However, the story of Father Joe's Villages is not the story of one man. It is the story of a community of countless donors, staff members and volunteers, all of whom have heeded the call to make a difference in the lives of those who need it most.

Are you one of them?

If you are not yet a part of this story, we encourage you, like them, to "Be Father Joe." It is your personal invitation to a larger movement - a movement that, like Father Joe, stands for the thousands of people on the streets who don't have a place to call home and believes in a brighter future for all. In the following pages, we explore how myriad people have heeded that call and how, by being Father Joe, you too can change lives, inspire hope and awaken the humanity in all of us.

We invite you to delve into the personal stories, successes and highlights of 2015 and to see for yourself what's possible when a community of people, like Father Joe, chooses to make a difference.

**Believe in inspiration. Be Father Joe.**

Want to see our "Be Father Joe" ads and explore what it means to be Father Joe? Visit our digital annual report at annual2015.neighbor.org.
In February 2015, I took the helm at Father Joe's Villages full of drive and determination to take on the sacred mission of ending homelessness in San Diego. My first year provided me an education as to the enormity of the problem, but it also showed me that there are proven solutions and effective programs that aid our clients in closing a traumatic chapter in their lives.

I’ve heard stories of desperation that break my heart and tales of inspiration that fill my soul. Each and every day I continue to be astounded by the tremendous good that is accomplished within our programs through the unwavering dedication of our clients, staff, volunteers, the Ladies Guild members, board of directors and donors.

One important lesson that I’ve learned is that there is no one-size-fits-all solution to homelessness. In order to effectively address the needs of each of our clients, our programs must continue to be both diverse and adaptable. That is why, at Father Joe's Villages, we are constantly focused on expanding and improving our programs.

New Year-Round Shelter - Last year, Father Joe's Villages provided a permanent and service-focused alternative to the winter tents that the City of San Diego had erected each year since the 1990s. Already showing early signs of being more effective, our new interim housing program gets more people off the streets and increases clients’ access to the life-changing services of Father Joe's Villages.

Leading Model in California - Project 25, a program of Father Joe’s Villages that focuses on helping the most chronically homeless individuals in the county, received recognition last year for saving taxpayers nearly $4 million. This program earned local and national accolades and instigated legislative efforts to create similar programs throughout California.

Program Expansion - In 2015, we expanded our services, creating a new rapid rehousing program for homeless families. In 2016, we will continue to expand our rapid rehousing efforts to include more single women and men.

2016 will also see us focused on new permanent supportive housing opportunities, expansion of our health clinic services and other creative and effective means to proactively address the growing issue of homelessness.

I remain committed to the belief that homelessness in our community is not a given. It is a problem that can and must be solved. It is our sacred obligation to solve it. I invite you to take a look at our 2015 results and encourage you to explore how you too can help us offer someone a new life without homelessness.

Be Father Joe.

Deacon Jim F. Vargas, OFS
President & CEO, Father Joe’s Villages

Learn more about Project 25, Rapid Rehousing, our health clinic and other services. Visit our How We Help page at neighbor.org.
On average, more than **1,830 people** lived in one of Father Joe’s Villages’ housing programs on any given night in 2015.

Our fully licensed onsite medical clinic provided **6,638 acute care visits**, saving the City of San Diego over **$1.8 million** due to decreased use of hospital emergency rooms and ambulances.
When Monti was released from prison in 2010, he faced the harsh reality of finding a home in an increasingly pricey and housing-limited San Diego. He made do by couch surfing with friends, at times staying in Father Joe’s Villages’ Paul Mirabile Center and eating many meals in our dining room.

To add to his stresses, in 2013, Monti’s four- and five-year-old sons desperately needed their dad to immediately assume full custody due to family complications.

Monti rose to the challenge and came to Father Joe’s Villages for help. He and his sons Melvin and Monti Jr. entered the family program in our Joan Kroc Center at St. Vincent de Paul Village shortly after.

“When my two sons were dropped on me with no place to live, no food, no clothes, nothing, nada, I thought to myself, ‘I need to get into St. Vincent de Paul no matter what.’”

Monti took full advantage of our housing programs and supportive services. From computer courses to resume writing classes offered in our employment and education services department, Monti showed up every day to better his life and provide for his family.

Looking to be healthy and ready for their next chapter, Monti and his boys got the help of our family multidisciplinary services team and received medical and dental care from the Village Family Health Center. Monti was determined to kick his past destructive habits and attended individual recovery counseling from Father Joe’s Villages’ addiction treatment program.

Melvin spent more than a year in our state-licensed Therapeutic Childcare Center, where he benefitted from behavioral, developmental and clinically based childcare. He even had his very own “foster grandparents.” With an eye toward long-term academic success, Monti Jr. was tutored in our afterschool care program.

Thanks to his commitment to being a good father and role model and through the tailored approach of Father Joe’s Villages, Monti can proudly report that he and his boys moved to a self-sustained life outside the Village in February 2015.

Monti now has a job and lives in a two-bedroom apartment with happy, healthy sons and a brand new outlook on life.

See Monti speak on video about the moment he hit rock bottom and what his life is like today by visiting our digital annual report at annual2015.neighbor.org.
In 2013, then nine-year-old Josh arrived at Father Joe’s Villages when a significant rent increase left his family without a place to sleep. Josh’s family, including his mother Kim, father John and brother Tyson, came to our St. Vincent de Paul Village determined to get back on solid ground.

Father Joe’s Villages’ Therapeutic Childcare team recognized immediately that Josh was a highly intelligent child whose quick mind crave[ed] academic challenge. He needed a stable and reliable adult mentor who could inspire him intellectually and professional experts to address the fact that he bullied kids and could not manage his anger.

Statistics show that homeless children are eight times more likely to repeat a grade, three times more likely to be placed in special education and twice as likely to score lower on standardized tests.

The team at Father Joe’s Villages knew that Josh’s future relied on their action. He was a bright kid who needed the tools to shine, so we got to work.

The Therapeutic Childcare team set behavioral goals with Josh, helping him to recognize his emotions, analyze the impact of his actions and identify coping strategies. With dedication on the part of Josh, his parents and the Therapeutic Childcare staff, Josh mastered the skills he needed to become the person he and his parents knew he could be.

In addition to his hard work with Therapeutic Childcare, Josh received counseling from our mental health services department and support from a volunteer mentor, an adult with whom he maintains a positive relationship.

Now 12 years old, Josh is the first to remind his peers about consequences to their actions and help them change their behaviors, ultimately helping everyone pave their path to a brighter future.

Hear how Therapeutic Childcare programs helped Josh go from bully to beacon by visiting our digital annual report at annual2015.neighbor.org.
Homelessness often goes hand in hand with health challenges. When people with disabilities become homeless, it is even more difficult to break the cycle of poverty.

This is why our Homeless Outreach Program for Entitlements (HOPE) helps homeless people living with disabilities to complete and expedite applications for federal assistance called Supplemental Security Income and Social Security Disability Insurance.

Jolene’s customized support team included Father Joe’s Villages staff from residential services, chaplaincy, mental health services and case management, all of whom worked collaboratively to ensure that Jolene would successfully end her chronic homelessness and go on to a stable and healthier life.

Thanks to this collective effort, Jolene finally received much-needed federal benefits and on-going support to manage her mental health symptoms and behaviors.

“I’m thankful for all the support that I got at the Village from my hardworking team,” says Jolene. “Now, I won’t have to come back here!”

Learn more about the HOPE and our other evidence-based programs by visiting our How We Help page at neighbor.org.
Peggy was what government agencies call a “super-user” of emergency services. After 32 months living on the streets with hearing impairment, she had been rushed to the emergency room 20 times and been admitted to the hospital 10 times during the course of a year.

Through the collaborative efforts of the City of San Diego, San Diego Emergency Medical Services and the Care First Health Plan, Peggy was identified for Father Joe’s Villages’ precedent-setting Housing First program, Project 25.

Lost somewhere on the streets of San Diego, the Project 25 team looked for Peggy for several months, starting where ambulances had picked her up in the past, places where she used mental health services and where she had been in jail.

In October 2015, the team found Peggy and she was enrolled in Project 25. They immediately started working toward obtaining housing. The Project 25 team was able to get her off the streets immediately and into interim housing at Father Joe’s Villages while also assisting her in acquiring the identification needed for permanent housing. With Project 25 support, Peggy decided to remain sober and attend addiction recovery meetings. She worked with the Village Family Health Center, her case manager and the Project 25 psychiatric nurse who supported her in taking medication properly.

Peggy remained sober for over 40 days and had not needed any emergency medical visits because of the preventative healthcare at Father Joe’s Villages. Even when Peggy had a brief relapse, the relationships she built with the Project 25 team encouraged her to stop drinking again, restart her medications and resume the housing process. This time, Peggy chose to turn to church involvement to further encourage her recovery.

In January 2016, Peggy received the keys to her new apartment and started making her house into a home. She is sober and fully engaged with Project 25’s intensive support team. They are helping her to identify risks for relapse and make plans for prevention. She receives support in maintaining her apartment, budgeting and life skills, but Peggy’s most successful milestone has been regaining the ability to trust others.

The police no longer take her to jail. Ambulances aren’t picking her up off the street. Hospitals aren’t admitting her to their emergency rooms. Today, Peggy is working on becoming a productive member of society by facing past legal issues and taking the steps to address them. If anything unexpected happens, Peggy knows she has a dedicated and responsive team of people ready to help her bounce back.

Learn more about Project 25 and how this program embodies the ‘Be Father Joe’ call to action by visiting our digital annual report at annual2015.neighbor.org.
Stephen arrived at Father Joe’s Villages with PTSD and substance abuse issues. A Marine who served two tours in Iraq, he had recently separated from his wife and lost his children to Child Welfare Services. This was Stephen’s rock bottom.

Our veteran’s team encouraged him to complete many of the job training modules through employment and education services and enroll in Father Joe’s Villages’ Freddie Evarkiou Culinary Arts Program. After completing the intensive 14-week culinary training, Stephen obtained full-time employment as a cook at a popular San Diego restaurant.

“I knew I needed a higher paying job, which is why I decided to check out the culinary arts program. I had no previous culinary experience other than working in a pizza restaurant as a teen. Now I am working in a high-end restaurant with one of the best chefs in San Diego.”

Stephen achieved and maintained sobriety with the help of our addiction treatment program and several mental health groups offered at Father Joe’s Villages, thereby increasing his ability to cope with PTSD. Stephen also cleared up several legal issues through the Homeless Court program that takes place at Father Joe’s Villages’ St. Vincent de Paul Village every other month.

Stephen reestablished contact and visitation with his children through our Family Living Center and spends every other weekend with his children, allowing them all to look forward to a long future together.

Learn more about our Culinary Arts Program at neighbor.org.
Believe in Miracles | A Veteran Finds Peace Through Spiritual Healing

Valerie, an Army veteran, was chronically homeless, confused, hurt and lost. Not even the Army can prepare you for the struggles of life on the streets.

While Valerie was reluctant to ask for help, in the end she found the strength to seek the support she needed to get back on her feet. Valerie took a chance and got on the waitlist for the Paul Mirabile Center at Father Joe’s Villages.

“To my amazement, Father Joe’s Villages showed me how special I was as a U.S. Army veteran,” Valerie said. “In less than a week, I received a bed. I also got three meals a day, personal hygiene products, a library full of books, a TV room—all the things I used to take for granted.”

Aside from the basic necessities, Valerie gained spiritual guidance and hope from our chaplaincy program. After spending years feeling depressed and discouraged, Valerie needed to heal her spiritual and emotional wounds.

During her time in the program and at the encouragement of our chaplain, Valerie participated in a spiritual weekend retreat. During this experience, Valerie recovered from fear, healed her painful memories and found hope.

Now, in addition to a calm heart, Valerie also has her own apartment and a job as a security officer after participating in one of our on-site job training programs.

The Army gave her the training to survive in wartime. Father Joe’s Villages provided the tools she needed to thrive in peace.

To learn more about our veteran services and chaplaincy program, please visit neighbor.org.

“From that day forward, I could sleep at night without waking up in cold sweats,” said Valerie. “It healed the loneliness I suffered from for many years.”
Believe in Never Giving Up | Through Thick and Thin Bill Beats Addiction and Homelessness

Bill’s story is one of persistence and faith.

After three years living on the streets, he entered Father Joe’s Villages plagued by substance abuse, mental health issues and legal burdens. Unemployed and with a record of jail time, Bill was homeless and broken.

Bill had tried countless times to get back on his feet, but untreated mental health issues kept him from holding a job and controlling his addiction.

Once at Father Joe’s Villages, we tailored a program for Bill’s needs, including support from our employment program and addiction treatment center.

In our employment program, he built the skills needed to apply for jobs in emerging and in-demand fields. Our addiction treatment center motivated him to conquer his addiction and manage his mental health issues.

It took two attempts for Bill to reach his goals, but he prevailed. He finished all his classes, cleared his probation, learned how to manage his mental health issues and successfully got a job and apartment in October 2014. Bill keeps in touch with his case manager regularly.

“I’m still working, clean and sober. I even own a car now!” Bill shared. “Most importantly, I reunited with my family. Tell anyone coming through your door that if you just stay sober, things will change for the better. Thanks for pushing me through my homelessness and addiction.”

To learn more about how our employment, education and addiction treatment programs help others to live the ‘Be Father Joe’ ideals, please visit neighbor.org.

97% of permanent supportive housing clients have maintained their housing for more than one year.
They live their faith everyday. After Vince first donated to Father Joe’s Villages the year he graduated from college, and Candace helped her first homeless child as a school nurse — a legacy was born.

For three decades, this couple has dedicated their talents, time and money to support our efforts to end homelessness, one life at a time.

Corporate donations from Vince’s company, AimLoan.com, have enabled the success of our annual Thanksgiving Day 5K, TOWERthon and Children’s Charity Galas. Both Candace and Vince have been members of the St. Vincent de Paul Village board of directors, with Vince serving as chairman for several years.

This couple stands out as a shining example that serving your neighbors makes a real and important difference in this world. We are grateful for their support and their hearts that live the mission of Father Joe’s Villages every day.

See Vince and Candace discuss why they support Father Joe’s Villages in our digital annual report at annual2015.neighbor.org.

“If you are going to donate to a San Diego non-profit, this is where you would get the biggest bang for your buck in terms of results and impact.”
Believe You Can Make a Difference | Volunteer Spotlight

Balancing his time has become an art form for James Haag. Even with newborn twins to take care of at home, James has found the time to achieve great things in his career as an Air Force attorney.

Last year, he was honored as the 2014 winner of the Air Force General Counsel’s Procurement Law Award. Awarded to only one person annually, this award recognizes an attorney who has made the most significant contributions to the Air Force in the field of acquisition or operational law for the year.

What makes this achievement even more impressive is that he also finds time to volunteer at Father Joe’s Villages. Despite family and work commitments, James has served lunch in our kitchen with kindness and enthusiasm every Saturday since 2000.

He never misses a Saturday.

As a regular fixture at Father Joe’s Villages, James knows his way around the kitchen and dining room. His knowledge and leadership ensures other volunteers are able to offer our clients a warm meal and all the encouragement and support they need.

Want to learn more about volunteer opportunities and how you too can ‘Be Father Joe’? Visit neighbor.org.

“I love volunteering... I get to serve others and help people get back on their feet while laying the foundations for a better life.”

Thanks to dedicated volunteers like James, we serve over 1 million meals each year to more than 10,000 homeless and low-income people.
100% of preschool children in our Therapeutic Childcare showed improvement in early literacy skills.

Each year, about 10,000 volunteers donate their time and talents. To replace their efforts, it would cost Father Joe’s Villages more than $4.6 million annually.
2015

Combined financials for St. Vincent de Paul Village and S.V.D.P. Management non-profit activities

Functional Expense Categories

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“Father Joe’s Villages has always been about ‘neighbors helping neighbors.’ This is a place where people from all walks of life - rich and poor, educated and not, needy and well-off - come together as equals to change people’s lives.”

-Father Joe Carroll, President Emeritus

Watch where it all began. Visit our digital annual report at annual2015.neighbor.org.
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“We can end homelessness. Given the right tools, every homeless person can become a self-sufficient member of society.”

St. Vincent de Paul Village

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Wilkes Rodrigues Barker

Ron Vernetti
Community Member

“Ending homelessness is not only our passion, it is a vital contribution to America's Finest City. It is our privilege to serve.”
O Glorious Saint Vincent de Paul,
The mention of your name,
Suggests a litany of your virtues:
Humility, zeal, mercy, self-sacrifice.
It also recalls
Your many foundations:
Works of Mercy,
Congregations,
Societies.

O Lord, give us the grace,
That You bestowed upon,
Your servant St. Vincent de Paul,
To relinquish the temptation,
Of material things,
In our holy effort,
To minister to the poor.

Amen.
Help change a life by
donating your time, cash, household goods or vehicle.

For more information
Phone: 1.800.HOMELESS
Web: neighbor.org
Address: 3350 E Street, San Diego CA 92102