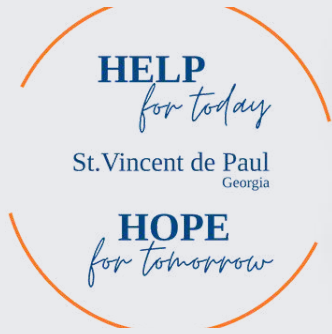


WINTER 2024



Spotlight

THE MISSION

The gifts of your time, talent and treasure bring Help and Hope to Georgia neighbors in need.

From the Director

Dear Friend,

What a mission!

It is an honor to extend the privilege of giving and to provide this update on the impact of your generosity. Like so many people, I had no real idea of the magnitude of people who are touched by our mission until I arrived at St. Vincent de Paul last summer.

Being here in Atlanta, the visual prosperity of the city often overshadows the challenges of our neighbors in need:

- In Georgia, 21.3% of the population lives below the federal poverty level.
- In Georgia, 542,000 renters (23% of state renters) are not caught up on rent.
- In Georgia, 1,156,660 people (1 in 9) are facing hunger.

Aware or unaware of these statistics, you should know of the neighbors whose cupboards are not bare because of food deliveries or visits to our food pantries. Calls for emergency rent or utility bill payment assistance did not go unanswered. Families were moved from a single motel room to safe, affordable places to call home.

In 2023 more than 3,000 Vincentian caseworkers and those at the Chamblee Service Center assisted more than 190,000 neighbors. The gifts of your time, talent and treasure brought so much Help and Hope to our neighbors in need.

You are our greatest asset and we Thank You!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bea", is positioned above the name of the signatory.

Bea Perdue
Senior Director of Philanthropy

100,000 calls
answered from
United Way 2-1-1



The Impact of Your Giving

190,000+
Neighbors
Served



\$24 Million
in Programs
and Services



28,000
Home Visits
Conducted



17,000+ Prescriptions
Filled valued at over
\$2.5 Million



1.9 Million Pounds
of Food Distributed
at over \$3.5 Million



[Read the Entire 2023 Impact Report](#)

The Mission

To provide Help and Hope to neighbors in need, while maintaining the Dignity of the individual and creating a path to self-sufficiency. Serving Neighbors In Need since 1903, we are one of the oldest, largest and most trusted state-wide social services safety net organizations in Georgia.



Hunger

13% of Georgians are food insecure.



Health

77% of Georgians, below \$50,000 income, cannot afford medications.



Housing

Georgia has 1 Million households using 50% of income for shelter.

Vincetians



Father Flood, Pastor of St. Benedict's Catholic Church in Johns Creek, GA works with a group of teen volunteers at a St. Vincent de Paul food and clothing drive.

St. Vincent de Paul Georgia is comprised, in part, of seventy-three local chapters called "Conferences" and typically based out of a parish or church – staffed by trained volunteer caseworkers called Vincetians. Through home visits, service and case management, they deliver a spectrum of safety net social services to provide both immediate help and hope for a self-sufficient future. Our unparalleled capacity to reach and serve neighbors in need state-wide is due to these 3,000+ trained volunteer caseworkers serving their local communities. The local presence and highly personal approach of Vincetians sets St. Vincent de Paul apart from other human services organizations.

The Guardian Society Launches on Valentine's Day

This giving society at St. Vincent de Paul Georgia recognizes donors who make monthly unrestricted contributions to support the mission. In 2023, more than 100 donors provided funds to help us maintain a strong financial foundation and the flexibility to respond and serve 191,638 neighbors.

Throughout the year members will receive updates on the impact of their giving and information on neighbors touched by their giving. Additionally, they will have special opportunities to engage with each other and the mission.

**At the Heart of all
Giving is Love.**

To learn more about becoming a member of The Guardian Society, visit www.svdpgorgia.org/guardian or contact Elizabeth Ivey at eivey@svdpgeorgia.org

Happy Anniversary Mike Mies



Mike began his tenure as Executive Director in January 2023. He has served in numerous volunteer leadership roles at St. Vincent de Paul Georgia including being a Vincentian caseworker for the past 24 years, and previous Board President.

I sat down with him to talk about his first year and his vision for SVdP's future.

Q: You often speak of your role as Executive Director as your dream job. What inspired the dream?

My Vincentian journey began 24 years ago when I first joined the St. Brigid Conference. The mission of St. Vincent de Paul resonated with me immediately. I witnessed the essential elements of the Vincentian mission – Friendship, Spirituality and Service – coming together in the work we do to alleviate the struggles of our neighbors in need. The opportunity to live out that mission – and share that mission – every day as Executive Director is an incredible blessing, and I am so grateful for it.

Q: Despite having served Georgia's neighbors for 120 years, people often refer to SVdP as one of Georgia's best kept secrets, why do think that is?

Well, it's not just a Georgia problem! When I speak with my colleagues from St. Vincent de Paul around the country, it is the same situation. I think it relates to the nature of our work, where we focus very heavily on the confidentiality of our service to neighbors and don't talk a lot about what we do. I think it also is related to our DNA. We try to model the essential virtues of our patron, St. Vincent de Paul. Those include Humility and Simplicity. Maybe we are a bit too humble!

Q: As a Vincentian caseworker, you go into our neighbors' homes; address their immediate needs and work with them to move from uncertainty to stability. How has that influenced your leadership strategies?

It would be extremely difficult to lead an organization that delivers such critical and personal services, without a deep understanding of how those services are delivered (primarily through home visits) and the needs of those being served. You have a much better understanding of the situations we are trying to address when you have sat in the apartment of a veteran who is a single mother of three and whose electricity has been shut off, or when you are sitting with neighbors on the floor of their small apartment because the family has no furniture. These experiences allow me to understand both the impact of the work we are doing, and how much support the Vincentian and staff caseworkers need in delivering our services.

Q: Recently you shared your vision for the next five years which included a goal of serving 400,000 neighbors by 2028. What do you think will be essential to reaching this goal?

The ultimate goal would be to serve less neighbors because the needs have dissipated. However, we know that's not realistic. We also know that today we are only able to help 50-60% of the neighbors who reach out to us for assistance. We are about to embark on our new strategic planning cycle, and I think there are four essential areas we need to focus on to provide critical services to more of our neighbors.

Happy Anniversary Mike Mies, continued

First, we need more funding and more volunteers (Vincentians and community) to meet current requests for services. Second, we need to expand programs and services that help our neighbors achieve stability and self-sufficiency. We've done that over the last few years with our Pharmacy and Motel-to-Home programs, but there is still more we can do. Third, we want to expand our geographic reach, establishing more chapters in key areas of the state, primarily South Georgia. And fourth, we need to amplify our voice and the voices of those we serve.

We have such a unique perspective on the conditions our neighbors are experiencing and the root causes. We need to share that perspective to draw more donors and volunteers into joining us in service, and in advocating for our neighbors.

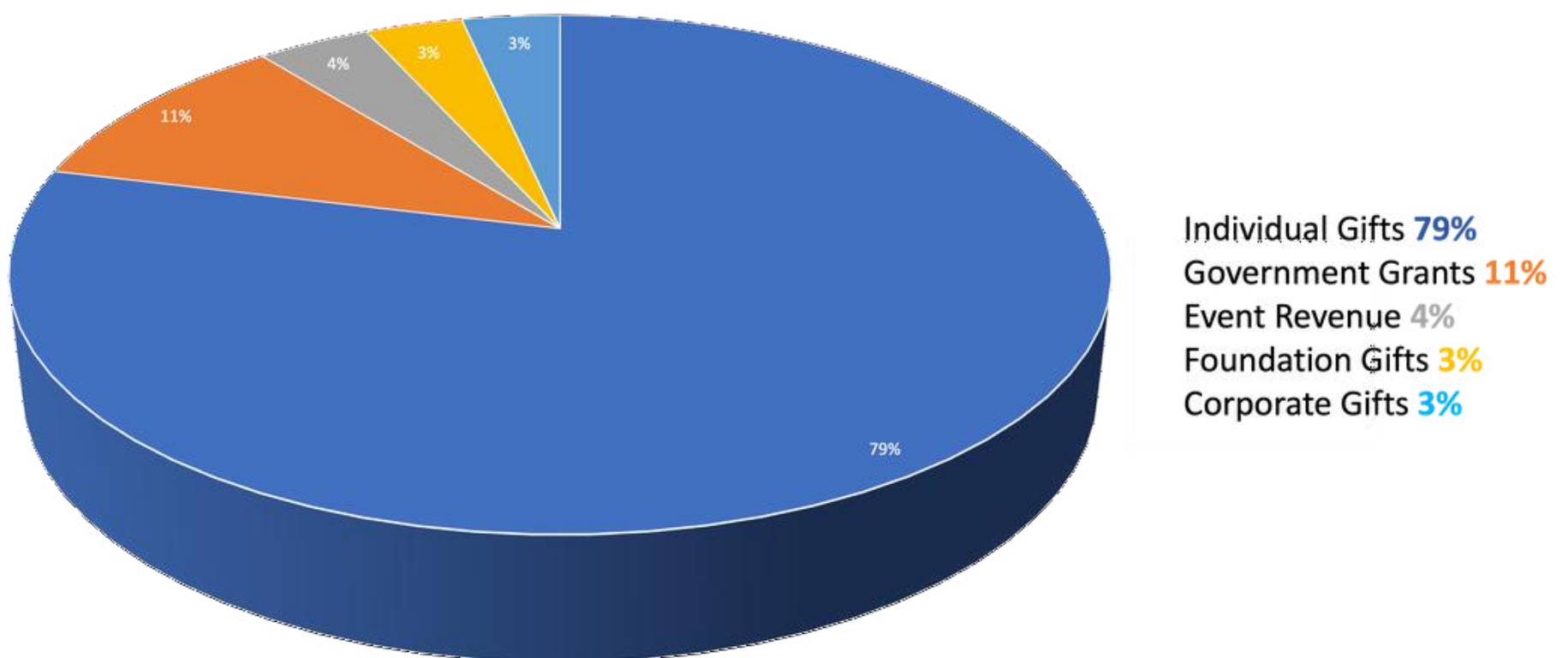
Q: Is there anything specific you would like to say to donors about their support for our work?

Oh my gosh – thank you, thank you, thank you! Whether you are a contributor to one of our local chapters, or a donor to our central programs, or a corporate sponsor, or government partner – we can only serve our neighbors if our hands are full of gifts provided by our benefactors. I would also like all of our donors to know that we hold the trust they place in us as sacred. We take our responsibility very seriously, at our local chapters (Conferences) as well as here at our central office. They can take comfort in knowing that we are good stewards, and that their donations go much farther with St. Vincent de Paul than other organizations because most of our one-to-one services are delivered by trained volunteers.

Your giving affirms the value of the St. Vincent de Paul Mission... Let your friends, family and neighbors know about the great work you've done.

[f](#) [@](#) [t](#) [in](#) @svdpgeorgia

Donor Spotlight



92% of funding directly supports our neighbors

Individuals

Gifts from individuals represented approximately 79% of our Total Revenue in 2023. We raised almost \$70,000 on GivingTuesday and had 190 first-time donors this past quarter.

Corporate

Corporate Gifts represented 3% of our Total Revenue in 2023. This included our \$1 Million from QuikTrip, our largest single donation, supporting our Motel 2 Home Program.