



St. Vincent de Paul
NORTH TEXAS

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**NORTH TEXAS CHARITABLE PHARMACY PROVIDES \$3.4M+
IN FREE PRESCRIPTIONS DURING COVID-19**

Qualifications for Free Medication Expands Coverage, Allows the St. Vincent de Paul Pharmacy to Serve More Texans

DALLAS – March 31, 2021 – The Society of St. Vincent de Paul North Texas’ freestanding charitable pharmacy, named the St. Vincent de Paul Pharmacy, is the first of its kind in Texas and has filled the gap for many North Texans unable to afford medication since its founding in March 2018. **Now, due to updated supplier agreements, the Pharmacy is able to serve the uninsured whose household income is at or below 300 percent of the Federal Poverty Level. Nearly 1 in 2 Texans have incomes at or below 300 percent of the Federal Poverty Level.**

As Dallas marks the one-year anniversary of the outbreak of COVID-19, the charitable pharmacy’s services have been needed more than ever. **Since March 2020, the Pharmacy has served nearly 1,000 patients and filled more than \$3.4M in prescriptions - averaging more than 400 prescriptions per week.** 50 percent of the Pharmacy’s total volume since its inception in 2018 occurred during this pandemic year, illustrating the increased need for assistance and medication during these unprecedented times. Additionally, during this time, the Pharmacy has increased its services to allow for the mailing and personal delivery of prescriptions, removing the transportation barrier for many clients previously unable to obtain their medication.

Previously, the Pharmacy was able to serve individuals whose household income was 200 percent below the federal poverty line. These new expanded qualifications are essential to providing aid to North Texans, as many continue to look for assistance both during COVID-19 and in the wake of the historical winter storm that created long-lasting damage and losses.

“The St. Vincent de Paul Pharmacy plays a critical role in providing medications to North Texans who have fallen through the gaps of our healthcare system,” said Michael Pazzaglini, CEO of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul North Texas. “We are thrilled about the expanded qualifications, and are confident this new threshold will allow the Pharmacy to serve many more North Texans who were previously unable to obtain their needed, often life-saving medications.”

“Throughout the pandemic, the need for a charitable pharmacy and our services became increasingly apparent, as additional individuals experienced distress and were unable to afford their medications,” said Carlos Irula, St. Vincent de Paul Pharmacy Pharmacist-In-Charge. “The cost of medications like insulin can be astronomical, and crippling to individuals who are uninsured and below 300 percent of the Federal Poverty Line. The Pharmacy provides a lifeline for a variety of individuals across the metroplex who hail from all walks of life, and we are proud to ensure access to

medication is one less worry they need to entertain.”

The Pharmacy is only one aspect of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul’s efforts to address the root causes of poverty and homelessness facing so many North Texans. For the Society, it all starts with a home visit to its clients (currently conducted virtually due to COVID-19), where the Society is able to meet the those in need, understand all the aspects at play in the individual’s life and help address any root causes of the circumstances faced by the individual or family. The Society also offers a variety of other programs that help many Pharmacy patients in other facets of life, including its [Mini Loan Program](#) and [StudyTime: After School program](#) for students.

The Pharmacy is currently conducting a \$3M capital campaign to expand its reach to new areas in Texas and serve additional people. To make a donation or learn more about all of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul’s services, please visit www.svdpdallas.org/donate.

ABOUT THE SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL NORTH TEXAS

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul of North Texas provides emergency assistance to people in need in the forms of rent, utilities, food, clothing, furnishings, and medications. In addition, the Society provides systemic change programs that address after-school education, low interest loans to combat predatory lending, employment opportunities, and free medications to uninsured, low-income families.

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