

IDEAS FOR MEANINGFUL SERVICE PROJECTS

Do you need service hours? Why not get them by doing acts of kindness that have a meaningful impact on your community? St. Vincent de Paul can help you build a project that will be both rewarding and fun. Here are some ideas:

Help the homeless.

- Winter is approaching and the homeless need warm clothes and blankets. Collect those
- Homeless women have asked for tee shirts, stretch pants, and comfortable shoes and sandals. Collect those
- The homeless have little in the way of clothes. Collect clothing, especially baseball hats (they are out in the sun during the day)
- They are very appreciative of toiletries. Collect travel size toiletries and put them in goody bags to pass out

Do drives that will help children. Collect

- Gently used toys
- Gently used children's books
- Gently used clothing

Do drives that will help infants. Collect

- Clothing
- Baby food and formula
- Equipment, such as strollers, playpens and activity centers

Collect clothing of any type. The MHOC St. Vincent de Paul group happily accepts donated, gently used clothing. We give it directly to those in need on a very large scale, we do NOT sell it. Donors are eager to give clothing in that circumstance. Collect it.

Help stock our food pantry.

- We maintain a food pantry at MHOC that is stocked with canned and boxed food. Collect that and bring it in
- Persons on food stamps may not use them for certain items, such as soap, shampoo, deodorant, shaving cream/blades, laundry and dishwashing soap, toothpaste, toilet paper, paper towels. Those items are very much in need. Collect them and bring them in.

Visit the elderly. The elderly enjoy visits by children, visit them. Vincentians have visited Aston Gardens assisted living on a weekly basis for years and we have a very good relationship with them. Aston's administration will set you up with activities to do with the residents.

Participate in the Walk for the Poor. Every year St. Vincent de Paul has a 5K walk/run in March with proceeds going to benefit the poor.

- Organize a group of walkers to participate
- Fundraise by getting donations
- Help with the set up/take down