



**Conference News and Notes**  
**for Wednesday, February 1, 2023**  
**Sent to all Vincentians & Staff**

---

***Vincentian Reflection for the Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time***  
***February 5, 2023***

**Gospel: (Matthew 5: 13-16)** Jesus said to his disciples: *“You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its taste, with what can it be seasoned? It is no longer good for anything but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot. You are the light of the world. A city set on a mountain cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket; it is set on a lamp stand, where it gives light to all in the house. Just so, your light must shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your heavenly father.”*

**Reflection:** The lights in a city create a glow in the sky that can be seen from miles away. However, a light can be hidden - put under a bushel; the light still shines, but its light is blanketed, covered over, kept from doing what it is meant to do. When Jesus says, “You are the light of the world,” he is saying that we can choose to cover over the grace that is given us. We can choose to ignore who we are called to be - beloved adopted sons and daughters - and act of “out of character.” Then our actions do not square up with who we are. By such choices we compromise both identity and mission. We must live who we are. Identity and mission cannot be separated. (*Living Liturgy*, p.58)

**Vincentian Meditation:** Vincent prayed that over time his designs and actions would be more and more in harmony with God’s desires. He knew that this was the way to a full life. One afternoon in the very last months of his life, Vincent sat with some of his close friends. In the way that people sometimes do when they sense that their time is coming to an end, Vincent began to speak about what mattered to him most. He did not tell of any particularly successful project, or of people whom he had loved and who had loved him, nor even of his precious poor ones. Rather, he talked to his friends about the loving hand of God that had led him, of the interior star that had steered him through all the hectic years. Bent and elderly as he was, he declared, “We should give ourselves to God and wear ourselves out for God.” (McKenna, *Praying with Vincent*, p.35)

**In what ways is our Conference a “light that shines before others”?  
Is this how we shine brightest for all around us?**

---

***Your Formation and Training Opportunities & Tips***

**Formation Postcards and electronic Newsletter** went out recently and should be arriving within your mailbox over the next few days! In particular, the email Formation Newsletter sent on Monday, 1/30, contains a deeper description of our upcoming events with active links for registering; there is also a reflection for the upcoming feast of Bl. Rosalie Rendu. There is a slight correction to the time of the Saturday, 4/29, Conference Presidents Meeting listed on the postcard, it will be taking place 9:30am - 1pm (following 9am morning Mass) at St. Cecilia’s in Oakley, not in the evening. Another Formation Postcard and electronic Newsletter can be expected in late March and early April with registration links for upcoming events. As always, the most updated version of our Vincentian Formation Calendar is located on our [website](#) and any questions can be directed to Chris Kelley, Formation and Service Learning Director.

+++++

**Special Mass: Feast of Bl. Rosalie Rendu is this Tuesday, 2/7, noon**, in our Neyer

Outreach Center (NOC) Chapel. Join together as we celebrate one of the great examples of the Vincentian life, and a woman who continues to inspire us each day in our efforts of care and ministry to our neighbors in need, as well as to one another. Space is limited in the chapel so advanced registration is needed, please sign up on [our Signup Genius](#) or contact Chris Kelley to register.

+++++

**Our next Ozanam Orientation** is scheduled for **Saturday, 2/18, 9am - 3pm, at Good Shepherd** in Montgomery/Symmes Township! We strongly encourage all new, and seasoned, Vincentians to take a few hours to reflect more deeply upon our shared Vincentian identity, better understand some of the tools available for our encounters with neighbors, and have an opportunity to better strengthen relationships with others around the district. It is required of all members to be taken at least once, and particular insights have been added to better understand how we live out our Vincentian life in this Cincinnati district. **To sign-up, please [follow this link here](#)**, or reach out directly to Chris Kelley to register.

+++++

Chris Kelley, our Formation and Service Learning Director, can be reached at 513.345.1767 or [ckelley@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:ckelley@svdpcincinnati.org).

---

### ***Beacons of Light Progress***

On January 24, the Feast of St Francis de Sales, patron of the Archdiocese of Cincinnati, Archbishop Schnurr publicly released a letter to all of us re *Beacons of Light*. Please click on this link to access the letter: [1-24-2023 Archbishop Schnurr Beacons of Light letter](#).

+++++

Our Conference Presidents and our Conferences Support team are currently preparing to meet with each of the 24 pastors of Families of Parishes within our District Council's Hamilton County footprint. Our goal is to further nurture our collaboration in *Beacons of Light* in each of the respective Families. We are quite encouraged and pleased as Conference Presidents are sharing positive developments of friendship & faith shared among Conferences within their Family. And some intra-Family Conferences are partnering with material and people resources in service. We most certainly anticipate that these pastors will voice their appreciation and support for **your good works of faith in action, engaging our neighbors experiencing need with respect, dignity, & hope. You are radiating Christ, recognizing Christ, and representing our Catholic Church in these interactions. Yes, you are evangelizing!**

+++++

Do you have *Beacons of Light* progress to share from your Conference & Family of Parishes? We'd love to hear and share in this *Conference News and Notes* each week. You might just inspire others as we seize this opportunity to advance how we live our Vincentian vocation, engage our neighbors, transform our community, and evolve our Archdiocese. Please contact Tom Roberts at [troberts@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:troberts@svdpcincinnati.org) or 513.345.4910.

---

### ***Upcoming Changes to SNAP Benefits: Anticipating Impact Upon our Neighbors - and our Food Assistance***

During the COVID pandemic, neighbors receiving SNAP benefits had those benefits loaded onto their cards twice a month, subsidized by COVID funding. This emergency provision is about to expire. Beginning in March 2023, neighbors will only receive the amount of their first benefit. For many, this will be a significant (huge) reduction in SNAP benefits. This comes at a time when our food pantry network is already experiencing far greater demand relative to prior quarter or prior year. Please share this information with neighbors and help them plan for the reduction of benefits. Click [here](#) for a flyer with additional resources.

---

### ***Opportunity: A Call to Action (repeated this week)***

Our **Becky Catino Women's Stability, Employment, and Empowerment Program**

needs your help! We are looking for a generous professional who is licensed to practice law in the state of Ohio, preferably experienced in criminal law. They need to be able to contribute enough time through pro bono hours to assist 1 or 2 women in achieving record expungement and Certificate of Qualified Employment (CQE). By assisting in this way, you can help those who otherwise would be reliant on already overburdened programs with large wait lists. Please contact Tara at [catino@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:catino@svdpcincinnati.org) .

---

***Voice of the Poor Nugget***  
***Resource Spotlight on Wednesday, 2/15 (just 2 weeks from today!)***

Voice of the Poor will host our next **Resource Spotlight on Wed, 2/15, @ 11am**, on the topic of **Landlord and Tenant Rights and Responsibilities** . Click on this link when you are ready to join the Zoom virtual gathering on Wed, 2/15:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83809863182?pwd=WExLWW9ZMkJDMTBhWDJUM2R4TzIUUT09>

We know many of our neighbors - and likely many of our members, staff, & volunteers attempting to assist them - hunger for better understanding of their role as renters. Did you know that many of our neighbors are renting on a month-to-month tenancy? Do you know what this means to the renter? We'll talk about this. If you have questions, email them to [JanePhelan02@gmail.com](mailto:JanePhelan02@gmail.com) , and we'll work to provide answers.

---

***Christ Church Plumb Line Ministry Was Temporarily Suspended;  
Now Sharing Better News***

Christ Church has shared the following update:

**They've actually decided to keep Plumb Line going.** 😊 As a result, we are able to begin sending referrals once again. That being said, it is going to be run entirely by volunteers and they are only going to be in the office working on applications on Mondays, 1-3pm. Volunteers will be scheduling in-person meetings for applicants for the following Monday (example: Volunteers in on 2/6 will be scheduling appointments for 2/13). Consequently, we should expect a much slower turnaround time than we've grown accustomed to. **Olivia Scheper, our Conferences Support Coordinator, [oscheper@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:oscheper@svdpcincinnati.org) or 513.345.4986, will continue to be your/our central contact point-person. Plumb Line will only accept SVDP referrals from Olivia. Expect further details as Olivia navigates this newly volunteer-administered Plumb Line program.**

---

***Follow-Up Info On "Medicaid Unwinding"***

Our Charitable Pharmacy has previously shared in *Conference News and Notes*: Since the COVID-19 pandemic began in March 2020, Ohio Medicaid beneficiaries have not been required to prove eligibility to retain Medicaid benefits. However, on 4/1/23, the requirement for annual Medicaid re-enrollment returns, which is estimated to result in the cancellation of Medicaid benefits for up to 14 million Americans. Many of our neighbors are at risk of losing Medicaid benefits which could result in much higher need for our services, specifically impacting your Conference, our Council, our Charitable Pharmacy, and our food pantries network. This is advance notice. **To prevent gaps in coverage, encourage all neighbors to gain online access to their Medicaid benefits at [Ohio.gov](https://www.ohio.gov) and ensure their address and phone numbers are up-to-date.**

Want more info about Medicaid Unwinding? Please use this link:

<https://www.kff.org/medicaid/issue-brief/10-things-to-know-about-the-unwinding-of-the-medicaid-continuous-enrollment-provision/>

**Now, our Charitable Pharmacy has this latest insight:**

Ohio has announced much of their strategy for Medicaid Unwinding. Upon first review, here are highlights important for us:

- Quarterly, expanded federal assistance for Medicaid share will go down (currently 6.2% but decreases to 5% in April, 2.5% in July, and 1.5% in October). This will force Ohio to increase Medicaid cancellations quarterly.

- Currently, over 3.5 million Ohioans have Medicaid...about 30% of the state population. Since the pandemic began, Ohio Medicaid enrolled 737,000 more Ohioans.
- On 3/1/2023, JFS will mail renewal packets to those due for renewal in April 2023 and start “robocalls” for reminders to reapply.
- On 4/7/2023, people will be automatically discontinued who did not re-apply and will receive notice that their coverage ends on 4/30/23.
- This process will be repeated monthly for the next 12 months. As currently interpreted, if you were due for Medicaid renewal in April 2020, you will be canceled at the end of April 2023 if you do not re-apply or are ineligible.
- Ohio Medicaid expects delays in processing re-enrollment and new applications. They've explained that they had a high turnover of staff during COVID and believe training of new staff will be a barrier for some.

Please watch for further news of developments as they unfold.

**Sage advice to share with neighbors currently benefitting from Medicaid coverage: Be proactive. Seek info. Make sure the state has your current contact info (see above). Respond promptly when you receive your Medicaid renewal packet. Finally, please remind neighbors we have computers available for their use in our NOC first floor Education Center.**

### ***Winter Coat Vouchers - February is our Final Month This Season***

Any Hamilton County resident who has not yet received a coat from St. Vincent de Paul is welcome to come to our Neyer Outreach Center (NOC, 1146 Bank St) to request a coat voucher. These vouchers can be redeemed at our Clothing and Home Resource Center (CHRC, in our Liz Carter Center across the street, 1125 Bank St) or any of our 7 SVDP-Cincinnati thrift stores (our Outlet Store on Chickering Avenue excluded). Neighbors must have a photo ID for themselves and any other member of their household for whom they request a coat. Our Winter Coat Vouchers are normally good for thirty days after the day they're written. **The last day to redeem coat vouchers will be Tuesday, February 28. We will continue to write vouchers during February, but all February vouchers will have a 2/28/2023 expiration date.**

Vincenians may request a coat on behalf of their neighbor using the following process:

- Check for eligibility in CMS. Neighbors are eligible to receive one coat per household member per winter (from either a voucher or a distribution event). Previous coat assistance is listed in CMS under Programs – Coats through Liz Carter.
- Email Erin at [enowak@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:enowak@svdpcincinnati.org) to request a voucher. Please include:
  1. The name and date of birth of each household member who will be receiving a coat (including the head of household)
  2. Where the voucher should be sent (the address of either the neighbor or the Conference member who will be delivering the voucher)
- Please ensure that the neighbor is aware they will need some form of ID for each person listed on their voucher. Acceptable forms of ID are listed below, as well as on the voucher itself:
  1. Driver's license or other photo ID (including VESTA card, MARC ID, or work photo ID); or
  2. Social Security card; or
  3. Birth certificate; or
  4. Medical/Insurance card; or
  5. Lease agreement with household members listed
- Our Outreach Center Programs team at the NOC will take care of writing and mailing out the voucher, as well as entering the assistance in CMS.

**Please note: Erin will be out of the office 2/2-2/8 and will issue coat vouchers upon her return. Thanks for your patience.**

**We have shared a record number of coats with our neighbors this season. Simply put: we could not accomplish this together without so many donations of coats and caps and scarves and gloves and mittens. We are still eagerly and thankfully accepting donations of these items which will supply these voucher redemptions and provide a start for our winter coats assistance next fall. Huge thanks to all who have donated, have hosted drives, and continue to attract coats.**

## CMS Tips, Tricks, & Transformations

CMS is accessible from your web browser, using <https://cincinnati.cmssvdp.org> and nothing else.

+++++

Release 4.1 of CMS was implemented for our Cincinnati District Council on 1/4/2023. This release is another advance in user-friendliness. There are 4.1 training videos on our [CMS Support Resources](#) page, along with other training videos to empower your CMS utilization.

+++++

Does your Conference need any CMS follow-up training? Want to refine your CMS skills & learn tips to utilize CMS more efficiently and effectively? Ready to embrace & implement CMS if you are a member of the final 6 of our Conferences who are yet to deploy this powerful tool? If so, arrangements can be made by contacting John Wessel @ 513.562.1823 or via email, [jwessel@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:jwessel@svdpcincinnati.org).

+++++

Our 1st quarter of our 2023 fiscal year concluded on 12/31/2022. 48 of our Conferences are now using CMS. It is no coincidence that so many of our Conferences have been able to submit their quarter-end reports faster - and easier - than ever before. And the sooner we can assemble and absorb this data, the sooner it can inform and empower our good works!

---

### Free Income Tax Preparation Services Available

It is tax filing season. And for many of our neighbors feeling the financial squeeze, a tax refund is at least a short-term solution within their reach...sometimes with a little help. **Free Tax Prep**, an initiative of United Way of Greater Cincinnati funded by the IRS, provides free (federal & state) income tax preparation and filing services for low to moderate income neighbors residing in our Greater Cincinnati area. These same services are available to neighbors on fixed incomes, neighbors with disabilities, and those with limited English language abilities. To learn more, explore United Way's webpage by clicking [here](#), or calling United Way of Greater Cincinnati's 211 helpline or 513.762.7900. Please also note that United Way is seeking volunteers to help provide this service. More information about volunteering is available at this link to their [website](#) page.

---

### More Resources for our Conferences and Neighbors

#### Conference Assistance Fund (CAF)

##### Our final December activity totals:

- Approvals totaled **\$71,777** in assistance extended to **166** neighbor families/households
- We extended **\$219,186** in CAF to **501** neighbor families/households in our quarter ended 12/31/2022

##### Our January activity:

- You submitted **206** fresh applications
- We've approved **192** applications; **4** have been declined and **3** withdrawn
- We have **28** applications currently in process

We expected heavy volume in January - and we got it. Approximately \$85,000 in CAF assistance extended to these 192 neighbor families/households.

You can check on the status of CAF applications you have submitted by going to the Member Support and Forms page of our SVDP-Cincinnati website and clicking on CAF Application Status, or use this link:

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoibjQyZDg5NmMtNWQ1ZC00OTAyLWlwYmUtZTA2NGMwZmZmNmZiliwidCI6ImY2NWUwODUxLTYxM2QtNDEzNS05ZTE2LTUwOWFkYThjMDY2YiJ9>.

This resource is reserved for Vincentian members only; access to this resource can not be shared with neighbors, landlords, etc, under any circumstances.

**In mid-October, our Council temporarily augmented our original FY2023 CAF budget provision of \$60,000 per month. Our Council subsidized \$80,000 per month for October, November, & December, 2022. Our Council has also augmented our**

**January budget provision to \$80,000. And we carried over under-extended December provisions of \$20,814. Please note:** We can extend this Council subsidy plus any (welcomed and encouraged) twinning to CAF from fellow Conferences. If your Conference is currently blessed with funds exceeding 2-3 months of your normal operating outflow, please know that we have fellow Conferences in search of funds to invest in lifting neighbors right now. Please contact Tom Roberts, 513.345.4910 or [troberts@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:troberts@svdpcincinnati.org) , for more info or to twin.

**We continue to encourage you to guide our neighbors to other publicly- & privately-funded resources available within our community...and to nurture relationships that extend well beyond immediate basic needs (material) assistance to provide lasting impact. Budgeting can be an eye-opening exercise that leads to changes to create a sustainable, livable new monthly model. How will our neighbor pay their rent, utilities, and other bills in the months to come?**

### **Publicly-Funded Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERA 2)**

ERA 2, funded through the City of Cincinnati, was available for qualified/eligible tenant neighbors who reside within the City of Cincinnati. The City's funding was committed to us only through December, 2022. We (Conferences) processed and approved **132** ERA 2 applications (of 139 submitted) which resulted in **\$398,488** in assistance to our neighbors. Huge thanks to those Conferences and Vincentians who submitted ERA 2 applications...and to Olivia, Alec, Mary Reid, and our Finance team for turning these applications into assistance extended to our neighbors.

**No new news yet. We will share any new developments as they present themselves.**

### **Rahe Beds Fund & Program**

Please submit your February bed requests (up to six per Conference) by this Monday, February 6. Our online request form can be found [here](#) .

Our new twin & full bed models should be considerably easier to pick-up and transport or deliver. We are optimistic that this will result in a higher redemption rate of the vouchers we issue, which means more of our neighbors having the beds we aspire to provide.

If your Conference is considering **purchasing** beds to extend as assistance, you can get info, including current pricing, or purchase by contacting Dave Chidlow, Stores Retail Resource Manager, at [dchidlow@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:dchidlow@svdpcincinnati.org) or 513.853.1002. Your purchased beds will be picked up at our CHRC within our Liz Carter Center. **Please be aware that the bed pricing has changed with our new bed vendor.**

**A limited number of cribs are available for neighbors with children younger than two. They can be requested by emailing [rahebedfund@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:rahebedfund@svdpcincinnati.org) with the neighbor's name, date of birth, and address.**

### **Metro Bus Passes (Everybody Rides Metro)**

Your Conference has access to Metro single-day bus passes to be extended to neighbors for use for any of 3 defined purposes:

1. Commute to/from new employment
2. Commute to/from our Bank St services hub or other community social services
3. Commute to/from medical appointments

Please understand that these passes are sourced through the Everybody Rides Metro program and our Council is required to comply with the above-referenced usages and submit reports of passes distributed. Please also understand that your Conference will need to record bus passes extended in CMS for the neighbors receiving this assistance.

Our Bus Pass Guidelines sheet for Conferences is available to you on the Members Support page of our website <https://www.svdpcincinnati.org/conferences-members/member-support/>

or use this link to go directly to this document:

<https://www.svdpcincinnati.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Bus-Tickets-Policy.pdf>

**If your Conference wants to learn more about this program or request passes, please**

**contact Alec Jewell, Conferences Manager, at [ajewell@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:ajewell@svdpcincinnati.org) or 513.345.4983.**

### **Our Re-Entry Program**

Our Re-Entry Program Manager, Dion Crockett, is eager to work with you to assist neighbors you are serving who have been affected by the criminal justice system. **If you would like to host Dion at a Conference meeting, get together with him in another way, or discuss a particular situation, Dion can be reached at 513.562.8851 or [dcrockett@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:dcrockett@svdpcincinnati.org) .**

### **Cooking Improv with La Soupe**

Our partner La Soupe teams with our Catino Choice Pantry to present monthly Cooking Improv demonstrations in the Teaching Kitchen at our NOC. Instructors from La Soupe and volunteers engage participants on basic cooking principles and how to use what you have to create delicious, nutritious meals. **All recipes are based off ingredients found daily in our Catino Choice Pantry. Neighbors are encouraged to sample the delicious dishes and discuss preparation and ingredients with our staff, volunteers, and resident La Soupe instructor, Chef Mona!**

These sessions are held on the first Wednesday of each month - which means **our next event is today (Wednesday, 2/1), 11am-1pm**. No pre-registration is required.

Feel free to share this information with your neighbors, or if you're interested in getting involved in our Teaching Kitchen programming, please reach out to Demi Schoenherr at [dschoenherr@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:dschoenherr@svdpcincinnati.org) for more information.

### **Haircuts from the Heart in our NOC - Please note service frequency enhancement!**

This is a free haircut program, courtesy of our partner Franciscan Ministries. **Starting in February, stylist Margarita will be in our NOC every Monday, 9am-noon**, cutting hair in a room on the 2nd floor. **Our next haircut date is this Monday, 2/6**. Neighbors are accepted on a walk-in basis, and should sign in at our NOC reception desk upon arrival.

### **Education Center Within Our Neyer Outreach Center**

Our NOC Education Center is available for our neighbors and Vincentians to use during our operating hours: Monday - Friday, 8am - 4pm, and Saturday, 8am - noon.

### **Language Service Available to our Conferences**

A growing number of our Conferences are experiencing increased interactions with Latino members of our community...and are struggling to effectively communicate with neighbors who are most fluent or exclusively fluent in Spanish. We have contracted a dedicated language service to help you engage these neighbors in a welcoming, affirming manner. Any Conference member can download the "LanguageLine InSight" app on your smartphone, tablet, or computer at <https://insight.languageline.com/>. You simply need to use the Authentication Code **6NN692GLS2** the first time you login. Through this app you will have access to over 40 different languages, including Spanish, via an interpreter. You will have the option of either audio or visual (for those needing sign language); we strongly encourage using visual only when you must. Please be efficient in your utilization as our Council pays by the minute for this service; visual is nearly twice as expensive as audio. When you access the service, you will be asked for your name and department, you simply need to state your name, then "St Vincent de Paul Cincinnati Conferences", then your Conference name. Be sure to only call through the app; you cannot use this service through a regular phone call.

Our Charitable Pharmacy, Social Services, and some Conferences are already using this tool to better engage our Latino neighbors.

If you have any questions or are having trouble accessing the service, please reach out to Alec or Olivia of your Conferences Support Team.

**A final seed to plant: If your Conference is among those engaging more neighbors preferring or needing to communicate in Spanish, please consider this an opportunity to seek the addition of Spanish-speaking members. This could enhance your responsive communication and expand your Conference's perspective.**

### **Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW)**

GCWW's **Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program** provides funds for assistance for eligible tenants residing in the City of Cincinnati. There are eligibility stipulations.

Tenants must qualify by completing an online application at [assistance.mygcww.org](https://assistance.mygcww.org). Renters can also call 513.591.7700 to receive assistance from the call center to complete an application. There is also a flexible payment plan through the PromisePay Portal.

GCWW customers can visit [GCWW.promise-pay.com](https://gcww.promise-pay.com) for details about the program and how to enroll. Renters not residing in Cincinnati city limits but living in Hamilton County can visit <https://erap.hcjfs.org/> for utility assistance. If you need additional materials or information, please contact GCWW at [GCWWCares@gcww.cincinnati-oh.gov](mailto:GCWWCares@gcww.cincinnati-oh.gov).

### **Duke Energy**

On 1/25/2023, Duke Energy sent a release to community service partners with links to a variety of resources to assist their customers struggling with winter energy costs. We forwarded this release to our Conference Presidents this past Thursday, 1/26/2023.

You can also find info by going to the Duke Energy website, clicking on the Financial Help

tab, and then clicking on Ohio.

Duke encourages us to follow our standard steps for processing pledges on customer accounts. For questions on accounts or pledges for neighbors requesting utility assistance, please contact Duke Energy's Centralized Agency Team at 800.241.3194.

Advocates are available Monday through Friday, 7:30am - 5:30pm.

Should our neighbor / their customer not meet Duke's qualifications for assistance, please refer them to Duke's customer care organization at 800.544.6900 where they may find assistance through a flexible installment plan.

### **State of Ohio Program for Struggling Homeowners**

**Save the Dream Ohio** helps eligible Ohio homeowners facing foreclosure and/or who cannot afford to pay their mortgage payments, utility payments or other related housing costs as a result of economic hardship caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The state of Ohio was awarded \$280 million from the U.S. Department of Treasury through the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 for the program. Click here for more information:

[Save the Dream Ohio - Managed by the Ohio Housing Finance Agency \(ohiohome.org\)](https://ohiohome.org)

### **Hamilton County COVID Assistance**

Our neighbors & you can still find info and resources at <https://513relief.org> . **Hamilton County has recently refreshed funding at Hamilton County Job & Family Services (JFS)**. Neighbors can apply at 513Relief.org on their mobile device or desktop. [The Hamilton County Rent and Utility Program's application](#) can be submitted on a smart phone. Please note: this funding comes from the same federal pool as ERA and other COVID relief programs, so a neighbor who has previously exhausted their access to this pool will be ineligible. Please refer Hamilton County neighbors who you believe to be eligible.

### **Cincinnati Eye Institute Foundation (CEIF) Vision Clinic in our Neyer Outreach Center**

The Vision Clinic operates **by appointment** on certain Monday mornings & Thursdays as designated by CEIF. **This Vision Clinic will be open on Thursdays only in February, as follows: tomorrow morning (2/2); all day on 2/9; the morning of 2/16; and all day on 2/23.** A limited number of walk-in exams can also be accommodated. To schedule an appointment, or to inquire for additional info, please call 513.207.6140.

---

## *You are Both Thanked & Invited*

We thank you for your readership - we welcome your feedback to Tom Roberts at 513.345.4910 or [troberts@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:troberts@svdpcincinnati.org) - and we are eager for your content, including pictures, to make this weekly connection all the more relevant and empowering for you!

---

## *Our Mission*

A network of neighbors, inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need.

---

## *Our Call to Prayer*

**For the grace to be the salt of the earth,  
Loving God, hear us!**  
**For the grace to be a light of the world,  
Loving God, hear us!**  
**For the grace to "give ourselves to God,"  
Loving God, hear us!**  
**For the grace to "wear ourselves out for God,"  
Loving God, hear us!**  
**Amen.**



STAY CONNECTED



St. Vincent de Paul - Cincinnati | 1125 Bank Street, Cincinnati, OH 45214

[Unsubscribe kgallagher@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:kgallagher@svdpcincinnati.org)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [roberts@svdpcincinnati.org](mailto:roberts@svdpcincinnati.org) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!