

**St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry**

**Minutes**

**September 10, 2025**

Gary opened the meeting at 7pm.

Mary Merenda led a prayer to open the meeting. We prayed for the victims of September 11<sup>th</sup>.

There were two new members and 33 members in all attended: Cindy Ashworth, Karen Degnan, JoAnn DiSalvo, Joce Pfirman, Paula Tullo, Dominic Schepis, Georgette Orlando, Dave Weaving Mary Carolan, Bill Stickle, Karen Salatino, James Ragnetti, Beth Ragnetti, Mary Muth, Bill Muth, Denise Herberger, Robert Herberger, Joann Picano, Marie Brown, Rich Brilla, Sharon Brilla, Betsy Thompson, Jean Alvarado, Mary Merenda, Sally O'Hara, Jessica McMahon, Christine Pompa, Gary Crispo, Linda Hunt, Bill Carey, Michele Carey, Tom O'Mara, and Diane Morrison.

The Minutes of May 2025 were approved by Michele Carey and Susan Sinclair.

**HPNAP (Hunger Prevention & Nutrition Assistance Program) Report May – August 2025**

|                     | <b>May 2025</b> | <b>June 2025</b> | <b>July 2025</b> | <b>Aug. 2025</b> |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| <b>Households</b>   | <b>97</b>       | <b>109</b>       | <b>96</b>        | <b>93</b>        |
| Children            | 52              | 84               | 58               | 69               |
| Adults              | 152             | 177              | 161              | 139              |
| Elderly             | 54              | 50               | 44               | 47               |
| <b>Total People</b> | <b>311</b>      | <b>331</b>       | <b>263</b>       | <b>255</b>       |

Gary summarized the four-month period from May-Aug 2025: we served a total of 395 households and 1087 people. For the same period in 2024, we had a total of 397 households and 1169 people. May-Aug 2025 represents a decline of 2 households, and an 82 person decline over 2024.

**Food Bank Purchases (May-Aug 2025)**

There were eight Food Bank Trips over the last four months. Members drove to the food bank, and several were on hand to help put away food.

| Date     | Gross Weight (lbs.) | Total Cost | Grants     | Our Cost   |
|----------|---------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| May 8*   | 440                 | \$586.92   | \$100      | \$486.92   |
| May 14   | 1,864               | \$2,112.20 | -          | \$2,112.20 |
| June 5*  | 168                 | \$203.84   | \$200      | \$3.84     |
| June 11  | 1,315               | \$1,224.28 | -          | \$1,224.28 |
| July 9   | 1,180               | \$776.76   | \$347.17   | \$430.59   |
| July 10* | 575                 | \$313.52   | \$268.98   | \$44.54    |
| July 24  | 506                 | \$626.52   | \$626.52   | -          |
| Aug 13   | 2,980               | \$2,350.25 | \$1,642.91 | \$1,004.22 |

**\* Brewster Pick-up**

Marie Brown picked up in Brewster. Driving to the food bank were Bill Stickle, Wendy Travis & Deb Anjos. On hand to put the food away were Michele Carey, Tom Guido, Claude Heddle, Bob Kavanaugh, Tom O'Mara, Joyce Pfirman, Marie Brown, Trish Jecmen, Deb Anjos, Ann & Howard Cohen, Mary & Bill Muth, Jim Mullen, and Gary Crispo.

### **Jessica McMahon presented the May – August 2025 Treasurer's Report.**

- We received HPNAP grant for 2025-2026 in the amount of \$3,700 which goes directly on our account for food purchases. We received an Operations Support grant of \$1,853.
- We received a \$1600 contribution from the Altar Rosary Society in June 2025.
- The Ancient Order of Hibernians presented a \$1000 check to the SVDP Food Pantry in July 2025.
- We received a \$500 donation from The Knights of Columbus St. Mary's Council in July 2025.
- The East Fishkill Rotary presented a \$1000 check to the SVDP Food Pantry in July 2025.
- Keeping Kohl's gift cards at \$40 for children under 18.
- Holiday gift cards held at \$50 for households 1 – 3 and \$75 for household > 4 people.

### **Food Drives**

Completed May – August 2025:

- **Knights of Columbus LaGrange food drive on May 10<sup>th</sup> at ShopRite Lagrange.** Thanks to Ed Davis for initiating and organizing with the Knights of Columbus Lagrange Council 133. There were 1538 pounds of food collected, and cash donations of \$648.11. Helping from SVDP were: Anne and Howard Cohen, Bob Herberger, Tom Guido, Mary Merenda, Bill Muth, Tom O'Mara, Joyce Pfirman, and Beth and Jim Ragnetti, Gary Crispo.
- **Catholic Charities 'Stuff the Bus' – June 8<sup>th</sup>, Stop & Shop Poughkeepsie Route 44 and South Road locations.** 1000 pounds of food collected. Thanks to Wendy, Tom G, Tom O, Ed Davis, and Gary Crispo.
- **St. Denis Bag Drive – June 14-15<sup>th</sup>.** We collected over 120 bags of food. Thanks to Dave Weaving, Georgette Orlando, Eileen Daly, Mary Carolan, Pamela Mills, Joanne & Chuck Bunnell, Tom O, Joyce Pfirman, Marie Brown, Howard & Ann Cohen, Anna Nachstein, JoAnn DiSalvo, Rich Brilla, Tom G, Cindy Ashworth, Jim & Beth Ragnetti, Nick Martini, and Gary Crispo.

Upcoming Food Drives Fall 2025:

| <b>FALL 2025</b>   |                                     |                           |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i><b>WHEN</b></i> | <i><b>WHAT</b></i>                  | <i><b>COORDINATOR</b></i> |
| <b>9/13</b>        | Chan 4 NY; LaG Stop & Shop          | Dave                      |
| <b>9/27</b>        | Shoprite LaGrange                   | Ed, Anne, Howard          |
| <b>OCTOBER</b>     | EF Library                          | Dave                      |
| <b>10/4</b>        | ACME - Rotary Club                  | Tom G                     |
| <b>TBD - NOV</b>   | Shoprite - St. Kateri KoC           | Ed                        |
| <b>TBD - NOV</b>   | Stuff the Bus (2 Pok Stop & Shops?) | Tom O/Dave                |
| <b>TBD - NOV</b>   | EF PBA - ACME                       | Tom O/Dave                |

**Friendly Reminder: Correctly complete HPNAP Log for Client Visits** - Please make sure all fields are completed: your name, client number, number of people in each age category – children, adults and elderly. If you don't have this information when you serve the client, please go back to the pantry to complete the missing fields. This is very important for our monthly HPNAP reporting.

**SVDP Annual dinner – June 11, 2025 - Denise Herberger, THANK YOU!** Photos on the Website.

**East Fishkill Community Day – September 20<sup>th</sup>. Help Needed.** Need members help set up SVDP Table, and be available to meet the public, handout brochures, etc., and collect donations. See sign-up sheet.

### **Civil Rights Annual Training**

Required annually and mandatory for all members who work directly with clients. There is a sheet to sign at the end of the meeting to confirm your attendance. Sign-up sheet will remain in the Pantry for those who will view the presentation remotely. DUE by October 31<sup>st</sup>.

### **Pantry Updates – Tom O’Mara**

- New Pantry Refrigerator – Tom
- Pantry painting – Need Volunteers (See Tom)
- Fresh Produce - Gary

### **SVDP Apparel – Mary Carolan**

- Brochure & order forms available after meeting.
  - Binder w/order forms will be left in the Pantry.
- Please make checks to ‘SVDP Food Pantry’

### **Christmas Giving Tree – Mary Carolan**

#### Key Dates

- Inputs to Mary for children’s clothing sizes and wish list (value up to \$25) by October 25, 2025.
  - Mary can be reached by text at 845-600-9523 or email at [dutchezz@optonline.net](mailto:dutchezz@optonline.net)
  - Pick up by members the afternoon of Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at the St. Denis- St. Columba School.
- Anyone wishing to be on the committee this year, please contact Mary Carolan.

### **School Supplies**

We had a large amount of donations for the school supply drive this year. A special thank you to Marie Brown, Paula Tullo, and all the restocking crew for keeping the shelf well stocked. We will store a few of the extra supplies for next year, however there will be a small number of various supplies in the pantry for clients’ needs throughout the year. Supply shelf will be available in the Pantry hallway until September 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **Winter Coats – Linda Hunt**

- Please provide your client’s child’s gender and coat size to Linda by October 25, 2025. Please reach Linda by phone or text at (914) 584-6260.
- Please understand, we cannot support requests on specific colors or brand names.

### **Kohls Christmas gift cards for children – Linda Hunt**

- We currently have 131 children (thank you, Alethea). Keeping value at \$40.
- Children’s gift cards will be distributed on Saturday, October 25, along with the Thanksgiving ShopRite gift cards.

### **Holiday Grocery Store Gift Cards**

As approved in our annual budget, we will keep the value of the ShopRite gift cards as follows for Thanksgiving and Christmas 2025:

- Households 1 – 3 people: \$50
- Households > 4 people: \$75
- Please update Dave Weaving by email [dweaving@optonline.net](mailto:dweaving@optonline.net) if you have any clients which should move to inactive by Sept. 27, 2025.
- Thanksgiving Card Distribution is on Saturday, October 25
- Christmas Card Distribution is on Saturday, Dec. 6

## **Christine Pompa – client assignments**

Closing Prayer – Mary Merenda

The meeting adjourned at 8:00pm

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### **In Memory of Masses from St. Vincent de Paul Food Pantry**

- **Mass for Charles Faranda (Deb Anjos's Father): Sunday 9am, September 21<sup>st</sup> at St. Columba**
- **Mass for Jeanne Tobin: Sunday, 9am, November 9<sup>th</sup> at St. Kateri**
- **Mass for Shirley Haynes (Wendy Travis Mother): Was in August**