

Saying it all

Dear Friends:

As always, last Spring we had a number of interns from Wayne State University. One of them worked with our GED students and we received a note from her, when her placement was completed. We were so moved, we wanted to share it with you all, because we work hard to make sure that our volunteers have a rewarding experience – not just our students:

I would like to thank the St. Vincent Sarah Fisher Center for allowing me to spend my time volunteering at your organization. I have had such a wonderful time working with both their students and their staff. There is a great environment that the SVSF Center has. The staff was always willing to help with any questions I had. They treated each student with respect and made sure they knew every student by name. This is something that I don't see in most of the places in which I volunteer. Every moment spent there was completely enjoyable.

One of the best qualities that the SVSF Center has is their commitment to their students. They have worksheets, free supplies and have a flexible schedule. They don't push students to do more than they are capable of but push for them to do the best that they can. They make sure to keep track of their students and get them to where they need to be. They always have a smile on their face.

This organization is also a great place to actually interact with those you want to help. Volunteers are here to offer one-on-one tutoring help. This tutoring is pertinent to their passing of the GED and furthering their future. It feels so meaningful to work with these students.

I would gladly work at the SVSF Center again. I felt safe and comfortable there. They have so much to offer volunteers.

Sincerely yours,

Monika F.

Thank YOU Monika! Feedback like this is appreciated more than you know and our programs work because of our amazing volunteers. If you are looking for the same sort of experience as Monika, we welcome you to join us!

Best regards,



Diane Renaud
Executive Director/CEO

**Thank
You!**

**We couldn't do
it without you!**

We need your help!

Please consider volunteering – we have a variety of ways you can support the Center and our Community. Contact Beth Kraft at (313) 535-9200 x3104 or visit www.svsfcenter.org for more information.

Passing the Torch

Along with the changing seasons, SVSF is also experiencing a change in our Children's Program. Having faithfully served as the Director since its inception, **Eva Essex** is reducing her role into assisting with the program. We are so grateful for her years of devotion, creating a truly beneficial program and that she isn't leaving us!

We are delighted to announce that **Melissa Gush** has been appointed as the new Director and is doing a marvelous job in her new role. She understands the unique needs of our children and families, while maintaining the high level of quality that our kids deserve. Bringing her passion for educating and truly helping our kids, she managed the Summer Program extremely well and we are excited for the Program's future!!



The "entertainment" for the Children's Summer Program Luncheon



How Did Your Summer Go?

We received a special gift from a parent of two of our children enrolled in the Summer Program:

"I am a parent of two students that attended this year's Summer Learning Program. I am writing this letter to thank you for such a wonderful program. It is a pleasure to be able to send my children to this great summer learning experience. Two of my older children had the chance to enjoy this program in the past and it just keeps exceeding any of my expectations for learning. The environment is well rounded, stimulates learning, allows for growth, keep minds challenged and healthy lifestyles are promoted with physical activity and proper nutrition. Please continue to keep young minds working during the summer and after school. I can't thank you enough for such a great program along with your time and genuine effort to support our future by working with today's youth."



This year's first batch of carrots from the Children's Urban Garden and the proud farmer!

Our Summer went well!

Lots of
GREEN!

You can help SVSF to save money and help the environment at the same time. Please visit

svsfcenter.org/join

and let us know that it is **OK** to send future communications to you via email.



Another Partnership!

Thanks to the funding and support of **Reading Works**, SVSF has launched a pilot program called the Family Learning Project with a new partner, **Detroit Rescue Mission Ministries!**

CONGRATULATIONS are in Order!

We are happy to announce that **Sue Voyles** and her team at **Logos Communications** are receiving the national 2015 Clarion Award for excellence in a Public Relations Campaign, in support of SVSF's 2014 **Windows of Opportunity** program. Way to go Logos!!

One of the many great blessings we have at the Center is **Steve Dunbar**. Steve, a former Volunteer of the Year, who currently is SVSF's GED Math Specialist, celebrated a special day in a special way. He recently spent his 70th Birthday, competing in the 11th Annual Wayne County Senior Olympics. Determination and good health are part of Steve's everyday lifestyle and that was solidified when he brought home two gold medals for Free Throw Shooting and a ten mile bike race, which he won in 32 minutes and 40 seconds. Congratulations Steve!!



Thanks to Chad Sorg and Lilly USA, LLC who very generously donated over 250 reading books to our Children's Program.



Volunteer Vanessa Verstraete providing a Fossil Presentation to the Children's After-School Program

easy ways to Help make a **Change**

It's easy to be part of all of the positive changes in the Center and help in ways you may not have considered before.

AmazonSmile – Think of SVSF when you are shopping and Help Our Students! Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center whenever you shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com).

Charity Motors – Donate your vehicle and you can designate the proceeds to the SVSF. Visit www.charitymotors.org for more information.

Ask your employer – Does your employer have an Employee Giving/Matching Gift program? A volunteer group? Give grants to non-profits? Or are there employee activities such as a jean day that raise money? Ask how St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center can be included.

Check with your place of worship – Many faith communities have funds that they designate to community efforts.

Designate us for Busch and Kroger Community Rewards programs – log on to their websites and select St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center to receive a donation from your grocery shopping.

Leave a Legacy – Consider St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center in your estate planning, to leave a gift that keeps on giving. We can help. Call Nancy Skula at (313) 535-9200, extension 3110.

Monetary donations – We rely on donations to operate. Your contribution is not only tax-deductible, it also directly supports our programs. Your gift will help our kids to succeed in school and make our adults more employable, which has economic impact for our entire community – both now and in the future. We are able to accept secure donations on our website too!

In-kind – Visit our website at www.svsfcenter.org – We have a variety of needs. Something as simple as a roll of paper towel or batteries can help off-set operating costs.

United Way designation – If you or your company participate in the annual United Way campaign, you can designate your gift toward St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center.

Volunteer – It doesn't take a lot of time to make a difference. And we have a variety of ways that you can help. Whether it is tutoring, administrative assistance, or publicity and marketing, your assistance is appreciated.

Call us at (313) 535-9200 or visit www.svsfcenter.org and learn more about how you can contribute to change.

Like us on Facebook
Follow us on Twitter



Facebook is a wonderful way to stay connected to all of the announcements and activities of the Center. Help us expand our social network by "liking" us!

St. Vincent and Sarah Fisher Center

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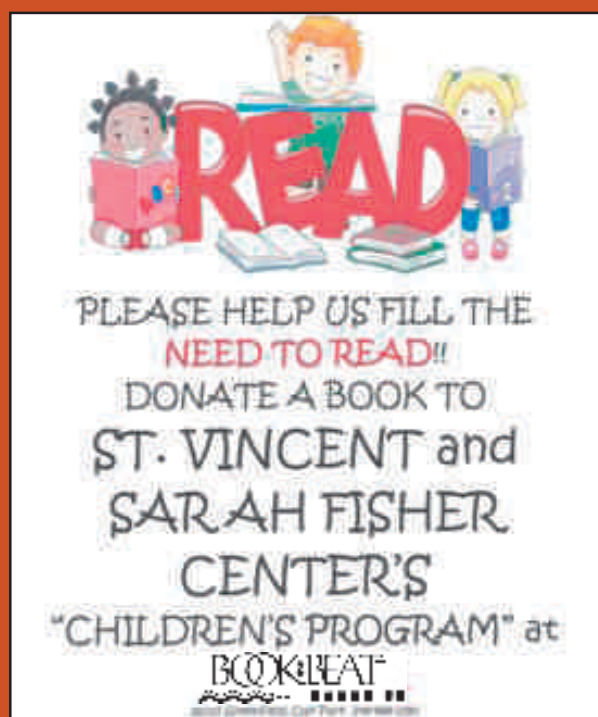
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**For more information, please call us at (313) 535-9200
or visit www.svsfcenter.org**



Our Mission –

We provide educational programs, basic skill building and academic enhancement for at-risk children and adults, designed to build self-sufficiency skills for academic and employment success, personal achievement and dignity.