



Welcome to our newsletter from SSVP Hamilton and surrounding areas. We hope this newsletter provides insight into the impact we are making for those in need in the Hamilton area. For more information, visit our website at [ssvphamiltonpc.org](http://ssvphamiltonpc.org). Also follow and Like us on our Facebook page. [Facebook](#). We are also on Instagram @SSVP Hamilton/Hamilton-West. [Click here](#) for fun video about what we do.

**We are dedicated to helping anyone in need in our Hamilton communities. We are 22 conferences strong and growing! Your support is essential to our success.**



## 2023 Update



Last year was another growth year. Our on-going Help us Grow campaign took in over \$90,000 so far, our 3 events over \$50,000. Separate from this success, income is up 15% which is great news. Admin costs are at 5% of our income which is very reasonable. Our spending on families in need is up 6%. The adults we have served is up 30%, children are up 4% and visits are up 3%. Our number of members is up 35%. Please [click here](#) for our annual report.

**We are well positioned to achieve even more impact for our neighbours in need.**

## Christmas Joy



Across all conferences, Christmas is a special time for giving. Our neighbours in need get an extra gift from us each year and it is so appreciated. This generosity comes easily for us out of love and caring for our friends. Easter is soon approaching, and some conferences will use this holy time to provide an extra gift.

## Events



**Lottery** – We are launching our 2<sup>nd</sup> Lottery. Last year, we raised over \$12,000 which went directly to food vouchers. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 5 for \$20.00. Please get your tickets from your conference or online. [Click here.](#)

**Dinner Dance** – May 31<sup>st</sup>, we will be hosting our 16<sup>th</sup> annual event. Tickets are \$80 each and can be purchased on-line through our website. This year, Connie Smith will be our Master of Ceremonies. [Click here for Tickets](#)  
Stay tuned for more info for Golf and Purse Bingo.

## Pencil case program



After a long COVID break, please join us once again in support of the *right to learn* by donating your used school supplies and other classroom/household items that you no longer need. Where possible, please separate the pens, pencils, pencil crayons and markers into individual boxes, by type. Doing so, will help us ready the shipment much quicker. Target is to complete by end of June 2024 for donations. **For more information contact Lorenzo Mostacci at [renzmostacci@gmail.com](mailto:renzmostacci@gmail.com) or [Click Here.](#)**

## Education



Michael is a client of St. John the Baptist. He is a young adult, visually impaired and trying hard to complete his schooling for social work. He has already completed most of the requirements to become a licensed Social Service consultant and this last chapter of education will qualify him as a psychotherapist. He has been awarded \$3,000 towards this program through the Ozanam Fund. Good luck Michael!

If you have anyone in your conference that needs help to complete an educational program, please contact Maria Scattolon at [mariascattolon@gmail.com](mailto:mariascattolon@gmail.com).

## Ken Burley - In memory of our departed Vincentians



Ken passed away January 2023. He was a dedicated Vincentian for over 20 years. He was a humble, caring man who in addition to SSVP, volunteered with Knights of Columbus, Kinsmen, K-40 and Warm-up Canada. It is important to remember the service of friends like Ken. He will be missed by his wife Laurie, their family and community. The Burley family made a generous donation to the Help Us Grow campaign in his name. God Bless Ken and all our departed Vincentians who are an inspiration for us.

## Our Impact

St Thomas Waterdown cooked over 100 litres of chili to feed over 600 people and accumulated over 10 construction bags of winter accessories for De Mazenod Door in January.

We have been giving attention to the encampment sites. Maria Scattolon has been cooking meals for an encampment in East Hamilton, 3 times a week. Extraordinary generosity. Many needed items have been donated and distributed to other encampments and we have supplied The Hub (Police Service organization) with donated items for their good work in the city.

## Our Thrift Stores

The stores continue to be a vital part of our service to the community. We are blessed with a steady volume of gently used furniture, clothing and household items and continue to struggle with space for these items and volunteers to help prepare and move these items for sale. It is important to note that you do not need to be a Vincentian to volunteer and even a little time given is a huge help.

To view our recent video for Volunteering, [click here](https://ssvphamiltonpc.org/). <https://ssvphamiltonpc.org/>

## North of 60 – Year 3



From Maria "On October 16, 2023, I visited the northern community of Coral Harbour. The sea container's long journey from Stoney Creek had just arrived at Coral from a barge several kilometres from the town. I cannot express their gratitude and thanks for the goods that they received. 2024 will be the 3rd year we will be sending food to Coral Harbour. Hamilton and Hamilton West will once again increase their efforts to provide much needed support for our northern brothers and sisters". Watch the packing video. [Click here](#).