



Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston

St. Vincent Times
SVDP Archdiocese
Galveston-Houston Council

November 15, 2025 Issue

ONE Society
One Body. One voice. One sound.

Rule 4.2 Emergency Assistance

When disasters, war, or major accidents occur, the Society launches emergency initiatives on the spot and provides funds for the local Society to help victims.

**New Council President and New Officers Installed
November 3, 2025 at Warren Chapel**





Vincentians have the power to

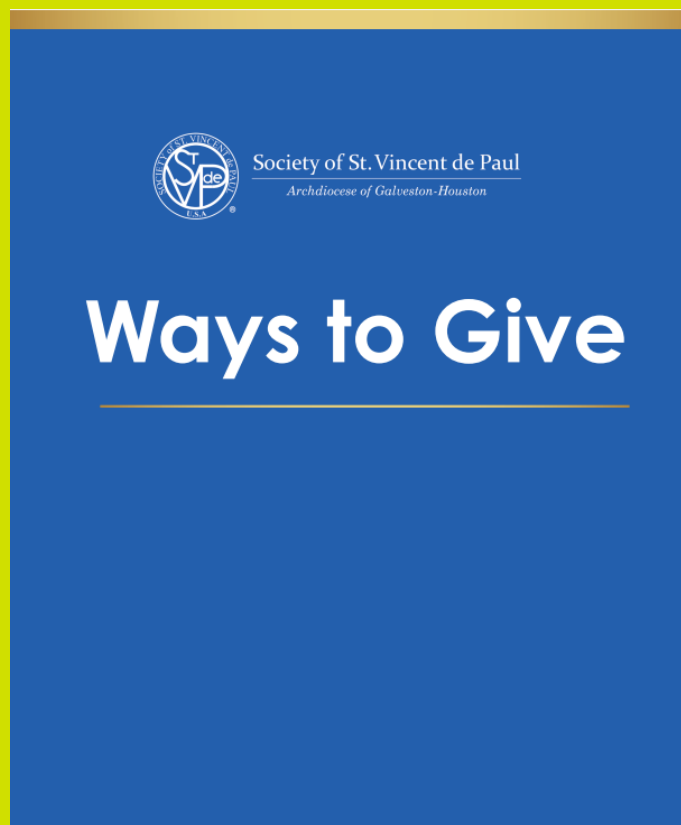


create lasting change in the lives of those in need throughout our Galveston-Houston communities.

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul Galveston-Houston now welcomes a variety of giving options — including noncash contributions — that can further extend our impact.

Learn more by visiting the new webpage [HERE](#).

Click the "Ways to Give" image below to see the brochure.



As 2025 draws to a close, there are many ways to make a meaningful impact with your generosity — while also maximizing your tax benefits. Consider these giving options before December 31, 2025:

☐ **Mail a Check or Donate Stock**

Donating stocks or other noncash investments can help you avoid capital gains taxes while still receiving a fair market value deduction.

☐ **Send a Wire Transfer**

Instruct your financial institution to wire funds to the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Galveston-Houston.

❑ **Consider Bunching Gifts**

If you itemize deductions in some years but not others, combining donations into a single year (“bunching”) may increase your overall tax savings.

❑ **Use a Donor-Advised Fund**

Make a tax-deductible contribution now and recommend grants to your favorite nonprofits over time.

❑ **Make the Most of IRA Gifts**

If you’re age 70½ or older, you can give up to \$105,000 directly from your IRA to a qualified charity—meeting your Required Minimum Distribution (RMD) while reducing taxable income.

❑ **Think About Your Legacy**

Including the Society in your will, trust, or beneficiary designations ensures your impact continues for generations to come.

❑ **Plan Ahead**

Gifts such as business interests or real estate may require additional time for valuations, legal review, and processing—so be sure to start early.

Understanding the New Tax Law—Impacts on Philanthropy



Attention Conferences with a Food Pantry:

Help for Neighbors Impacted by Paycheck or SNAP Benefit

Delays. Special distributions are taking place across the Houston area. To find one closest to you, click **HERE**

Stewardship is a meaningful way to show retail stores how much their donations are appreciated and valued. Stewardship also helps demonstrate the impact their donations have on the neighbors we serve, reinforcing the importance of their continued support.

Given the current circumstances—including the ongoing government shutdown and the upcoming SNAP benefit reductions—stewardship will be most critical. Please take a moment to view the Houston Food Bank presentation, [Retail Rescue Office Hours-Stewardship](#)

In this presentation, HFB discussed what stewardship means, how the retail

team actively stewards retail stores, and ways you can also engage in stewardship efforts.

Please ask your stores at *each* pickup if they need additional pickups, and be prepared to support any extra donation pickups that may arise.

Your proactive engagement can make a significant difference during this time. If your additional pickups are needed but your Conference is unable to, please contact HFB as soon as possible to work with you on a solution. Thank you for your continued dedication.

Shemika Jenkins, Retail Sourcing Manager
Houston Food Bank

Resources & guidelines: <https://linktr.ee/HFBSOURCING>



Friends of the Poor® Grant Program

South Central Regional Cycle

Closes December 5

Grants up to \$5,000 are available! APPLY TODAY!

Grants are targeted to specific, current emergency assistance needs of the poor, above and beyond available resources. Preferred interest areas are: rental/housing assistance, utility assistance, food, clothing, transportation, baby/children needs, and medical. No systemic change projects.

Applying is simple: <https://members.ssvpusa.org/fundraising-development/fop-grants/>.

Grant Award Requirements:

- A Conference must be aggregated, and the District Council must be instituted.
- If you have received a grant within the last 2 years, you are not eligible to apply.
- Grant funds are expected to be exhausted within 6 months.
- A Grant report is due within 6 months, outlining in detail how the funds were used.

Email confirmation from your Council President showing they reviewed and approved your application is acceptable in place of an actual signature.



The Integrated Client Journey

Every day, neighbors across Greater Houston turn to United Way and the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Galveston - Houston for help building financial stability.

Now, we're making it even easier for people to connect to the support they need with a new self-service version of the Integrated Client Journey that empowers users to set goals, track progress, and access help anytime!

This new tool puts possibility within reach—free, easy to use, and available to everyone in Greater Houston starting today.

HOW IT WORKS

1. Create a profile

Answer a few simple questions to get started.

2. Choose your goals

Identify the areas you would like to work on.

3. Access resources

Explore a list of United Way partners available to help in your area.

4. Embark on your journey

Connect with resources, complete goals, earn badges, and make progress on your journey to financial stability.

Explore and Share with Your Friend in Need

Council Grant Application

Over the past week, we've heard from countless neighbors who have been adversely impacted by the government shutdown and the pause in SNAP benefits. The effects are rippling through our Houston and Galveston communities, and for many families, the fear of empty

kitchen cabinets has become a harsh reality.

Conferences in need of additional support due to the influx of demand from the interruption to SNAP benefits can apply for a Council Direct Aid Funds grant. Information and the application can be found on the svdphouston.org members-only page.

Instructions
Application



SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

We invite all Vincentians to join us on this amazing opportunity to gather and live out our essential elements: Spirituality, Friendship and Service.

We will have an inspirational Keynote Speaker, range of workshops, Community Partner Expo and so much more!

Join us!



WWW.SVDPHOUSTON.ORG



SATURDAY

24 JANUARY 2026



START AT

08:00 am - 02:30pm



**ST. JEROME CATHOLIC
CHURCH - ACTIVITY CENTER**
2749 Hollister Road,
Houston, TX



REGISTER NOW

NOVEMBER 2025

Advent Retreat
"Oneness in Love"
presented by the
Spirituality Retreats
Subcommittee. (two
different locations)

Saturday
11/15/2025
8:30 am – 1:00 pm

DECEMBER 2025

getFED (Virtual)
"Advent: Active Waiting
and Christian Hope"

**2nd Tuesday of the
Month**
12/09/2025
12:15 pm - 1:00 pm

JANUARY 2026

getFED (Virtual)
"Poverty Awareness
Month"

**2nd Tuesday of the
Month**
01/13/2026
12:15 pm - 1:00 pm

St. Jerome
Catholic Church
2749 Hollister Road
Houston, TX 77080

Saturday
01/24/2026
8:30 am - 1:00 pm

Advent Retreat
"Oneness in Love"
presented by the
Spirituality Retreats
Subcommittee. (two
different locations)

St. Jerome
Catholic Church
2749 Hollister Road
Houston, TX 77080

Saturday
11/15/2025
8:30 am – 1:00 pm

Guardian Angel
Catholic Church
5610 Demel Street
Wallis, TX 77485

Register for Formation



Fall Is Here—Let Your Vincentian Pride Show

Whether you're headed to a meeting, visiting a friend in need, or running errands, SVdP apparel is a wonderful way to stay warm and represent the mission. A jacket or tee can spark great conversations about the work we do and the Christ we serve.

Take a moment to browse the store and find something that keeps you warm—and keeps the Vincentian spirit visible.



svdp gear

THE SECRET IS OUT

[SHOP NOW](#)

HAPPY GRADUATION

to our 2025 Getting Ahead Participants!



 Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston





HAPPY GRADUATION

Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Affiliation of Catholic Education

to our 2025 Getting Ahead Participants!



HAPPY GRADUATION

to our 2025 Getting Ahead Participants!



Phase I: Getting Ahead Program

The Getting Ahead Program is now accepting applications for Cohort 10, beginning in January

We're looking for neighbors who have received assistance and are ready to take steps towards building a better future. Potential participants should not currently be facing an immediate life crisis, such as an eviction.

Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-By World is a 16-week series for motivated neighbors ready to change their lives by acquiring the tools and support necessary to "get ahead" in today's world.

Getting Ahead takes participants on a step-by-step journey to

discover resources and build the resiliency necessary to overcome life's obstacles. This program is executed in three phases to gradually help participants build the life they want.

Three reasons to report cybercrime:

1. Protects Sensitive Data

Nonprofits often handle donor information, financial records, and sometimes personal data of beneficiaries. Cyberattacks can lead to identity theft, fraud, or exposure of vulnerable populations. Reporting helps authorities track and mitigate these risks.

2. Maintains Donor Trust

Donors expect their contributions and personal details to be secure. If a breach occurs and isn't reported or addressed, it can damage the organization's reputation and reduce future funding.

3. Helps Law Enforcement Combat Cybercrime

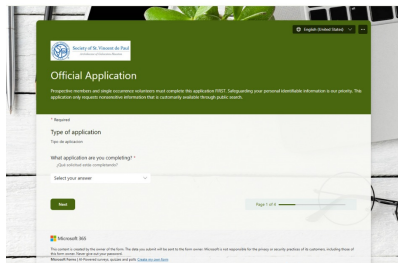
Reporting incidents provides valuable intelligence to law enforcement and cybersecurity agencies. This helps them identify patterns, dismantle criminal networks, and prevent future attacks.

To report cyber crime: <https://complaint.ic3.gov/>



Catholic Mutual Group (CMG) WILL NOT notify the Council office once a person's training is **100% complete**. Individuals can print or save a copy of their certificate of completion to present to Conference officers or parish Safe Environment Coordinators. Email iguerraarchgh.org if you experience issues with the account or if the background check is delayed.

New Member Process:



[New Member Application Form](#)



[Catholic Mutual Group: Safe Haven Instructional Flyer](#)



[National Society of St. Vincent de Paul Member Database](#)



Share This Newsletter



Share This Newsletter



Share This Newsletter



Society of St. Vincent de Paul | 2403 Holcombe Blvd | Houston, TX 77021 US

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