



The Cathedral Basilica St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) Conference has been active helping the people in the Cathedral neighborhood since 2013. From the beginning, the home visit teams have provided food, clothing and furniture assistance, in addition to praying with them. Food assistance includes two bags of nonperishable food items from our pantry and a voucher honored by local grocery stores. The bags also contain some personal care products. Our pantry is stocked by donations from parishioners, food drives, and purchases from local stores. The monthly monetary collection at our parish provides the money for these purchases and for the food vouchers. Many families on a limited income have been helped by SVdP providing this food assistance, without interruption, through the COVID pandemic. Recently, we helped Cynthia, a single mother with two teenage daughters, with food, clothing, household goods, and furniture. This family had few possessions, having just moved into a house after experiencing homelessness for some time.

In recent years, with your growing generous support, our SVdP Conference has also been able to provide help to families in the form of rent and utility bill assistance, as our resources permit. This type of assistance, which requires our volunteers to spend time speaking with landlords, checking utility bill balances, and making decisions that allow us to best use our limited resources, often makes a significant impact on individuals. Our group is grateful to be able to help people seeking a better life. One such person, Richard, was staying at a house for recovering alcoholics and needed our help with rent. Richard had found a community that was helping him stay sober, and had found a job. Our Conference was pleased to be able to help him make the transition to a more stable and productive life.

God will continue to send us to our neighbors-in-need. With your prayers and support, the Cathedral SVdP Conference volunteers will continue to meet those needs. Thank you for your financial and prayerful support of this ministry. More volunteers are needed and welcomed. Next weekend, after Masses, Vincentians will be available to provide more information on how you can help, or you may contact the Parish Office to learn how you can become more involved in this ministry.