

Society of St. Vincent de Paul

P. O. Box 127

Baton Rouge, LA 70821-0127

(225) 383-7837

Vision 150 Confidential Supporter Survey

Directions As one of St. Vincent de Paul's most important supporters, your feedback is invaluable to us. This questionnaire will help the Society rate its current status, as well as gain input on future plans. We will be glad to set up an appointment to complete this form together, or if it is more convenient, you may mail the completed form to us in the enclosed envelope or fill out a questionnaire online at www.svdpbr.org . Call us at (225) 383-7837 to set up an appointment. Thank you in advance for your assistance in helping us plan our future.	Name:	Date:
	Business (if applicable):	Title:
	Address:	
	Telephone No.	

Public Perception of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul:

- How do you regard the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's success in fulfilling its mission?
 Excellent Good Fair Poor
- How do you feel about the publicity received by the Society?
 Excellent Good Fair Poor
- Rate your perception of the services we offer.
 Excellent Good Fair Poor
- How do you feel about the quality of the Society's communications (newsletters, etc.)?
 Excellent Good Fair Poor
- Do you have any suggestions on how we can improve our public image? If yes, please explain.

- What would you list as the strengths, weaknesses and opportunities of our local Society?

Strengths: _____

Weaknesses: _____

Opportunities: _____

Organizational Culture:

- What do you feel are the values and beliefs that guide the Society of St. Vincent de Paul and its people?

Programs and Services:

1. Can you identify/list programs and services that are perceived by the public as high quality? These can be St. Vincent de Paul projects or any other projects here in the community.

2. If you could change one thing about the Society or our services, what would it be?

3. What do you think of the Society’s track record in Baton Rouge?

Excellent Good Fair Poor

4. Do you feel that the Society offers measurable results?

Yes No

Status of Organizational Cause:

1. What is your view of the importance of the work of St. Vincent de Paul?
 Very Important Important Somewhat Important Not Significant
2. If the Society was considering a building fund for additional growth, are there any economic indicators, campaigns, or other building funds in the Baton Rouge area that might have a substantial impact?

Current Community Needs:

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul has identified several community needs:

-Essential Needs Distribution Center – Every year, the Society provides food, clothing, household items, furniture, and toiletry items to thousands of the poor and homeless in our community. We provide a hand-up to people in need of essential items. In the past, this was done through our warehouse/distribution center, a leased facility that was recently sold by the owner. We either had to close down, which would have resulted in a dramatic decrease in services, or find a new home. Instead of finding another location to lease, where we could find ourselves in the same situation, we were able to find a 15,000 sq. ft. warehouse near our main charitable campus. This ensures that the storage/distribution functions of our dining room, shelters, pharmacy and thrift stores will continue without risk of interruption. In addition, this new distribution center will put us in a better position to deal with possible disasters in the future. Our distribution center played a critical role by serving thousands in need after Hurricanes Katrina and Gustav.

-St. Vincent de Paul Campus Growth Project – Our vision of owning the entire block that our main charitable campus sits on took a big step forward when we acquired the property adjacent to our dining room (an additional 25% of the block). This campus continues to grow, and our strategic planning has positioned us to now have space for future expansion to fill community needs that we identify through this process. Unfortunately, there is a small debt associated with the purchase of this property. Our goal is to pay off the debt and also identify what community need would be best served at this location.

-Creation of Housing/Shelter for Families – Our Bishop Ott Shelter Program continues to make an impact in the lives of homeless men, women and children. We have secured a half-million-dollars in funding to move the current Bishop Ott Shelter for Men on Convention St. to the second floor of our Dining Room building. Although we make an impact on most of the homeless population, we are currently unable to serve intact families, families with boys over the age of 12, and families headed by single men. Our vision is to renovate the current Bishop Ott Men’s Shelter on Convention St. so that we can provide shelter to these vulnerable populations.

-Establishment of a Community Center of Services (Supermarket – Thrift Store – Training Café Hybrid) – Through the wisdom of our St. Vincent de Paul Board leadership, we have acquired property on North Blvd. where the old Romano Supermarket once stood. Unfortunately, low-income residents in the downtown area who are struggling to make ends meet do not have a place to shop for groceries, clothing and other basic essentials. In addition, several small low-income apartment complexes are opening in this area. This location is a perfect site to develop a new innovative concept that we have labeled as a supermarket/thrift store/training café hybrid. Our purpose would not be to give items away, but instead to provide a place for people to shop with dignity. Our focus at St. Vincent de Paul has always been to help people by giving a hand-up, not a hand-out. It would also be a place where we could provide training and workforce development opportunities for people who lack life- and job-skills in a café/restaurant environment.

-Establishment of a Chapel on our Campus – Over the years, our St. Vincent de Paul leadership has recognized a need for a chapel on our campus. It would provide a place for those we serve to pray and reflect. It would provide our volunteers and members a place to strengthen their faith as they do God’s work. One-day retreats and faith-related uses are also possibilities with this chapel.

-YOUR Vision – The Society of St. Vincent de Paul has always been a charity that listens. Everything listed above has come from someone within our St. Vincent de Paul family. Some of the visions above were mentioned years ago, but we have not been able to move forward on those items until now. What are your visions and what do you think we should focus on as we work together to serve God’s poor?

1. How do you personally rank the community needs listed above and how do you feel about each? Write comments on back of page if necessary.

Rank #	Project	Comments/Thoughts
	Essential Needs Distribution Center	
	Campus Growth Project	
	Creation of Shelter for Families	
	Establishment of a Community Center of Services (Supermarket/Thrift Store/Training Café Hybrid)	
	Establishment of a chapel on our campus	
	YOUR Vision	
	YOUR Vision	

Fund Drive for Growth:

1. Do you think a fund drive to help the Society grow to meet current community needs is appropriate?
 - Yes No

2. Would you be willing to work on a fund drive effort in a volunteer capacity?

Yes No

3. Can you suggest any individuals who might be willing to serve as volunteer leaders in this effort? (This will be kept confidential, along with all other information.)

4. Are there any individuals, businesses, foundations, or other funding resources you would suggest we contact?

5. Do you think the community will support a St. Vincent de Paul fund drive for these projects?

Yes No

Comments: _____

Please provide additional comments about the Society and its future plans.
