

FRIENDS OF THE POOR® WALK

Media Talking Points



- The Society of St. Vincent de Paul is one of the oldest and most effective charitable organizations in the world. It was founded in Paris, France in 1833. The United States Society of St. Vincent de Paul was founded in 1845, in St. Louis, MO.
- Currently, about 800,000 men and women provide person-to-person help to the poor in 155 countries on five continents.
- The Friends of the Poor Walk® began in 2008 to celebrate the 175th anniversary of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP). This year will be the 13th Annual Friends of the Poor® Walk/Runs across the country.
- Funds raised from the Walk help neighbors in need with food, clothing, medicine, housing assistance, transportation and utility costs, job training and placement, and disaster relief.
- Those who receive help come from all kinds of ethnic and faith backgrounds.
- All proceeds from the Walk directly benefit people in the communities where the money is raised.
- Since it began in 2008, the Friends of the Poor Walk has raised over \$27 million to help neighbors in need across the country.
- Each community's Walk is organized and run by its own SVdP Conference or Council.
- St. Vincent de Paul was born of poor parents in the late 1500s, and is now the patron saint of charitable causes.