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St. Vincent de Paul

For more information about our services, programs, or this newsletter, please contact us at: 208-664-3095 or visit us on the web at www.stvincentdepaulcda.org

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A Warm Welcome to Our New Executive Director!

St. Vincent de Paul is pleased to introduce our new Executive Director, Jeff Conroy! Jeff joined our team in this vital position in April 2008. Before coming to St. Vincent de Paul, Jeff spent the first 16 years as an executive for the Boy Scouts of America in both Portland, Oregon and in Coeur d'Alene, where he was the Camp Director for Camp Easton as well as the Inland Northwest Council's Program Director. As Program Director he oversaw 27 camping programs, training, advancement, and year round programs and a staff of 15. He left the BSA in 2003 as the Chief Operations Officer to become the Executive Director of the United Way of Kootenai County. There he enjoyed an upswing of community awareness, volunteer support, and an increase in fundraising.

While at the United Way, Jeff was very active as a non-profit supporter and public speaker on diverse topics with over 200 speaking engagements per year. He was the keynote speaker for the "Serve Idaho" state conference and the Post Falls Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner. He was also a guest speaker to numerous service clubs, religious and non-profit organizations, and staff trainings.



Jeff comes to St. Vincent de Paul with a variety of knowledge including fundraising, volunteer recruitment, developing training programs, nonprofit organizations and structure, administration, staff and volunteer development, community networking, marketing, and motivational speaking.

Jeff moved to North Idaho in 1995 along with his best friend and wife of 20 years, Jeannette; his 19 year old daughter, Monica, who is a student at Seattle Pacific University (he pushed for Gonzaga!); his 16 year old daughter, Brianne, who is a Junior at Coeur d'Alene High School; and his 11 year old son, John, a 6th grader at Canfield. The Conroy's are members of St. Pius Catholic Church.

Jeff is a graduate of Western Oregon University with a degree in Music Education. (Yes, a music teacher!) He is currently finishing his Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership at Gonzaga University. (Go Bulldogs!) He is a member of the Regional 1 Coalition for the Homeless, City of Coeur d'Alene's 10-Year-Plan Committee to end Homelessness, the State of Idaho's Homeless Association, and the North Idaho Housing Coalition.

In his spare time, Jeff loves golfing, fishing, reading, and barbecuing with his family.

**From the
Desk of the
Executive
Director**

Dear Friends,

Since arriving April 1, 2008, I have come to believe that St. Vincent de Paul is a magical place. In a short amount of time I've come to know some of the most amazing staff I have ever had the privilege to work with. I have met people in our emergency shelters and transitional housing that are just trying to exist and have come to believe that bad things can happen to great people. And, I truly believe that we can and must do more.

Over the next six months St. Vincent de Paul will be kicking off our first fundraising campaign with all of the money going to support the Social Services that we operate. This includes almost 200 units of housing throughout our continuum of housing starting with the Women's Shelter and the Men's shelters, all of our transitional programs, our affordable housing for those struggling to make ends meet, our community outreach program, and Art on the Edge. It will also support our efforts of helping people with monthly needs through our voucher programs that provide help with gas, utility bills, and household items for those without and can't afford the basics, helping our daycares provide quality nutritional meals through our USDA Child Care Food Program, and our newest Housing First Program which moves those in the shelters into permanent housing (this requires one on one case management position). As you can see on our 6-month report card below, for just the first 6 months of 2008, we provided an amazing number of services to over 2,100 men, almost 950 women, and almost 400 children in North Idaho. The need is huge and all of the programs we are currently operating are done very well, but there is more we need to do. That is the reason for the fundraising drive-to serve more of those in need.

My vision is that our St. Vincent de Paul can better serve those we are currently helping by finding that *one* person a job so they can improve their current situation, or helping select a suit from our thrift stores for that job interview that would make a difference, or taking someone who is homeless to file for benefits they have coming so they won't have to stay in the emergency shelter. If we could teach a parenting class to young parents trying to "do better", or help find housing for a family currently living in the back of their pick-up, then my vision would come true. It is important to remember that those we are serving, and those we still need to serve, *are human beings before they needed our help.*

It is an honor to serve as the Executive Director of our St. Vincent de Paul. I look forward to an amazing future of helping those in our community who are not looking for a hand out but a hand up. On behalf of the staff of St. Vincent de Paul and the Board of Directors, thank you for all of your support.

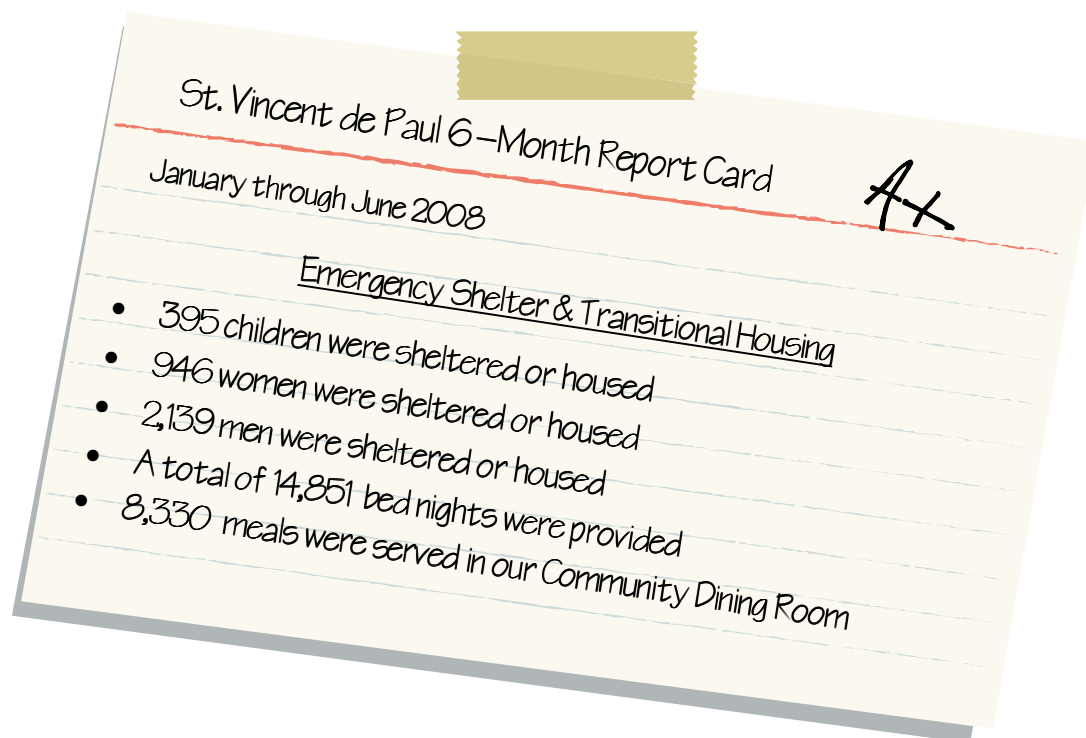
Jeff Conroy

To contact Jeff Conroy please e-mail him at jeff@stvincentdepaulcda.org.



If you have a group that would be interested in learning more about St. Vincent de Paul and the programs or services we provide, please feel free to contact us at 208-664-3095 to see how you can tour our facilities or schedule a presentation!

A special thank you to Robert Peterson, volunteer photographer, for the photo on page 3 of Mr. Bob Runkle, as well as the Coeur d'Alene Press for the use of Jeff Conroy's photo on the cover and on page 2.



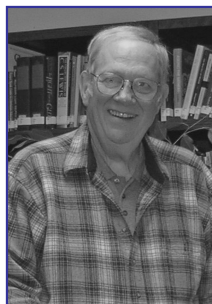
Helping Others: Recognizing the Volunteers

Bob (Robert S.) Runkle is a St. Vincent de Paul "Phenomenal" volunteer and has donated his talent to us for the past several years. He coordinates events and activities for the youth who reside at our Transitional Housing Center, applies for grants on our behalf, and transports the veterans we assist to their appointments in Kootenai County and Spokane, Washington. He allocates funds and gift cards from outreach ministries to our Social Service Office and helps locate furnishings for people leaving our facilities to move into permanent housing. The list goes on extensively.

Bob is retired from engineering, sales, and business management. He has a wide range of experience in design and construction and manufacturing activities. His professional career was

in general management and he was a sales executive in various industries and government. Bob worked in medical device/diagnostics manufacturing, environmental and engineering, and consulted professions and industries. His career spanned 40 years, 7 of those years in government work, 17 years with a Fortune 500 firm, a small plastics firm, and both small and mid-sized environmental firms. Bob demonstrated his strength in technical sales, proposal management and contract administration.

A life-long Episcopalian, Bob was born in Washington, D.C. and lived his early life in Southern Maryland and the Rockville suburbs of D.C. He is active in his church, particularly in outreach ministries at St. Luke's in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. He is an elected



member of the Episcopal Diocese of Spokane's Diocesan Council up through 2009 and was elected deputy to the Episcopal Churches General Convention in Anaheim, CA. in 2007 with continued service to the end of 2009. He serves as Chair of the Social Justice and Outreach Ministries Commission of the Diocese, an umbrella organization for fifteen different ministry groups. He is also the Jubilee Ministry Officer and serves as the EFM (Education for Ministry) Coordinator for the Diocese of Spokane.

Bob is an advisor on grant development for the Post Falls Food Bank in Post Falls, ID and to the Center for Organizational Reform, a non-profit organization based in Spokane. He has authored several books, publications, and technical papers. He and his wife, Mary Beth Jorgensen, have lived in Kootenai County since 2003 and moved to Post Falls, ID in the summer of 2006.

Bob Runkle is a blessing to St. Vincent de Paul and his community! He loves volunteerism! When he sets out to do something for us, he gets it done. To quote a few other parishioners from St. Luke's Episcopal Church, "We've been Runkle-ized!"

There are always volunteer opportunities at St. Vincent de Paul!
Call (208) 664-3095, stop by our Coeur d'Alene store, or visit our website at www.stvincentdepaulcda.org.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

St. Vincent's 6th Annual Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week is Coming!

In recognition of National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, St. Vincent de Paul will be holding its 6th annual local awareness event, November 9-16, 2008. Various activities will take place throughout the week which the whole community can enjoy, including:

- The annual Spaghetti "Dinner by Donation" held at the St. Thomas Center in Coeur d'Alene on Saturday the 8th. Sponsored by the St. Thomas Knights of Columbus.
- A candlelight vigil at Independence Point in Coeur d'Alene on Monday at 7:00 pm.
- Tours of St. Vincent de Paul, Monday through Thursday from 12:00—1:00 pm.
- A blanket and food drive all week long, with collection boxes at our two thrift stores.
- A week-long art show at Silver Lake Mall, presented by St. Vincent's Art on the Edge program.
- A "Community Potluck" to serve the homeless in our community on Thursday.
- A community lunch honoring individuals, companies, and agencies who have supported us throughout the year which will be held on Friday.

All proceeds from this event and its related activities go directly to St. Vincent's homeless shelters.

Watch for more information, mark your calendars, and come out and join us!

St. Vincent de Paul
Salvage Bureau
St. Thomas Conference

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St. Thomas Conference
Volunteer Board of Directors:
Mike Anderson, President
John Bruning, Vice President
Garry Loeffler, Secretary
Gordon Ramsden, Treasurer
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Biron Larson
Dick Mott
Father George Rassley

St. Vincent de Paul is an equal-opportunity employer, as well as service and housing provider. We strongly believe in committed personal involvement without judgment or regard to race, nationality, or religious preference.

Questions? Comments? A story you would like to see? Please feel free to let us know! You may mail it to the Editor at the above address, or you may email it to: shelly@stvincentdepaulcda.org.

Please note, we cannot guarantee the use of submitted items and all items sent may be edited for content and space.

Become a Part of Our Team!

1. Shop at our stores in Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls.
2. Donate quality items to our stores.
3. Call 664-3095 and volunteer your valuable time and experience.
4. Use the enclosed envelope to make a donation, no matter how small.

All donations stay here to help those in need in Kootenai County — and they are tax deductible!

St. Vincent de Paul has a new look!



While our logo might be changing to better represent our mission of empowering others to help themselves, we are still *the place* to get great deals on used, quality goods!

Thank you for continuing to support us in our mission!

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S WISH LIST

Like most non-profit agencies, our resources are limited. That's why we have created this wish list as an additional way supporters of St. Vincent de Paul can help. If you can help by donating any of the following items, please contact us at 208-664-3095.

- ♥ Personal products such as toothbrushes and paste, dental floss, soap, shampoo and conditioner, shaving cream, disposable razors, combs and brushes, laundry and cleaning supplies, and lotion
- ♥ Baby supplies, including disposable diapers, baby wipes, and formula
- ♥ Non-perishable food items such as canned goods (vegetables, soup, fruit, beans, etc.)
- ♥ Smaller increment gift cards to places like Fred Meyer, Kmart, Target, Wal-Mart
- ♥ Gas gift cards (Exxon, Shell, Chevron, etc)
- ♥ Digital reader boards for our thrift stores

"If everyone gives one thread, the poor man will have a shirt."

— Russian Proverb

Newsletter Information:

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Newsletter Editor & Writer: Shelly Hines
Design & Layout: Shelly Hines
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