



**What is it?**

St. Louise House is a community providing transitional housing for members of the nation's fastest growing homeless population – single women with children. It provides a safe, secure, and supportive environment where residents can focus on obtaining long-term housing, stable income, and self-care. Each family has a fully-furnished apartment, and may stay up to 24 months.

**Why is St. Louise House such a special place?**

The staff and volunteers of St. Louise House work closely with all residents so that families have the tools needed to become self-sufficient. So far, all residents have increased their education or employment status upon exiting the program. The overwhelming majority have established positive rental histories enabling the families to move into permanent or stable housing.

Motivated by a spiritual call to serve the poor, a small community from a local Catholic Church pooled its resources and opened St. Louise House to five families in October of 2001. Since that time, St. Louise House has been home to 83 families.

Austin lacks transitional housing for the population served by St. Louise House. Few resources exist for families who cannot remain in emergency shelters, but have not obtained permanent housing. St. Louise House is working to fill in that gap.

**Who lives there?**

Mothers and children who have experienced homelessness within the past month are eligible to apply for housing and supportive services. By the end of 2008, St. Louise House will have the capacity to serve 16 families simultaneously.

**Where is it?**

There are two communities: one is located in North Central Austin and consists of eleven apartments, a private playground for its residents, laundry facilities and on-site case management. The second site is located in South Austin. It will eventually house 33 families and provide on-site supportive services, laundry facilities, and a playground. For the safety of the families served, the location of each site is not advertised.

**How can I help St. Louise House serve these women and children?**

A gift of..	provides...	for...
\$21,500	Housing & support for an entire year	one family.
\$16,125	Housing & support for an average length of stay (8 months)	one family.
\$5,374	Housing & support for one family for 3 months OR School supplies and medical/dental care for one year	one family. OR 11 families.
\$2,500	Medical/Dental care for one year	11 families.
\$2,000	School supplies for one year	all children.
\$1,791	Housing & support for a month	one family.
\$447	Housing & support for a week	one family.

*VinCare's 2007 Impact*

**In 2007, the Outreach to Street Youth provided the following:**

- » 11 nights of freezing weather shelter in Austin;
- » 2,163 meals for homeless youth.

**How successful was the St. Louise House program in 2007?**

- » 23 female-headed families received housing and support at St. Louise House (23 mothers, one grandmother, and 43 children).
- » Of the families who graduated in 2007, 91% moved into permanent, stable housing.
- » 91 percent of program participants (women) established a positive rental history.\*
- » 83 percent of program participants (women) improved their education, which includes English as a Second Language classes, GED coursework and/or completion, high school and/or college enrollment and graduation.\*
- » 232 rides were given for job interviews, doctors' appointments, school-related functions, and housing appointments.\*
- » 835 case management sessions took place between program participants and case managers.\*



**VinCare Staff**

**Sharon Bieser, MSN**  
Executive Director

**Erin Brown, MPAff**  
Assistant Director

**Helen Eisert, LMSW**  
Program Director, St. Louise House

**Arow Parsons-Pineda**  
Case Manager, St. Louise House

**Karen Rankin**  
Coordinator, Outreach to Street Youth & Case Manager, St. Louise House

**Jim Boyle**  
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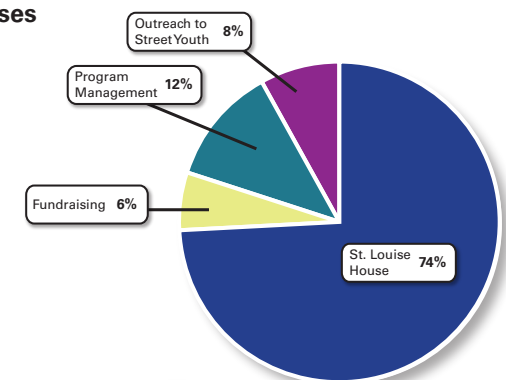
Michael R. Urtado  
Senior Sales Engineer-South Central Region, Interwoven Inc

VinCare Services of Austin wishes to thank outgoing Board Members Geraldine McCabe and Rev. Jerry Tully for their outstanding service to the organization.

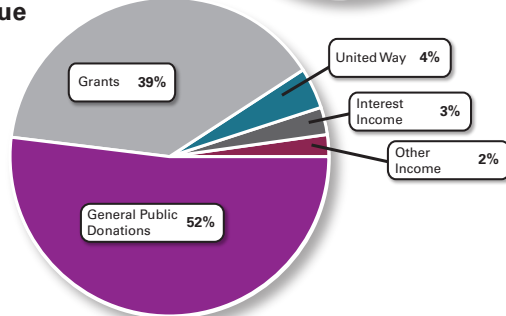
Revenue	2007	2006
General Public Donations	\$180,228	\$101,446
Grants	\$134,918	\$58,050
Special Events	0	\$36,712
United Way	\$15,000	\$30,000
Interest income	\$9,304	\$8,282
Other income	\$6,992	\$8,478
Net assets released from restrictions	-	-
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$346,442</b>	<b>\$242,968</b>

Expenses	2007	2006
Program services		
St. Louise House	\$215,589	\$192,988
Outreach to Street Youth	\$25,577	\$20,493
Program Management	\$34,494	\$30,251
Fundraising	\$16,662	\$14,811
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$292,322</b>	<b>\$258,543</b>

**Expenses**



**Revenue**



**Foundations & Community Giving**

- Anonymous Foundations
- Charles H. Phipps Family Foundation
- Daughters of Charity
- Foundation for the Homeless
- Haggerty Family Foundation
- KCL Foundation
- Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities
- Religious Coalition to Assist the Homeless
- Ronn Family Fund
- TeamG, Campaign
- Topfer Family Foundation
- United Way Capital Area

**Religious & Congregational Support**

- Congregational Church of Austin
- Holy Family Catholic School
- Knights of Columbus Council 8156
- Ladies Auxiliary of the Knights of Columbus Council No. 5967
- Ladies of Charity Lake Travis
- Ladies of Charity of Austin
- Manchaca United Methodist
- St. Austin Catholic Parish
- St. Austin Catholic School Girl Scouts
- St. Austin Paulist Fathers
- St. Catherine of Siena Parish
- St. Catherine of Siena Vacation Bible School
- St. John Neumann
- St. Teresa Catholic School Girl Scouts
- St. Thomas More
- University Christian Church

**In Kind Support**

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- Dell Computer Corporation Employee Matching
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- Seton Healthcare Network
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*Donations*







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Vincare Services of Austin Foundation  
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 Austin TX 78705

### VinCare Volunteer Spotlight

When the children at St. Louise House blew out the candles on their birthday cakes this year, they made some very special wishes. Thanks to the volunteers from St. Theresa's Girl Scout Troop 387, many of those wishes are coming true. In addition to delivering birthday cakes, the Girl Scouts babysit at the monthly resident meetings, prepare apartments for move-ins, cook welcome meals, run errands for the office and host a Christmas ornament decorating party.

The youngest of our volunteers share what St. Louise House means to them – in their own words.

*My favorite memory was doing an errand for the staff when they needed a birthday cake for a boy resident. My mom and I went to the store and picked out what we thought a boy would like. He was turning eleven ...and I am eleven. All kids should have a birthday cake for any age, so it was fun to be a part of that celebration. -Cassie, age 11*



Photos courtesy Starlyn Aurit, Kenneth Gall, and Sareta Heath

St. Teresa's Catholic School Girl Scout Troop 387

*I love to watch the little kids, and my favorite part was when we brought a huge box full of books and they got to pick out what they wanted for their own. It made them really happy. -Brittany*

*It really felt good to know that even the modest help that an eleven-year-old girl can give is really meaningful. One of our favorite memories is of the Christmas Party with the children -- setting up the 'ornament store' and decorating cookies -- the kids really enjoyed that and it felt good to be able to share the spirit of Christmas with them and see their bright smiles! -Molly, age 11 and mom, Kathleen*

*I really enjoy spending time at St. Louise house. I think the kids are great! I have a lot of fun playing with them. I am glad that they have a safe place to call home. I have mixed feelings when I go and someone I know has moved out. I miss them, but I am happy that their family doesn't need to be there any more. I look forward to it every month.*

-Bridgette, age 11

### To Our Generous Community of Supporters

"Educate a boy, and you educate an individual. Educate a girl, and you educate a community."

When I heard Greg Mortensen, author and humanitarian, speak these words recently, I realized that for those of us who serve VinCare, he was quoting more than an eloquent African proverb. Though he was speaking specifically of poor, tribal villages he encounters in his travels and life's work, I felt he was also speaking to those of us with the



VinCare mission in our hearts ... supporting homeless women with children and homeless youth.

The support that VinCare offers to its participants is very basic ... we care, we shelter and we teach. We elevate the condition and spirit of the mother and, thusly, the hearts and minds of her children. Children who were once vulnerable to the perils of homelessness are now safe, secure and parented by mothers with a renewed spirit and bright future.

In the past year, we have seen mothers graduate from high school, earn vocational licenses and graduate from college. We have seen a college graduate go on to graduate school, earn an internship with a state lawmaker and return to St. Louise House in service to our participants ... thereby educating her community.

### Who We Are

Incorporated in September 2000, VinCare Services is an independent Catholic 501(c)3 with a mission to serve homeless women with children and homeless youth. We are locally grown and supported. We operate two programs: the **Outreach to Street Youth**, which serves homeless youth between the ages of 12 and 22 in collaboration with university-area churches and Lifeworks, and **St. Louise House**, a unique transitional housing program designed for female-headed families experiencing homelessness.



In the past year, St. Louise House has tripled the number of homes we can offer to Austin's homeless mothers. We have asked for the support of our volunteers and donors to supplement in treasure and talent what our small staff could only hope to accomplish on its own. And you have delivered.

A \$100,000 matching grant from an anonymous donor prompted you to pledge more in a single month than ever before in VinCare's history. With your continued support we are confident that we will reach our \$4.75 million capital campaign goal .

We have a very special task at St. Louise House. It's a privilege when you think about it -- sustaining some of Austin's most vulnerable citizens. It's a population we can only continue to sustain with YOU ... our community of supporters ... on our team.

You have shown you are up for the task. And we thank you.

*Sharon Bieser*

Sharon Bieser, Executive Director

Serving homeless women with children and homeless youth.

visit us online [vincare.org](http://vincare.org)