

**News Release**

**Media inquiries only: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Society of St. Vincent de Paul to Host
13th Annual Friends of the Poor® Walk/Run**

**Insert name of City, State, and date here** ― The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP), a nonprofit organization that helps those living in poverty, will sponsor the 13th Annual Friends of the Poor® Walk/Run on **insert event date here** to benefit those **insert who is being benefitted here**. The event will begin at **time a.m.** at **insert starting location here** and end at the **insert ending location here**.

All proceeds and donations from the event will directly benefit neighbors in need in the **insert name of city here** area served by SVdP. Anyone interested in learning more, participating, or making a pledge can visit [www.fopwalk.org](http://www.fopwalk.org). Online pledges will also be gratefully accepted.

The event is held near September 27, the feast day of the Society’s patron, St. Vincent de Paul, who ministered the poor in Paris in the 17th century. With events happening nationwide, the Friends of the Poor® Walk/Run in each community is designed and run by the St. Vincent de Paul Conference or Council in that area. The local Walk/Run is being sponsored by the Society’s **name of Conference/Council hosting the event**.

SVdP – FOP® Walk/Add One (place this at the top of the second page)

Services provided by the **insert name of Conference/Council here** SVdP include **[name all the services that the Council and/or Conferences provide, the number of people served, the value of those services, etc.]**

“**Insert quote from Conference/Council president here**,” said **insert name of Conference/Council president here**, who serves as district council president for SVdP. “**Insert quote from Conference/Council president here**.”

One of the largest charitable organizations in the world, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul ([www.svdpusa.org](http://www.svdpusa.org)) is an international, nonprofit, Catholic lay organization of more than 800,000 men and women who voluntarily join together to grow spiritually by offering person-to-person service to the needy and suffering in 155 countries on five continents. With U.S. headquarters in St. Louis, MO, membership in the United States totals about 100,000 in 4,428 communities.

SVdP offers a variety of programs and services, including Home Visits, housing assistance, disaster relief, education and mentoring, food pantries, dining halls, clothing, assistance with transportation, prescription medication, and rent and utility costs. The Society also works to provide care for the sick, the incarcerated and the elderly. Over the past year, SVdP provided over $3.4 billion in tangible and in-kind services to those in need, made more than 2.1 million personal visits (homes, hospitals, prisons and eldercare facilities) and contacts and helped more than 5.4 million people regardless of race, religion or national origin.

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