svdpusa.org](mailto:phudson@svdpusa.org)

## FORMATION AND SPIRITUALITY



### November 1, The Solemnity of All Saints

*We pray this day for all those who have gone before us to heaven, also asking their intercession on our behalf.*

"You know the great mystery of the Communion of Saints. You know that this mystery does not allow us to think of ourselves alone here below, and that it surrounds us with the most excellent and dear souls like so many witnesses and glorious patrons, so that the heart does not fail us during our trials."

The unity of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul will be cited as a model of Christian friendship, of a friendship stronger than death, for we will often remember in our prayers to God the brothers who have been taken from us. This sentiment . . . will make of all our hearts one heart, of all our souls one soul - *Cor unum, et anima una*. **Rule 1835**

**Bl. Frédéric Ozanam**

### **November 2, The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed (All Souls)**

*We pray this day for all those who have gone before us and remain in Purgatory, that they may have their eternal reward.* “The happiness of heaven is love. He who loved more here below will be given more happiness up above; so, let us not fear loving too much, but let us love beneath the eyes of God, let us love with the awareness of a future farewell, but also with the knowledge of a reunion that follows.”

**Bl. Frédéric Ozanam**

### **Introducing the Vincentian Digital Pathway**

Members, volunteers, leaders, and staff are all Vincentians, each with our own special role to play. We share our dedication to the works and the spirituality of our great patron, St. Vincent de Paul, and we seek to carry on the traditions of the Society founded by Bl. Frédéric Ozanam. We also recognize that our roles may change over time.

The Vincentian Digital Pathway is designed to let you join from where you are in your personal Vincentian journey, following your own interests to learn and to grow – to become better equipped for your current role, or to prepare for a new one. Within each area of interest, you will find videos, online reading, books you may wish to purchase or download, and more. You will find this even more fruitful the more you share and discuss it with your fellow Vincentians.

Visit the [Vincentian Digital Pathway](#) and start (or continue) your journey today!

### **Questions Regarding Spirituality and Formation?**

Contact Tim Williams, Senior Director, Formation & Leadership Development  
(314) 576-3993 ext. 207

[twilliams@svdpusa.org](mailto:twilliams@svdpusa.org)

## **STORES CORNER**

### **Budgeting, Forecasting, & Measuring Your Way to Profitability**

*By Paul Ihlenfeldt, Director of Operations  
North Central Region*

The non-profit thrift environment can be extremely unpredictable. You're not always sure how much you are going to receive in donations and cannot always predict how or when it is going to sell. But we can reference trends and use those trends to plan and budget for improvement. If we do not establish a goal for improvement, we will not achieve improvement. We will only repeat what we have done and eventually lose what we have gained. [Read More](#)

### **Have a topic you would like to see in the next Stores Corner?**

If you have a topic that you would like addressed in a future Stores Corner article, please e-mail [Jeff Beamguard](#), Director of Stores Support.

## VINCENTIAN PRAYER LIST

Are you or another Vincentian in need of prayers from fellow SVdP members? Send the prayer intention to Pam Hudson Johnson at [phudson@svdpusa.org](mailto:phudson@svdpusa.org) and we will add the name to the [Vincentian Prayer List](#). Thank you and God Bless.

## SOME VINCENTIAN'S AREN'T GETTING THE E-GAZETTE!

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