



2021 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY – PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

1. **MISSION, HISTORY, PHILOSOPHY:** Established in 1871, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a 501c 3 faith-based, non-profit organization with the mission *to grow spiritually through person-to-person service to all in need in our community*. The Society is made up of 58 parish-based chapters, called Conferences that have a combined total of 1,900 parish-based volunteers called Vincentians. Assistance is given through our Food Network, Clothing & Furniture Voucher, Disaster Response, and Home Visit Programs. *Members of the Society believe in the dignity of each human person, and we are called to honor their dignity in our actions. When our neighbors and friends fall on hard times, we're there to help, regardless of their income, color, creed, or circumstance. We serve our neighbors not because they are Catholic, but because we are.*
1. **SERVICE DELIVERY MODEL:**
 - A. **Home Visits**

Our work is dependent on the cornerstone of our ministries – the home visit. These person-to-person visits are what makes us unique and distinguishes us from other social service agencies. During home visits, our volunteers, called “Vincentians”, bring hope and financial resources to neighbors through assistance with rent, food, clothing, and other emergency needs. We develop friendships with those in need, listening and praying together. Home visits are a crucial tool in both our emergency aid and systemic change efforts.
 - B. **Food Network**

Many families cannot consistently put food on the table. Our Food Network encompasses over 22 food pantries and emergency food closets that provide support to a growing community of individuals, the elderly, and families in need of nourishment and basic needs. Our pantries provide nutritional foods, which include special dietary items and baby foods, as well as household goods and hygiene necessities to promote healthy, dignified lives. Our pantries are also a presence in local communities and space where our neighbors develop relationships with our Vincentians and rely on them as a trusted resource.
 - C. **Systemic Change - “Getting Ahead” Program**

Examining the root causes of poverty, Vincentians work directly with neighbors in need to explore permanent life changes. The “Getting Ahead” program enables people to engage in the identification of the root causes of their poverty and to create strategies to change those structures which keep them in poverty; and build skill sets to be able to respond to future challenges. Participants walk side by side with one another to tackle everything from budgeting and negotiation skills to how to cope with daily life and build hope for the future. “Getting Ahead” is a facilitated program to help individuals build their own personal plan to get out of poverty and create sustainability.
 - D. **Resale Shop and Vouchers**

The Society has two resale shops that are available for our neighbors to redeem their clothing and furniture vouchers given to them as a result of the home visit. All furniture and clothing items are donated by the local community, and low-income families can purchase items at a low cost. The shops also provide meaningful employment and volunteer opportunities to help fund our programs.
 - E. **Disaster Services**

Although we are not first responders, we are connected to those who are, and our network of Conferences – which function like chapters - collaborates and often dispatches volunteers to disaster areas once the location has been secured and cleared for entry. Disaster in our area is unpredictable, but regardless the situation, our Vincentians creatively respond to the needs in the community, working with other disaster response agencies to serve in the best manner possible.
2. **COUNTIES:** Austin, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Grimes, Harris, Montgomery, San Jacinto, Walker, Waller.
3. **REVENUE MODEL/COST/FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY:** The total operating budget of the Society is \$8,330,000 with about 50% generated by the Conferences at the parishes, and the other 50% supported by foundations, corporations, government, individuals, and the resale stores. Separately, in-kind donations are valued at almost \$10 million.
4. **LEADERSHIP AND STAFFING STRUCTURE:** The Society has been led by CEO Ann Schorno for 11 years. Fifteen active and committed board members provide oversight and guidance to the organization. The organization has 27 employees and is significantly supported by a network of volunteers.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

BY THE NUMBERS - SERVICES PROVIDED IN 2020

VOLUNTEER SERVICES PROVIDED

Number of volunteers *	2,600
Volunteer hours/FTE**	180,600/87 FTE
Volunteer miles***	261,800
Paid staff hours/FTE/three locations	25 FTE

LOCATION OF OUR SERVICES PROVIDED

Number of conferences (chapters)	58
Percentage of parishes with SVDP	46%
Percentage of zip codes served	68%

Counties served:

Austin, Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Grimes, Harris, Montgomery, San Jacinto, Walker, Waller

MEALS PROVIDED

Number of food bank pantries in the parishes	22
Pounds of food distributed	5.4 million
Dollar value of food****	\$10 million
Number of meals served	3.8 million
Number of households assisted	19,000

UTILITIES SUPPORT PROVIDED

Value of utility support	\$1 million
Number of households assisted	5000
Average payment to household	\$193

DISASTER ASSISTANCE

Dollar value of disaster assistance	\$1.6 million
Number of households assisted	1,100
Average payment	\$1423

HOUSING

Dollar value of housing	\$2.5 million
Number of households assisted	7,700
Average rental payment	\$318
Number of home and virtual visits	9,400

TOTALS

Average cost per household per year	\$380
Direct Aid	\$15.5 million
In-kind	\$9.9 million
Financial Assistance	\$5.6 million
Unduplicated individuals	85,000
Unduplicated households	21,000
Duplicated individuals	276,000
Duplicated households	67,000

*Volunteers provide direct service through parishes, in the thrift stores and warehouses.

**In-kind volunteer worth is valued at the IRS amount at \$28.54 per hour.

***Volunteers pay their own gas – the IRS value is \$56 cents a mile.

****The majority of the food is in-kind or discounted for purchase at the Houston Food Bank