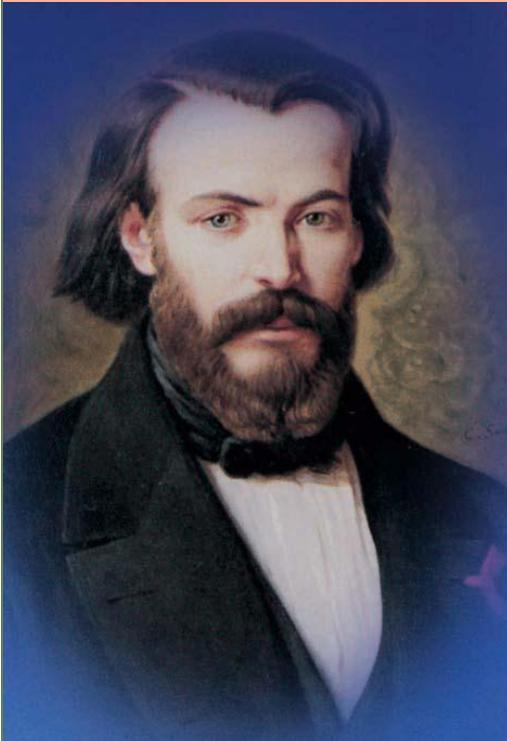




NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED STATES  
**SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, INC.**

October 2011



**Frédéric's E-Gazette**  
An electronic newsletter from  
the National Council of the  
Society of St. Vincent de Paul

***Seeking Charity and Justice***

*" The problem which divides people today is not a political problem; it is a social one. It is a matter of knowing which will get the upper hand, the spirit of selfishness or the spirit of sacrifice; whether society will go for ever-increasing enjoyment and profit, or for everyone devoting themselves to the common good ..."*

Blessed Frédéric Ozanam

Dear Wendy

We are in the second year of our voluntary campaign to meet our obligation to support the International Council General. The efforts to date have been very encouraging: So far, we have raised almost \$183,000.

At the same time, however, it is questionable whether this voluntary approach is sustainable.

Our goal for this year is 0.002 of cash income. Currently, we have 42 percent of all cash income worldwide, but the United States contributes only 7 percent to support the Council General.

We can -- and should -- do better.

Thanks and God Bless,



Roger Playwin  
National Executive Director



**To donate:**

[www.svdpusacars.com](http://www.svdpusacars.com)

**(800) 322-8284**

**To register:**

[www.registernvdp.com](http://www.registernvdp.com)

**Username: carsforsvdp**

**Password: vincent0927**

The National Vehicle Donation Program is a sponsor, along with other participating charities, in the **One Car One Difference Program**. Here's a compelling public service announcement (PSA) video that you can offer to the TV stations in your area to promote the NVDP in your community:



SVDPUSA National Vehicle Donation Program (One Car One Difference)

NOTE: If the TV stations in your community prefer a broadcast-quality tape rather than a link, please contact:

**Charles Henderson**

National Communications Director

Phone: (314) 576-3993, ext. 214

Email: [chenderson@svdpusa.org](mailto:chenderson@svdpusa.org)

As the year winds down, the tax man looms, so consider donating your used vehicle to the Society. Remember: We take cars, trucks, RVs, motorcycles, boats, etc. If it rolls, floats or flies, we'll accommodate the donation.

## Friends of the Poor® Grant Winners

Congratulations to the following Conferences in the Midwest and South Central Regions that were awarded Friends of the Poor® Grants for the 4th quarter:

- Holy Family-St. Catherine Laboure (Cahokia, Ill.)
- Queen of Peace (Aurora, Colo.)
- St. Elizabeth, Mother of John the Baptist (St. Louis, Mo.)
- St. Henry (Belleville, Ill.)
- St. Pius X (Aurora, Colo.)
- St. Francis of Assisi (Tulsa, Okla.)
- St. Paul (Austin, Texas)
- St. Rose of Lima (San Antonio, Texas)

The next round of grants will be awarded to Conferences in the **East** and **Northeast** Regions, and the application period will run from November 15 through November 30. **IMPORTANT:** Conferences that do not include all the material and information requested on the grant application will be disqualified from

consideration for that period.

To access the application, click on:

<http://www.svdpusa.com/development/FriendsofthePoorGrant.aspx>.

## Questions?

Gerri Sample

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

## Reminder: The Affinity Card Program Has Ended



A recent business decision made by Bank of America has ended BofA's affiliation with the National Council of the United States Society of St. Vincent de Paul Affinity Card Program.

Bank of America will continue to service all existing accounts and will reissue your individual card upon its expiration date.

If you have a current Bank of America card through this program, you will receive official notice in your October and November credit card statements.

Thank you for your past participation in this program.

## Tax Free Gifts to SVdP from IRA Accounts

On Dec. 17, 2010, President Obama signed into law The Tax Relief, Unemployment Insurance Reauthorization, and Job Creation Act of 2010. This bill restores the IRA charitable rollover for 2010 and permits its use in all of 2011. If you have an IRA (traditional or Roth), and we ask you to consider using it to make a gift to **the National Council of the Society of St Vincent de Paul**.



Here is what you need to know:

- IRA owners now can make "qualified charitable distributions" up to \$100,000 per year from their IRAs. The distributions to charity, which would otherwise be taxable, are excluded from gross income for federal tax purposes under this law.
- Donors must have reached age 70-½ by the date of contribution to qualify for this exclusion.
- The charitable gift must be made directly from the IRA trustee/administrator to the charity
- Other retirement plans such as 401(k), 403(b), SEPs, SIMPLE plans,

charitable gift annuities, charitable remainder trusts, and other similar gift arrangements are not eligible.

For more details, please consult your CPA, tax advisor or financial planner.

## Let's Have a Round of Applause for...



**SVdP's Store** on Kingshighway in St. Louis, Mo., was recognized by the readers of the *Riverfront Times*, a weekly newspaper, as "the best thrift store" in the area. In their review of the store, the editors said: "The folks at the Society of St. Vincent de Paul thrift stores make it easier than ever to achieve cheapo consumer euphoria..."

**Kathy Weaver**, a member of SSVdP in Easton, Md., who was awarded the "Top Hat Award," which is presented annually by the Council of Wilmington, Del., to a Vincentian who "consistently and passionately works to empower the poor and advocate on their behalf in the community." Kathy's work was characterized by the person who nominated her as "the heart and soul of our St. Vincent de Paul Conference." In addition to her work for SVdP, she also volunteers at the Salvation Army has served as a volunteer instructor of Master Gardening at the Talbot County Library.

...Along the same lines, **Steve Jenkins** was presented with SVdP Phoenix Council's "Top Hat Award." Steve has made many contributions to the Phoenix Diocesan Council in the past 26 years, during which he has "built an impressive legacy of servant leadership. His tireless and fruitful labors of love here and in Mexico have helped make a meaningful difference in the lives of many people."

**SVdP Council of Phoenix**, whose annual report was recognized for excellence by the Phoenix Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.

**SVdP's Conference of St. Francis of Rome in Riverbank, Calif.**, received a \$2,500 grant from CareMore Foundation to provide nutritious meals to area senior citizens. CareMore Foundation gave a total of \$10,000 in similar grants throughout Stanislaus County. The goal of the grants is to alleviate senior hunger by helping organizations that already provide food to seniors. Those programs range from

emergency food boxes to delivery of groceries to seniors.

**The Billings District Council**, which redicated its Charitable Works Office (which was reported previously) with a special Mass and a blessing by Fr. Bart Stevens, Parochial Vicar of the Billings Catholic Cluster of Churches. The renovated structure has a new floor, modern lighting, new offices, two sets of washers and dryers, a public restroom and a water fountain. The renovation was financed by grants from the M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust and the Fortin Foundation, as well as donations from many individual donors in the community. SVdP serves some 900 families each month in Yellowstone County and the surrounding area.

The Diocesan Council of Baton Rouge, La., recognized Vincentians from several Conferences for their outstanding service:

**John Melancon** and his family, owners of River Road Coffees, received the St. Vincent de Paul Community Award in appreciation for their donation of coffee and service for many years to the Society.

**St. Peter Claver Ladies Auxiliary** from St. Augustine Church in New Roads were awarded the Bishop Ott Shelter Program "Be a Light" Award. The members of the auxiliary have supported the society's mission for many years by preparing and serving a meal each month at the Bishop Ott Shelter for the Homeless.

**Herman Stroderd**, a local pharmacist, received the Sts. Cosmas and Damian Award for his many years of volunteer service at the St. Vincent de Paul Pharmacy, which this year will fill prescriptions worth more than \$2 million for those who cannot afford life-sustaining medicines.

**Ruscilla Salomone**, who has dedicated countless hours to the St. Vincent de Paul Thrift Store in Hammond, is the recipient of the St. Vincent de Paul Store Program Community Award.

**Darrel Rivere** of A La Carte Foods and **Harvard Bardwell** received the St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room Heaven's Helpers Award for their support of the dining room through donations of foods. Last year, more than 218,000 meals were served in the St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room, a record for the organization.

**Felix Sagona** received the St. Vincent de Paul Top Hat Award.. A member for 26 years of the Our Lady of Mercy St. Vincent de Paul Conference, Felix is 88 and continues to make home visits.

**Barb Slaven** of Bellevue, Neb., who has been recognized with a 2011 "Worthy Women of Distinction Award" from Suburban Newspapers, Inc. A champion for the homeless and hungry, Barb is a member of St. Bernadette's Catholic Church and is active with the Food Pantry, adopting families during the holidays, and coordinating the cooking and serving of meals at the Stephen Center. She is the St. Vincent DePaul Store board president and has volunteered at the Francis House and Vincent House homeless shelters.

The following Vincentians in the Long Island, N.Y., area were honored with the 2011 St. Agnes Award "in recognition of their service to the people of God in their parishes and communities":

**Mary Pat Lyon**, who, with her husband, Deacon Robert Lyon, has been co-director of the SVdP for Mary Immaculate in Bellport, N.Y. She also started the parish bereavement program.

**Francis McLoughlin** and **Margaret McLoughlin**. Frank is a moving force behind the social ministry at St. Joseph in Babylon, N.Y. and both serve as extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion.

### Important Dates

**Event: Invitation for Renewal\_**

*Dates:* November 9-13;  
February 22-26

*Location:* Indianapolis, Ind. (Seton Cove)

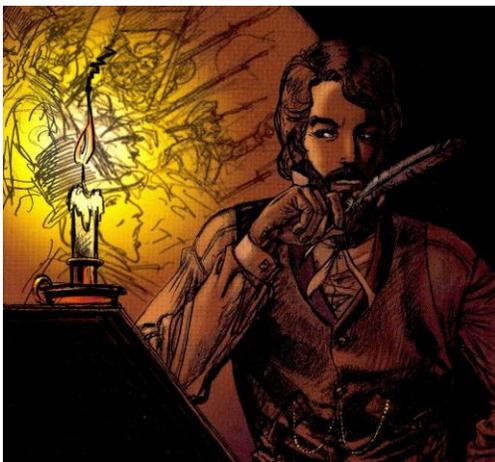
**Event: Catholic Social Ministry Gathering**

*Date:* February 12-15, 2012

*Location:* Washington, D.C. (Washington Marriott Wardman Hotel)

**REMINDER: Annual Report Time.** Now that the Society's fiscal year has ended (September 30), it's important for Councils and Conferences to start gathering their data and information on their activity, particularly their 990s (the IRS' "Return of Organizations Exempt from Income Tax"). The deadline for returning the Annual Report to the National Council is **January 31**.

### Coming Soon: *Frédéric's Papers*



Coming to your computer's in-box soon:

*Frédéric's Papers*. This infrequent series of communiques will focus on broad issues of interest to Vincentians, including poverty, hunger, homelessness, etc.

Our goal will be to lay out the key issues regarding these topics, define SVdP's position on them, and explore possible solutions and strategies to resolve them.

**Questions? Comments?**

Have good news to share? Has someone in your Council or Conference been recognized for outstanding service?

**Contact:**

**Charles B. Henderson**

National Director of Communications

Email: [chenderson@svdpusa.org](mailto:chenderson@svdpusa.org)

