

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL ARCHDIOCESAN COUNCIL OF ST. LOUIS

 $\cdots\,$ Helping Neighbors starts at home $\cdots\,$

Food Voucher Program

SVdP operates or has an affiliation with dozens of food pantries throughout the St. Louis. We also provide our Neighbors in Need with food vouchers redeemable at local Schnucks stores.

The Vincentian reviews the Neighbor's needs and attempts to meet those needs including providing basic food necessities from a pantry. These food needs can be supplemented with a food voucher that can be redeemed for things not generally available at a food pantry—fresh fruits, vegetables, milk, etc. The vouchers state no alcohol or tobacco are allowed. (Note: while many Conferences elect to purchase grocery store gift cards to give to their Neighbors, most gift cards do not preclude a person from purchasing alcohol or tobacco products.)

Vouchers may be ordered by calling the Council receptionist at 314-881-6000. The vouchers are written for \$50.00 each. The vouchers cannot be redeemed for cash and no change is given if the entire \$50.00 is not spent. Vincentians may give Neighbors multiple vouchers depending on the size of the family. To prevent fraud, the vouchers are pre-printed **and serialized** by the Society with the name and address of the Conference. **In some cases, such as Disasters, the name and address of the Council may be preprinted and given to the conference to use.**

To use the voucher, the Vincentian:

- 1. Writes in the name and address of the Neighbor in Need. Note: The Neighbor's name and address on the voucher must match their ID to be accepted at the grocery store.
- 2. Writes the Vincentian's initials on the voucher and gives the voucher to the Neighbor.
- 3. The Neighbor redeems the voucher at their local Schnucks store, showing their ID that matches their name and address written on the voucher. Schnucks then sends the redeemed voucher to their main office for billing.
- 4. If the voucher was filled out with the Conference as the "payee," the Schnucks main office sends an invoice to the Conference. If the voucher was filled out with the Council as the "payee," the Schnucks main office sends an invoice to the Council office.
- 5. The Conference or the Council then pays the invoice.