



St. Mary Help of Christians Church
St. Vincent dePaul Society
PO Box 438
Aiken, SC 29802

St. Vincent dePaul Society Ministry 2020 Year End Report

For the year 2020 we provided groceries to 4,263 families (10,525 total people) which included 2,293 seniors and 2,728 children. Thanks to the ability to purchase food at a reduced cost from Golden Harvest Food Bank and to food received at no cost from many of our local supermarkets and the U.S. Department of Agriculture, we were able to provide approximately 330,000 pounds of food for a cost of \$36,078.55.

Because of your extremely generous donations throughout the year and because of the great need in our community due to the COVID-19 crisis, we were able to expand our services in several ways by: 1. Broadening the geographic area we serve in Aiken County; 2. Increasing emergency financial support to avoid utility service shut-off; and 3. Assisting with eviction avoidance and offering hotel assistance to homeless families. St. Vincent dePaul provided \$125,170 of financial assistance to 758 families to prevent cutoff of vital utility services and for prescription medications. We also assisted one family with \$717 of eviction avoidance support and 15 homeless families with \$3,528 of hotel room shelter.

We would also like to thank the children, families and faculty of St. Mary Help of Christians School for their continued support throughout the year.

As an outreach ministry, we have overhead expenses such as electrical costs due to heating and air conditioning and many refrigerators and freezers. We also have expenses for water, telephones, internet service for client research and trash collection. Since all of our members are unpaid volunteers, we are able to keep this overhead to less than 10% (7.9% in 2020) of our expenses.

We continue to need volunteers to help serve the needy in our area. We meet the first Monday of every month at 6 p.m. in Mother Teresa Hall (please call the pantry in advance at 803 642-3211 to verify). Please come to a meeting and see how you can help.