

ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY 2017 OUTREACH MINISTRY

St. Vincent de Paul Society Epiphany of the Lord Conference 729 White Street, Toledo, Ohio 43605

Our Epiphany of the Lord, St. Vincent DePaul Society was very successful in 2017 ministering to the needy in the church boundaries. We could not have done this without your prayers and your generosity totaling \$19,342.47. We are very thankful for you, your gifts, and your prayers for our neighborhood and for SVdP Epiphany of the Lord. SVdP volunteers work year-round ministering to offer a hand up and to see Christ in all that they serve in the hopes to become more Christ-like in their own Lives.

Our ministry begins with a phone call from a person in need; from there each case is private and confidential to the parties involved. Because we are not an agency we do not have any set rules for whom we can or cannot help no matter their income level. Those who request help are considered to be in need. From our phone lines we received over 1000 phone calls this past year, and in 2017 we served 958 friends in need. To meet their needs we spent \$25,359.13. This money paid for: utilities, food, rent, medications, bedding, birth certificates, and various other needs.

In 2017 SVdP Epiphany of the Lord members served over 3000 hours. Alongside us in our Birmingham neighborhood pantry were a few members of Calvin United and Zion Hill churches that volunteered a total of 144 hours.

Our most visible outreach is The Birmingham Neighborhood Pantry located at the Hungarian Club on Paine Avenue which is a welcoming place for those struggling to make ends meet. The pantry is voluntarily staffed twice a month on the second and fourth Monday from 10 - 11 A.M. These volunteers play an integral role in the care of inventory and the distribution of the food items. The donated dollars and in-kind donations of food collected at church and Ecumenical services help stock the pantry. Under the leadership of Andy Lucas, the food pantry has added more items including perishable foods. We are always trying to find new contributors and increase our volunteer staff to keep the pantry going for years to come.

Our members attend quarterly district meetings and continue to educate themselves in how to better understand our changing community and to address those in need locally and nationally. **We are always striving to increase our membership and always welcome new members.** If you would like more information on our efforts of the St. Vincent de Paul Society, please call **Annette Hager, President**, at 419-693-5424 or write us at 729 White Street, Toledo, OH 43605.

We are extremely grateful for your generous donations to St. Vincent de Paul Epiphany of the Lord. Without you, our ministry would not be possible.

Thank you! Your support has made a difference in the lives of others and our community. May God bless you abundantly!

*"For I was hungry, and you gave me to eat; thirsty, and you gave me to drink;
A stranger, and you welcomed me"*

Matthew 25:35