



NORTHWEST DISTRICT PRESIDENT'S MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2018
ST. BARNABAS, O'FALLON, MO

1. **Meeting Opening** – Matt Medina opened the meeting at 7:00 pm
2. **Opening Prayer**- Lynda Atchison led the opening prayer
3. **Car Purchase Program** – Kevin Kolasch, NW District Car Coordinator, gave a review and an update of the St. Louis Council's Car Purchase Program. The goal of the program is to provide transportation so clients are able to keep jobs. St. Louis Council will donate funds along with the District contributions amounting to a \$5000.00 towards a vehicle. Conferences are asked to contribute one half or whatever amount they are able towards to vehicle. Kevin is working with St. Charles Hyundai and Nissan to purchase vehicles for clients. Kevin plans to discuss changes and new ideas for the program with regarding bank transfers and easier ways for payment with the SL Council. A handout was available with the current procedures for the program.
Call Kevin with questions: 636-541-3102 or kevin@doublekleather.com
4. **Updates On Administry Conference Data Base** –Joyce Cain gave an update from St. Charles Borromeo about using Administry database. Most of the members like using the database. Other conferences seem to have positive input also. St Theodore is a smaller conference and doesn't feel it is necessary to use Administry. Gene Goertz of St. Patrick's use the database for food service action items, motels and utilities. Theresa of IHM said they are using database for some items.
5. **Twinning Money Availability – Matt Medina/ Discussion**
Matt announced that money for both the homeless and twinning is available. Contact Brother Raphael for the homeless and non-utility requests and Theresa Weber for all utility requests.
6. **Co-Captain needed to serve with Chris Smith for the Walk for the Poor, September 29, 2018- Matt Medina/discussion.**
Matt asked Presidents to check within the conferences for a co-captain to work with Chris for the Walk for the Poor. This year's walk will take place at Lake St. Louis Park. We need this Co-Captain's position filled by April, 2018. Contact Chris Smith at 314-616-6476 or Matt Medina 636-946-5756.

7. Candidates for the new NW District President FY 2019 Starting Oct. 1, 2018

Matt would like to train someone for 6-9 months before he leaves his office as President. Contact Matt if you are interested. 636-946-5756 or medi720@aol.com

8. HUD Coordinated Entry Requirements – Vincentians activity – Matt Medina

A program for homeless help, Coordinated Entry, will be available in St. Charles, Lincoln and Warren counties beginning January 23, 2018. It is sponsored by the Community Council (Mary Fehner). Business cards and posters with information for the homeless were made for Homeless coordinators and members to distribute. Mary Fehner will coordinate the project. These cards are to be handed out to any Homeless Clients SVDP serves.

9. Homeless Program Update – Lynda Atchison

Lynda spoke about the homeless families that she and the other caseworkers have helped get housing and jobs. At this time, she will take a break from the Homeless project to spend personal time with her family. She thanked everyone for their help and asked for continued prayers and help for the homeless. We all wished her well and thanked her for her compassion and hard work for the past several years. Lynda Atchison will retain her responsibilities as the Vice President of the NW District.

10. Cold Weather Response Team -- Matt Medina

Matt reminded conferences that when night temperatures drop below 20 degrees, Wentzville and St. Charles have warming centers and can provide transportation for those in need. Hotline Phone Number is 636-395-0492. Matt reminded members to open emails about the nights the warming centers are open.

11. Each Conference President – Conference Highlights 2017

St. Charles Borromeo-Joyce Cain stated Administry database is going well. There are 3 new members. \$3000. Assistance was provided to clients from the credits at the Thrift Stores. Credits were earned from Mini Vinnie rummage sale and parishioner donations. No Hunger Holiday meals assisted 67 families and more than 310 individuals. Giving Tree provided food and gifts for 85 families and 354 individuals. St. Vincent de Paul members dedicated almost 1500 hours and served more than 3800 meals. In addition the Mini Vinnie's (7th & 8th grade students) held several activities such as the backpack program for underserved students, prepared food for 483 meals at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen, packed food for various activities, adopted children for Giving Tree, and many more activities listed in a separated handout at this meeting. 2017 SVDP Summary was posted on the Church bulletin. (See Attached)

Assumption-Jim Beaudry- They use Administry. Hyundai dealership has helped with multiple purchases of a cars. Conference bring books for children on home visits. They had an increase of 18 ½ % in active membership, and a 33 % increase in associate membership after speaking about SVdP at their Masses. A college graduate put a story in the bulletin re: visits. Two people who worked in the pantry resigned, but 4-5 more volunteered to help. Two members visit with the homeless. Their conference has a Friendship dinner with the conference members.

St. Patrick-Gene Goertz- They also use Administry. They just got their first computer. A Seminarian helps at the pantry. 5340 people were helped \$613,840.00 worth of food, 140 new clients. Wentzville police department help with the homeless by giving out food vouchers. Six members retired and 8 new members joined, 50 members total.

IHM-Theresa Waddington-There are 25 regular clients using the pantry. They receive milk, eggs, and produce from St Patrick. Their funds were down to \$1000. They were able to get a car for a client from St. Charles Hyundai from the salesperson, Jason. They had an Advent Tree. They put items about SVdP in the bulletin.

Holy Rosary- Joyce and Lonnie Holloway: They had a rummage sale, with 61 volunteers, \$5800.00 profit and 1000 hours worked. Festival of Sharing-a collective of churches and pantries. They were able to collect \$4600 worth of food, paper products, etc. Extra items valued at \$1600.00 were collected at the warehouse. Cuivre River Electric offers grants for weatherization, health issues and dental assistance. Clients must live in the area. Operation Roundup pantry has moved. The church purchased the Knights of Columbus Hall for an office and pantry.

All Saints-Carol Chipley- help with shopping for school supplies and pantries. Their conference has an emergency food pantry and freezer for walk-in clients. They help support the Wellston food pantry. One of their parishioner's donates eggs for clients.

Ann Yeager-St Joseph- Ann is the new President of St. Joseph Conference. She reported they had a good Christmas helping 53 families. The leftover gifts were donated to a parishioner who owns a McDonald's franchise and who distributed the gifts to needy families. A church in North County was closing, so their conference took toys and gifts and 40 bags of groceries to them. Their conference has 33 members. The pantry moved to a new building. For Thanksgiving they donated to Breeze Park nursing home workers. Their volunteers brought whole food packages to 8-12 day care staff.

Butch Henke-Immaculate Conception- Old Monroe- ICOM has increased home visits by three times this year. The Bridges program has 2 couples who do the home visits. The pantry visits increased by 7%. Also more food was donated.

Administry was initiated by two 20 year olds and an IT person. They also had clothing drives this year.

Doug Peterson-St Cletus- Doug Vice President announced that the new officer is Dan Peters. They have 35 very active members. They have changed the training of the members. They had 450 service hours with approximately 80 home visits. They helped 200 families, spending about \$70,000 families.

Gerrie Adams-St. Theodore- Membership includes 20 members, 16 are active. They have one new member, served 60 families, and made 30 home visits. They are a “Small but Mighty Group.” They helped 18 families at Christmas. At Thanksgiving they sent Blessing cards to the homebound and the sick. They made Christmas stockings for older parishioners and hand delivered them.

Amy Kortkamp- Immaculate Conception-Dardenne- ICD helped 4300 people with food, with fresh and dry goods. 819 households helped. 44 people expressed interest in helping with the pantry. They helped 164 families at Christmas. They have 91 members and 14 caseworkers. 9000 children and 17,000 adults with food drives. Veterans assisted with the food drives. SVdP was one of 6 recipients of the Mayor’s Charity Ball, received \$17,000 for an outdoor refrigerator. They were nominated in Jan and Feb by Schnuck’s for ICD’s Community Service with their Food Pantry.

Dale Kluesner- St. Barnabas- They have 5 new member, 2 answer the phone and 3 caseworkers. They have a sign up in the back of church to invite people to come to the SVdP meetings. Matt asked for the article they used to be attached to our minutes.

12.Membership 10% Increase Goal -- Discussion Everyone

Matt reminded President’s to work on having a goal of a 10% increase in membership this year. Conferences have put invitations in bulletins, spoken at Masses, been available after Masses to answer questions about SVdP, sponsored events within the parishes. Matt reminded members that the youth groups can be a great resource for future members, and cited the St. Charles Borromeo Mini Vinnies. They have been a great asset to the SVdP program, raise funds, help with donated food for the backpack program, help with the Giving Tree food and gift program, for example.

13.Open Topics / Discussions – All Presidents

Matt noted that St. Louis Council is looking for legal help, about 20 lawyers to do pro bono work. Parish pastors will be receiving a letter from the St. Louis Council regarding the need for lawyers.

Matt and John Heithaus had a meeting with Pam Struckhoff at J&A regarding problems with the message line call back when caseworkers and clients call for help. Matt distributed a list of people at J & A who can help. A note about water district PWSD #2: wants to participate in the dollar help program beginning the end of March. This program will be coordinated by Theresa Weber with separate funding provided by PWSD #2 for the clients needing utility help.

14.Special Thank You to St. Barnabas for Hosting this meeting

Matt thanked St. Barnabas for hosting the meeting and providing the refreshments.

15.Upcoming Dates: Heat Up St. Louis Feb. 9, 2018 , Ozanam Training – Mar. 3, 2018,

St. Pat's, NW District Meeting -- April 18, 2018 at Assumption Parish

16.Closing Prayers – Lynda Atchison

Note: There were 22 members present, 12 conferences, NWD President, and NWD Car Coordinator.

Absent: St. Robert, Sacred Heart Troy, St. Francis, St. Gianna, St. Peter

Revision #2 dated 2/5/18