“A little bit of mercy makes the world less cold and more just.”
Pope Francis

Annual Report
2015

Society of St. Vincent de Paul South Pinellas, Inc.

Our biggest capital project to date... Restoring the Center of Hope to it's original majesty.

2014

2015
Thank you for taking the time to read the 2015 Annual Report for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul South Pinellas, Inc. (SVdPSP).

2015 has been an incredible year for SVdPSP – and we owe it all to our devoted donors, funders, community partners, and staff.

As an agency, SVdPSP has seen 500% financial growth in services since 2012. This year our operation was expanded to include Pasco and Hillsborough counties. The number of clients served has increased 100% this year alone.

SVdPSP is deeply committed to our mission of serving the homeless and poor of Tampa Bay. We are incredibly grateful to our many supporters for making this possible!

Michael Raposa, Chief Executive Officer
Pat Sullivan, Board President

The Mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul South Pinellas, Inc. is to alleviate pain and suffering, in a spirit of charity, justice, and mercy through person to person involvement.
The history of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is a rich tapestry, woven over the past 175 years by a spiritual bond of its 880,000 members with the Society's founder, Frederic Ozanam, its patron saint, and their mutual love and commitment to the poor.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul South Pinellas, Inc. (SVdPSP), has served its target population - the hungry, homeless and impoverished people of St. Petersburg - since 1931, when a single SVdP Conference at St. Paul's Catholic Church opened a soup kitchen. Over time, and reflecting the growth of the City and its environs, that lone provider of services has grown to 12 Conferences comprising the South Pinellas District Council, with SVdPSP Incorporating on May 20, 1985, and has been assisting those in dire circumstances through well-managed programs that address their basic human needs for food, clothing and shelter.

The agency at 384 15th St. N. was established in its present location in 2000. The agency supports these services through a variety of revenue sources including local, state and federal governmental funds, contributions and program fees.

SVdPSP is the fifth largest SVdP in the nation and is comprised of 105 employees and numerous volunteers to run its many programs. The agency serves residents of Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties regardless of race, creed, gender, national origin, disability or socio-economic status.

- **Commitment**: Demonstrated by our loyalty in service to our mission and values.
- **Advocacy**: Demonstrated by support for issues affecting those who are homeless or in poverty.
- **Respect**: Demonstrated by the belief that all people have dignity because they are children of God.
- **Empowerment**: Demonstrated by helping people be and become their best.
- **Spirituality**: Demonstrated by our faith in God, hope for our future, and love of all people.
A journey of gratitude....

Give food to a grateful recipient
Tom arrived at Society of St. Vincent de Paul South Pinellas, Inc. (SVdPSP) initially for a lunch meal at our Food Center. He came to us hungry, with nowhere to stay. He ate lunch and dinner, but did not stay with us that night.

Offer a safe place to stay
Two days later he signed into our Night Shelter. “It was surreal living on the streets”. He was able to sleep comfortably and the next day was given a hot shower through our shower program. These programs are made possible by your donations.

Give them a purpose, a reason to have hope.
Tom became a reliable volunteer, sitting at a desk near the entrance and checking other clients in and out of the building. He was friendly and always upbeat. His willingness to help made him a reliable volunteer. He was always so thankful for the help we were able to give him.

Show a spirit of God’s love and charity
Through bits of conversation over the ensuing weeks, we learned that he was retired and drew a small pension in addition to social security. He had no savings, however, and lacked the required deposits for rent and utilities to obtain his own apartment. This is a common issue with our homeless clients. During his stay at the shelter, Tom was able to save his income so he could achieve his goal of his own apartment. While independence is the goal of SVdPSP for each client, it was a bitter-sweet day when Tom reached his goal and said goodbye. We will miss his laughter.

We are thankful to be able to help clients like Tom. It is something we focus on every single day because at the very least, we are able to give hope to end homelessness.
Brent Boerst served in the United States Marine Corps for over three years. During his active duty, he was honored with a Marksman Rifle Badge. After he was discharged, he worked odd jobs until circumstances changed and he found himself homeless earlier this year. Brent was homeless for three months when he came for help from our Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) Program in Hillsborough County.

With the Society of St. Vincent de Paul South Pinellas, Inc. SSVF Program’s help, he was placed at the Salvation Army, where he lived for three months, until he secured permanent housing through our program.

Brent began his employment at Ulele in April of this year. He is a cook with the Tampa restaurant at 1810 North Highland Avenue. He has been embraced as family with the owners and staff of Ulele, the staff cares for each other like family. His Sous Chef Kelly Fletcher spoke so passionately about helping Brent and how he has advanced. Chef Fletcher called him his “Go to guy”.

Brent enjoys his work and his co-workers, and is proud of his successes. He should be, he has earned his advances in the kitchen. He contributes his success to working for Ulele, “It’s like my home”.

Brent is currently housed in an apartment in Tampa and is gainfully employed.

Supervisor Reuben Irineo, Sous Chef Kelly Fletcher and Brent are pictured here in the kitchen of The Ulele.

This is just one of our many success stories made possible through the hard work our SSVF Program Case Managers.
Food Center

St. Vincent de Paul is dedicated to feeding the hungry, homeless and working poor in the County’s largest city through its 13,500 square-foot Food Center located in downtown St. Petersburg where the vast majority of the homeless and impoverished congregate and live. These include: “street people”, elderly, handicapped and families who are looking for work and whose funds have run out. The Food Center averages 500 nutritious meals a day. 5,411 food boxes were distributed through our outreach program, located adjacent to the Food Center, which runs the food pantry.

162,878 meals were served in our Food Center

CARE Center

The Homeless Shelter is open 365 nights a year and has a capacity for 75 mats. The shelter provides men and women a safe place to sleep for the evening when they have nowhere else to go. The Night Shelter also provides showers and grooming supplies to the homeless population on a nightly basis. The Homeless Shelter also opens its doors for a day center to the public for respite from the environment and staff are available for assistance in applying for benefits and job opportunities.

26,484 homeless slept on an emergency basis in our CARE Center
Center of Hope

VA Grant and Per Diem Programs
Center of Hope is a 50 single-room-occupancy transitional living facility that provides housing and support for homeless individuals and Veterans recovering from economic, substance, mental and physical issues. It provides an extensive array of supportive services to its residents to address the various barriers to self-sufficiency and permanency in housing.

VA Emergency Shelter
The Emergency Shelter consists of 10 double-room-occupancy that provides housing and support for homeless individuals and Veterans recovering from economic, substance, mental and physical issues. It provides an extensive array of supportive services to its residents to address the various barriers to self-sufficiency and permanency in housing.

Family Shelter
The family shelter is a shelter that works to stabilize families experiencing housing crisis by providing them with a safe environment to reside while they work to find more stable housing in the community for families in need of emergency shelter placement. St. Vincent de Paul, in partnership with the Juvenile Welfare Board and Personal Enrichment through Mental Health Services (PEMHS), locate families through Tampa Bay 2-1-1 Cares.

688 people housed through our transitional housing programs
Homeless Persons Storage Unit

The Homeless Storage Units allows the entire homeless population a safe place to check their personal belongings. This year we helped 686 unduplicated clients store their belongings.

St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store

All donations and purchases benefit the homeless of St. Petersburg, and the Homeless Veterans of Pinellas, Pasco and Hillsborough counties. The St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store recycles your donated items for reuse in the community. With your generous donations, our store is able to provide household goods, clothing, furniture and other necessities for free to those in need. This is done through our voucher system, conducted by the Conferences in South Pinellas County that issue these vouchers, enabling clients to purchase furniture and clothing free of charge to meet their household needs. To donate, you can bring the items directly to our store or call (727) 328-2730 for pick up.

1374 vouchers for clothing provided to homeless clients through our Thrift Store

You are not alone. There is always help. There is always hope.
The Society of St. Vincent de Paul South Pinellas, Inc. was first funded in 2012 by the US Department of Veteran Affairs to provide services for Veterans in Pinellas County. The program has since expanded to include Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas County. The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program is designed to rapidly re-house Veterans and their families experiencing homelessness and to prevent homelessness for those at imminent risk due to a housing crisis. Critical to our success is having staff skilled in landlord outreach and recruitment, home-based case management, including assessment of potential eligibility for mainstream and other community resources to address identified needs, and access to temporary financial assistance to provide security and utility deposits, assistance with rent and utilities, and other related costs.

SSVF success is dependent on the use of a Housing First approach. This proven model focuses on helping individuals and families access and sustain permanent rental housing as quickly as possible and without precondition, while facilitating access to needed health care, employment, legal services, and other supports to sustain permanent housing and improve one’s quality of life.

1,746 unduplicated Veterans are enrolled in our program

- 82% of homeless Veterans moved into permanent Housing
- 91% of Veterans in imminent risk of becoming homeless were stabilized
- 50% of Veterans served experienced a positive change in income
- 70% of Veteran Households assisted had extremely low income (30% or below of area median income) ex: Household of four earning $24,250
- Over $2,710,365 in temporary assistance was provided
## Our Finances

### Revenue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>2014/2015</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2013/2014</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Government Grants</td>
<td>7,795,856</td>
<td>81%</td>
<td>2,863,570</td>
<td>63%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrift Shop revenues</td>
<td>650,240</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td>417,838</td>
<td>9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Donated food given to clients</td>
<td>401,228</td>
<td>4%</td>
<td>361,753</td>
<td>8%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>309,482</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>343,624</td>
<td>7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>504,991</td>
<td>5%</td>
<td>580,211</td>
<td>13%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,661,797</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,566,996</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
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</table>

### Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>2014/2015</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>2013/2014</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SSVF</td>
<td>6,303,174</td>
<td>67%</td>
<td>1,421,730</td>
<td>36%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Center of Hope</td>
<td>1,596,239</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>1,437,504</td>
<td>36%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Food Center</td>
<td>608,361</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>568,206</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thrift Store</td>
<td>585,748</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>385,355</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management and general</td>
<td>286,435</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>139,053</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>66,884</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>47,940</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>9,446,841</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,999,788</strong></td>
<td><strong>100%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### Pie Charts

- **2014/2015 Revenue**: Grants, Thrift Shop, Donated Food, Contributions, Other
- **2014/2015 Expenses**: SSVF, Center of Hope, Food Center, Thrift Store, Fundraising, Management
2015-2016 Strategic Direction
The Strategic Direction and Goals adopted by the Society of St. Vincent de Paul South Pinellas, Inc. were in response to our understanding of what our customer’s value most about the organization, current opportunities, and the challenges for offering a high quality system of support for individuals and families experiencing homelessness and those who are at risk of becoming homeless.

- Improve existing services and develop new opportunities to serve people in need and fill gaps
- Increase public awareness of SVdPSP’s mission and services
- Secure the financial future of SVdPSP
- Improve SVdPSP’s organizational structure to promote efficiency and effectiveness
- Enhance SVdPSP’s programs and explore opportunities for collaboration
- Increase volunteer base in all programs.
- Restructure and Strengthen the Thrift Store

The number of unduplicated clients served grew 77% in the last year and represents a 102% increase since 2013. This growth is the result of opening the Day Center and the expansion of the SSVF Program.
What we have Accomplished!

- Awarded $5,000,000 for 30 units of new construction for Permanent Supportive Housing in Pasco County for Disabled Veterans
- Awarded $9,000,000 multi-year grant for services to Veterans in Pasco and Pinellas Counties
- Awarded $1,500,000 additional funding for services to Veterans in Hillsborough County
- SVdPSP awarded the Sister Joan Foley Award Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County from their work with Supportive Services for Veteran Families
- Expanded the Homeless Shelter to include day services to assist clients in obtaining assistance in applying for benefits and job opportunities, as well as linking them to resources that meet the needs for housing, mental health, and substance abuse.
- Beautification of the Center of Hope with fresh paint and signage.
- Adopted a four year Strategic Plan to enhance the organization’s capacity for meeting Community needs.

Society of St. Vincent de Paul South Pinellas, Inc.
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