

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE CONFERENCE, SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
April 2017 REPORT

Our Conference served 40 families and individuals in the months of January, February, and March, providing the following:

	# families/individuals
Bus tickets and transportation to the bus station:	2
Clothes, shopping at Goodwill or donations:	2
Furniture, Council distribution center, Indianapolis:	1
Electric and Gas bills:	10
Food, Kroger cards, McDonalds:	7
Lodging, an arrangement with Greencastle Inn:	9
Gasoline:	5
Water bill:	1
Appliance, clothes dryer:	1

Our expenditures for January, February, and March totaled \$5,454.00. This includes \$600.00 for \$20.00 Kroger gift cards which our secretary Catherine has for emergency requests.

We work with most of our clients, especially those living in Putnam County rather than just passing through, to help them learn about other resources. This often results in agencies cooperating to help the client. For example, our Conference will make up the difference in an overdue electric bill after contributions have been made by the County Trustee, Energy Assistance, or Beyond Homeless.

We almost always talk with clients about their future and explore ideas that might lead to more stable lives. Our approach is consultative, rather than telling a client what they should do or need to do, using an approach like "Have you thought about....?" Or "Do you have any ideas about....?"

We learned a lot during this our first winter and are preparing for spring. Our understanding is that some agencies greatly reduce their support once winter is over and so, in April we have seen little decline in requests for electric bill payments.

We greatly appreciate your generous support and hope you will keep us in your prayers. The prayer our Conference has adopted is:

Dear Lord, help us to see
the blessings and freedoms we enjoy
and not take them for granted.
Keep ever present in our minds
the pleas of our brothers and sisters
struggling to break free from poverty.
Send your Spirit to work through us to help others
develop their talents and become self-reliant.
Keep this fire of struggle alive in our hearts
until all your people are free from poverty.
Amen

Carl Singer, President	Bernie Batto, Vice-President
Joyce Johnson, Treasurer	Ann Rambo, Secretary