

# 2021 HOUSTON NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## Speaker Bios



### **Heidi Artiga**

*Sr. Director, Business Development  
C.A.R.S.*

C.A.R.S. Charitable Adult Rides & Services is a non-profit social enterprise supporting only non-profits through vehicle donations. Heidi has enjoyed working in Business Development for over 21 years where her position has been used to help in surpassing the status quo in partner growth and development. Specializing in working with organizations to maximize their growth potential into new markets, including cause marketing campaigns, real estate along with custom marketing plans. She currently resides in Murrieta, CA with her husband, five children kids and a rescue bird. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul has been working with the CARS program since 2017.



### **Dave Barringer**

*CEO  
National Council, SVdP*

Dave Barringer is the CEO of the National Council of the US Society of St. Vincent de Paul, providing staff leadership to the national office staff and the Board of Directors in support of more than 100,000 members across the U.S. Dave implements policies and governance directives of the National Board of Directors, President, and National Council.

Dave is also CEO of the SVdP National Foundation, where he recruits and trains Board members to raise major gifts in support of Society programs, and the executive producer of a national television series that highlights the experiences of Vincentians serving the poor. Prior to joining the Society, Dave served as Senior Vice President at Goodwill Industries International. He holds a BA degree in Journalism & PR and a Masters degree in General Administration. Dave and his wife Mary Ellen live in St. Louis, and have a son, Thomas, a Vincentian and middle/high school science teacher and football coach in the Phoenix area.



## **Jeff Beamguard**

*Director of Stores Support  
National Council SVdP*

Jeff began his role as Stores Support Director for the National Council in 2020. Jeffrey brings to us three decades of thrift store and non-profit experience. His career started in Boise, Idaho as a store manager for the Idaho Youth Ranch (IYR). When he started, IYR had three stores that help fund a large statewide program for troubled youth and their families. He moved up in the company to become the Vice President for Retail where he opened 18 stores for a total of 21 locations raising over \$2M annually. With the growth of the stores there came a need for a larger warehouse. IYR purchased a 80,000 sq ft warehouse building to handle the production for stores. He and other staff organized a group of retired executives from Albertson's who volunteered their time to set up the interior of the building for efficiencies and material handling.

Jeff went to school at Boise State University, home of the "Blue Turf" He is married to Diane and has two children. Jeff enjoys boating and loves the Seattle Seahawks. He also likes to hike and go camping in the family's 5<sup>th</sup> wheel RV. "I am so happy to work for such a great company doing what I love to do!"



## **John Berry**

*National Vice President  
Southeast Region*

John Berry is the retired Chief Executive Officer of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul Georgia; a position he held from 2006 to 2020, and took the role of National Vice President of the Southeast Region in 2020. John came to SVdP in 2006 after more than twenty years in executive leadership positions in the government and private sectors in the commercial nuclear power, environmental, and technology industries; at the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission and Fortune 100 companies such as General Electric and Westinghouse.

John serves on the SVdP USA National Board of Directors and is a member of the Strategic Plan and Governance Committees. He also Co-Chairs the Executive Director Task Force. He is a member of the United Way of Greater Atlanta Public Policy Committee. He holds a BS in Nuclear Engineering from the University of Idaho and a Business Degree from Kennesaw State University. He is a graduate of Leadership Atlanta and the ARC Regional Leadership Institute. He is a Member of the Executive Board of the Entrepreneur Degree Program at Kennesaw State University. John formerly chaired the Nonprofit CEO Roundtable for the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce. He is a member of the Rotary Club, the American Marketing Association, and the Association of Fundraising Professionals.



## **Lynne Betts**

*National Vice President  
Eastern Region*

Lynne Betts currently serves as the National Vice President - Eastern Region. Lynne worked as a Community & Business Development Specialist for a regional non-profit, supporting individuals with varying disabilities who desired to enter the competitive workforce until March 2020. A native of Delaware, Lynne has lived in Washington, D.C. & Baltimore and has traveled extensively. After completing an apprenticeship with the International Brotherhood of Painters & Allied Trades (IBPAT) in the DC metro area in 1982, she became the first woman Journeyman in the Mid-Atlantic States.

Lynne has taken training opportunities to become a DE Certified Naturalist, a Community Master Wellness Volunteer, and a youth FlyBy-Light facilitator with One Common Unity. To stay grounded in Catholic Social Teaching and the Vincentian Charism, Lynne does Home Visits, attends regional and annual SVdP gatherings, and has participated in the Catholic Social Ministries Gathering for over 10 years.

## **Bill Brazier**

*National Vice President  
Mideast Region*

Bill currently serves as the National Vice President for the Mideast Region. He has served in various other leadership roles at the national level, and is a member of the Blessed Rosalie Rendu Parish in Detroit, Michigan.



## **Kat Brissette**

*Young Adults Committee Chair  
National Council, SVdP*

Kat Brissette is a designer and artist from Rhode Island. She is a graduate student working towards her MFA in Graphic + Interactive Design at Tyler School of Art + Architecture at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. In her free time, she serves on the National SVdP Board of Directors and also serves as the National Young Adult Committee Chair. She is also an International Young Adult Territory Coordinator for the SVdP International Council General. Kat grew up serving in the Society. She loves helping people however she can, especially if it means using her artistic abilities to do so. She loves her friends, family, God, art, tacos, coffee, comfy chairs, adventures, and the color blue.



## **Ryan Carney**

*Chief Advancement Officer  
National Council SVdP*

Ryan Carney joined the National Council of the United States Society of St. Vincent de Paul as its Chief Advancement Officer in February 2021. Originally from Nashville, TN, he moved to St. Louis to attend Saint Louis University where he graduated with his degree in Business. Ryan's experience with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul began in 2007 when he started working at the St. Louis

Council as their first grant writer. During his time at the St. Louis Council, Ryan held a number of positions including development, formation, training, and programs. In 2015, Ryan joined the Fellowship of Catholic University Students (FOCUS) as their Director of Philanthropy. Ryan has been an involved Vincentian at both the Conference and Council level. He attended Invitation for Renewal and worked with the Vincentian Family in St. Louis. "I have a passion for the SVdP mission. I believe it is one of the most important apostolates of the Church," said Ryan. "I am humbled to play a small part in building up the Society and providing resources to Vincentians to serve our neighbors in need." Ryan currently lives in St. Louis with his wife, Debra, and their four children, Clara, Mary Kate, Finn, and Jack.



### **Gabriel Castillo**

*Sugarland Catholic  
Sugarland, TX*

Gabriel was the Director of Evangelization at St. Theresa Catholic Church from 2009 to 2018 and is currently serving as their Director of Youth Ministry. He is a Catholic videographer, online evangelist and host of the popular Children of Mary Podcast. His work can be seen for free on the website [www.TrueFaith.tv](http://www.TrueFaith.tv). Gabriel is a husband and father of four children in Sugarland, Texas.

### **Judith Coleman**

*Corpus Christi – East Sandwich Conference*

Judith joined SVdP early in 2001 after having participated in her local conference's Family-to-Family Program. In the past 20 plus years, Judith has primarily been a Visiting Vincentian and has served as president and treasurer in her parish conference and is currently the financial secretary of District of the Diocese of Fall River. She became focused on systemic change when her visits started to be to the children of my original Neighbors in Need. She hosted a "Getting Ahead..." workshop for her District. Judith has a BA in Poly-Sci from the University of Colorado, Boulder and a MS in accounting from Bentley University in Waltham, MA.

### **Bertha DeAlegría**

*Chair  
Hispanic Task Force*

Bertha is happy to serve with SVdP and currently serves as Chairperson for the Hispanic Latino Task Force. She is also part of the Multicultural Diversity Committee. She has been a Vincentian for approximately 8 years and has served in the capacity of Conference President, District President, and currently is 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President for Los Angeles Council. In addition, she is a trained Spiritual Advisor and assists with training for new and experienced Spiritual Advisors. She is also a presenter and is training to be a Formator. Bertha lives in Palmdale, California and has three grown children: Abel II (25), Bree (24), and Brandon (21). Her hobbies are reading and cooking/baking. As a child, she was taught that in life one's job needs to be an extension of one's vocation. She is happy to say that now that she has retired from her full-time job, she plans to answer God's call and make SVdP her full time ministry and continue her efforts to be a dedicated Servant Leader. She considers serving her Vincentian family and those in need a blessing and opportunity to grow her relationship with God.





**Phil DeVol**  
CEO  
*Aha! Process*

Phil DeVol is an international consultant who has been working with aha! Process since 1997. He used aha! Process concepts to make institutional changes at the addiction treatment center where he was the executive director for 19 years. During this time he also co-wrote *Bridges Out of Poverty* with Ruby Payne and Terie Dreussi-Smith. His book *Getting Ahead in a Just-Gettin'-by-World* is being used to engage people in poverty in the work of building communities where everyone can live well. It worked so well that DeVol used it as a basis for a prison reentry model called *Getting Ahead while Getting Out*.



**Elizabeth Disco-Shearer**  
CEO  
*Disaster Services Corporation*

Elizabeth Disco-Shearer is the CEO of the Disaster Services Corporation for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul USA in the Washington, DC Metro area. She oversees the disaster relief and recovery efforts of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States and American Territories. In this role she has extensive experience in the management of disaster response and has deployed to the California Wildfires, Hurricanes Florence, Irma, Harvey, Maria, Matthew, Michael, and other tornado and flooding events. Her work in DC involves interactions with FEMA leadership and coordination with other national leaders and policy makers in the disaster arena.

Elizabeth has over 30 years of senior management experience and is a former College Administrator, Federal Compliance Contractor, Senior Partner of a Non-Profit Consulting Firm that assisted NGOs on regulatory compliance, an Administrator for Catholic Charities of Dallas, Executive Director of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Dallas and a Regional Director of South Central Region of SVDP. She is a national speaker on Disaster Case Management and on Long Term Economic Recovery after a disaster. Elizabeth recently conducted Privacy Act Training for West Virginia Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster and Disaster Case Management Training for the State of Vermont.



**Ray DuPont**  
*National Vice President*  
*South Central Region*

Ray has been a Vincentian for 39 years holding a variety of positions including Conference President, Conference Treasurer, District Council President, Diocesan Council President, Diocesan Council co-treasurer, Chair of the National Stores Committee, Formator and National Vice President for the South Central Region. Ray currently serves as the Formator and Co-extension for the Diocese of Austin and National Vice President for the South Central Region.

Ray holds a diploma in Electronic Technology from Penn Technical Institute, a BS degree in Applied Solid State Physics from Marist College and MSEE degree from the University of Vermont. Ray worked at IBM in the areas of circuit design, semiconductor design, microprocessor architecture and design, he retired after 34 years. Ray lives in Horseshoe Bay, Texas with his partner in life as well as the Society is his wife of 52 years Jeannine.



### **Irene Frechette**

*National Vice President  
Northeast Region*

Irene Frechette currently serves as the National Vice President – Northeast Region. She has served in numerous leadership roles at the national level, including as the Former President and Treasurer of the Fall River Diocesan Council in Massachusetts.



### **Heather Fullerton**

*National Re-Entry Program Coordinator  
National Council, SVdP*

Heather joined The Society of St. Vincent de Paul as the Associate Director of Poverty Programs/Director of Immersion Program in 2020. For the past 15 years, she used her skills as an educator and non-profit manager to create equitable systems in which all people flourish by training and coaching others to build capacity. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Science Education from the University of Missouri-Columbia and a Master's Degree in School Administration from Lindenwood University. As a teacher, she earned National Board Certification for excellence in innovative teaching. Heather is married to her amazing husband, Joshua Fullerton, and they have been blessed with two children: Camille (11) and Christian (8), and our Dalmatian mix, Uno. In my free time, I enjoy sewing, gardening, and playing video games with my family.



### **John Hallissy**

*National Vice President  
Western Region*

John Hallissy has served as the National Vice President – Western Region since 2017. During his tenure as Diocesan Council President from 2008 – 2014, the Sacramento Diocesan Council experienced growth, both in the number and in the vitality of its constituent conferences, and also at its thrift store. In addition to his work with the Society, since 2013, John has served on the Board of the Catholic Schools Association of Sacramento, currently serving as Chairperson.

John received an undergraduate degree in finance from the University of Notre Dame in 1987 and a law degree from the University of California at Davis in 1991. Since that time, John has practiced law in the field of civil litigation, primarily insurance defense in Northern California. John has an AV Rating with Martindale-Hubbe, signifying a ranking by his peers for excellence in legal expertise and ethical standards. In 2002, John was elected by his peers to the American Board of Trial Advocates (ABOTA), a select group of civil trial attorneys. John is married to Carol Hallissy, who, before retiring, worked for 30 years as a registered nurse.



## **Jeanne Harper**

*National Growth & Revitalization Committee  
National Council, SVdP*

Jeanne M Harper, MPS - Currently National Growth and Revitalization Committee Chair. Previously she served on the National SVdP Board of Directors from 2011 to 2017 as the North Central Region Vice President and also served on the National SVdP Board of Directors from 2017 to 2020 as Growth and Revitalization Liaison. From 2006 to 2011 she served as National SVdP Council member as the Green Bay Diocesan Council President and since 2000 has served as Secretary for her St Joseph SVdP Conference – Marinette WI, as well as Youth Spiritual Advisor for three youth groups: Mini-Vinnies (grades 3rd to 5th), Youth (grades 6th – 8th) and Young Vincentians (grades 9th – 12th). Jeanne encourages the celebration and appreciation of life—every moment!

## **Steve Havemann**

*Executive Director  
District Council of Des Moines*

Steve Havemann is the Executive Director of St. Vincent de Paul of Des Moines, and President of Ask, Listen, Hear training and development. Through this work, Steve aims to help others think, and act, more positively and productively. This work resulted in the publication of his first book, *The Excellent Persuader*, and has been instrumental in the growth of St. Vincent de Paul in Des Moines. Steve has served as an officer for the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association, the Young Non-Profit Network, the Harvest Academy, and is a graduate of Leadership Iowa.

A native of Des Moines, he graduated from Central College with a degree in Communications and Political Science, and earned his MEd at Drake University. He loves spending time with his daughter, taking his daughter on adventures, golfing, tennis, writing, and landscaping. Steve believes that "Progress is not the advancement of technology, but rather the development and evolution of people."



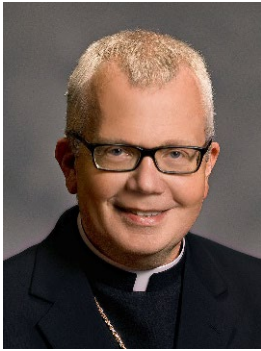
## **Rev. Dennis Holtschneider, CM**

*President  
Association of Catholic Colleges & Universities*

Fr. Holtschneider has spent his 32 years as a Vincentian priest working for the needs of the poor in Catholic higher education and Catholic healthcare. Past president of DePaul University, and chair and then chief operations officer of Ascension, the nation's largest non-for-profit health system, Fr. Dennis now leads the association of the nation's Catholic universities. Currently, he is a faculty member for several higher education leadership programs at the Harvard Graduate

School of Education, as well as the Boston College Institute for Administrators in Catholic Higher Education. He holds degrees in mathematics, theology and a doctorate in higher education policy from Harvard University.

Fr. Holtschneider has been honored widely for his work on a variety of issues. He holds eight honorary degrees, was listed among Diversity MBA Magazine's "Top 100 under 50" for fostering Diverse Executive Leaders and holds various recognitions for his work on national immigration reform. He is the co-founder of the Institute for Global Homelessness, which advises cities across the world on how to address street homeless and serves as the United Nation's primary advisor on the topic, and chairs the National Pastoral Migratoria advisory board, an organization which assist dioceses to address the needs of newly arrived immigrants.



## **Bishop Donald J. Hying**

*National Episcopal Advisor  
National Council, SVdP*

Most Reverend Donald J. Hying, installed as the Fourth Bishop of Gary on January 6, 2015, was ordained to the priesthood for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee on May 20, 1989. On July 20, 2011, he was ordained the seventh Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Milwaukee.

Bishop Hying serves as the Episcopal Liaison for National Association of Catholic Chaplains and as Episcopal Advisor to the U.S. Society of St. Vincent de Paul. He is also a member of United States Conference of Catholic Bishops' Subcommittee to Aid the Church in Central and Eastern Europe, and is currently serving as Bishop for the Diocese of Madison.



## **Dennis Kempf**

*National Director, Philanthropy  
National Council, SVdP*

Dennis Kempf joined the National Council of the United States Society of St. Vincent de Paul as the Director of Philanthropy in April 2020. In his role, Dennis focuses on *"helping donors do the good they want to do."*

Dennis joins SVdP with a wide variety of experiences. That includes service working with youth in the St. Louis inner city, leading summer youth camps in Northern Ireland during "the troubles," hospital chaplaincy, visiting the indigent seniors in a state retirement facility, and missionary work in Tijuana. *"Working with the marginalized, the oppressed, and the poorest of the poor created a 'God-shaped hole' in my heart. It is such a blessing, then, to serve in the ministry of fundraising that helps Vincentians be Christ's presence with the poor."* He enjoys quality time as a "father" to his two daughters: Mikayla who is in grad school and Katherine in college.

## **Doris Kilroy**

*District Council President  
District 9: Fr. Joseph Patterson*

Doris Kilroy has been a member of the SVdP for the past 17 years. She comes from a background of teaching, management and the Postal Service. At Queen of Peace Conference in Mesa, Doris has served as a visitor, pantry leader, Spiritual Advisor and President. As President she was instrumental in greatly increasing the amount of food donated by local businesses to the pantry. Since 2016 she has been active in one of the largest Districts in the Phoenix Council holding the positions of Vice President and President. She is presently beginning her second term as District President. As President she sits on the Diocesan Board. At the same time she has been involved in various Vincentian Committees and Projects. These include creation of a MiniVinies group, distribution of Govt Funds for Covid-related clients for rental and utilities assistance.





### **Sunnie Lane**

*Director, Conference & Learning  
SVdP Cincinnati*

Sunnie Johnson-Lain serves as the Director of Conferences and Service Learning for St. Vincent de Paul-Cincinnati, leading their Conferences, Ozanam Center for Service Learning, and Vincentian Volunteers of Cincinnati programs. Sunnie is a member of the Invitation for Renewal team and previously served as the Lead Formator for the Mideast Region. Sunnie has been a Vincentian for 13 years and sees her most important role as that of Spiritual Advisor for her own

Conference—St. Gertrude, in Madeira, Ohio.



### **Pamela Matambanadzo**

*Liaison for Diversity  
National Council, SVdP*

Pamela Matambanadzo has been a member of St Vincent de Paul Society Chicago since 2001 at her home parish — St. Mary of the Lake in Chicago, where she is Conference President. Pamela is Chair of the SVdP NCR VOP, and also chairs the African American Task Force, AATF member (Multicultural diversity at National). She also currently serves as Chairperson for Voice of Poor for the Chicago Council, as well as VOP state rep for Illinois. Pamela is

also a member of the SVdP USA Finance Committee. In addition, Pamela on the board of The Pope Francis Center (*a special works project servicing people District IV*) – case management center to help people transition out poverty – Systemic Change. Her experience as a wealth management advisor put her in an advantageous position to offer financial counseling at the Center. The Center prides itself in its ability to collaborate with other organizations in being need-centered to fully provide services for disfranchised communities in Chicago.



### **Marge McGinley**

*Chair  
National Formation Committee*

Marge comes to us with over twenty-five years of parish ministry experience combined with fifteen years of casual relief hospital chaplaincy and twenty years of care of the poor in the community of Mt. Holly, NJ. Marge holds a certificate in Ministry to the Bereaved, and a Certificate in Parish

Administration from the Diocese of Trenton. Her Clinical Pastoral Education was accomplished at Cooper Medical Center in Camden, NJ. Her B.A. of Human Services further compliments her ability to recognize the social issues and family dynamics in every setting. Marge has been recognized by Burlington County as an Outstanding Woman of the Year in Social Service for her work with the marginalized population of her community. Marge currently serves as a part time Hospital Chaplain, a District Council President and the National Formation Committee Chairperson.



## **Ralph Middlecamp**

*President*

*National Council, SVdP*

Ralph Middlecamp is a member of the St. Thomas Aquinas Conference in Madison, Wisconsin. He served as the executive director and CEO of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul for the District Council of Madison from 1999 until his retirement July 31, 2017. He began his career with the Society in 1987 as a store general manager. During his 30-year tenure, the number of stores increased to seven, and he developed the Center for Vincentian Charity.

He has served on National Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Store Committee and Communication Committee and is on the presenting team of the Society's national leadership renewal program, Invitation for Renewal. Ralph also is a past member of the International Council General's Commission for the Cause of Canonization of Blessed Frederic Ozanam. In 2017 was elected as National Council President. Ralph is married to Dr. Cathy Hurt Middlecamp, who is on the faculty of the Nelson Institute for Environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



## **Paula Migliore**

*Director, Transitional Housing &  
Vincentian Services Advisor*

Paula Migliore is the Director of Transitional Housing and the Vincentian Services Advisor with the Society and has been in this role for 5 years. She came to NY from PA to attend college and graduated from St. John's University, Queens with a BA in English, a MS in Secondary Education and a MA in Theology -- this is where she was introduced to the Vincentian charism

and is blessed to be back with the Vincentian family in the Diocese of Rockville Centre, Long Island. Paula oversees the transitional home run by SVDPLI that serves men who are re-entering society from prison. Paula participated in many mission trips with the Vincentian family and brings that love of the mission to her work with the Diversity Committee as well as the Voice of the Poor Committee.

Paula is blessed to live out her vocation surrounded by so many amazing Vincentian volunteers and her colleagues who continue to inspire her. Paula worked in Campus Ministry at St. John's, she worked as a case manager in a homeless shelter run by the Society in downtown LA on Skid Row, worked at a shelter for homeless shelter for women and children and formerly incarcerated women in BK/Queens and also serves in her own parish in Queens helping with RE and Faith Formation. Paula is blessed with 3 sisters and loves being an aunt to her 3 nieces and 2 nephews! Being a part of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul brings great hope & joy to Paula's faith life.



## **Tom Mulloy**

*National Director, Poverty Programs  
National Council, SVdP*

Thomas Mulloy is the National Director of Poverty Programs for the National Council of the United States Society of St. Vincent de Paul, where he coordinates the Society's Systemic Change initiatives, Back2Work employment program, Housing Task Force, and Voice of the Poor advocacy. He joined the National Council in May 2016.



### **Jack Murphy**

*Voice of the Poor Committee Chair  
National Council, SVdP*

Jack Murphy has more than 20 years of working for and with Fortune 500 companies in operations, human resources, training, and quality areas. Jack was a senior adjunct professor for Quality & Operations Management at Keller Graduate School for 14 years. Currently, he is in the Investor Relations area of the Metro Atlanta Chamber. He serves on both the National and Georgia Boards of The Society of St. Vincent de Paul, responsible for Diversity, Advocacy, & Systemic Change. He chairs the North Fulton Poverty Task Force. Jack received a BA in psychology from Belmont Abbey College and a MEd. from the UNC-Greensboro. Jack and his wife Nancy, a retired elementary school principal, have two grown daughters and two grandchildren. They live in Alpharetta, GA.



### **Michael Pazzaglini**

*Communications Committee Chair  
National Council, SVdP*

Michael Pazzaglini is the executive director for the Diocesan Council of Dallas, Society of St. Vincent de Paul. Michael was a program director with the IBM Corporation in Austin, Texas, and recently retired after a successful career spanning 35 years. He brings with him extensive experiences in hi-tech development, project, process, and people management. Pazzaglini has a Masters Degree in Computer Science and has completed the Institute of Managerial Leadership program. As an active member of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul since 1997, he has served as president of the Society's Diocesan Council of Austin. He currently serves as the strategic goal leader on communications for the national council, which is focused on marketing, brand recognition and effective communications for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States.



### **Kevin Peach**

*COO  
Disaster Services Corporation*

Kevin Peach is the Chief Operating Officer (COO) at Disaster Services Corporation SVDP-USA, recognized for his ability to create public-private partnerships to drive cross-sector collaboration. He has served in various capacities to advise the United Nations (UN), the Executive Office of the President (White House), the National Security Council (NSC), Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), National Emergency Management Association (NEMA), and private industry. Kevin's background is in emergency management, leading programs that address preparedness, protection, security, response, recovery and mitigation. Having served in various capacities for various local, state, federal, and international agencies, Kevin possesses extensive and diverse professional experience managing multilateral disaster responses, government organizations, complex disaster projects and emergency management programs. He has experience managing emergency field response activities, and the formulation and development of policies addressing the mobilization of resources during emergencies, the preparation of emergency plans, and the coordination of emergency operations.



### **Tom Pelger**

*National Vice President  
North Central Region*

Tom has been a Vincentian since 2010 - - serving as conference member and home visit leader, conference President, Peoria District Council President, National Systemic Change Task Force member, and National Finance Committee member. Tom has conducted Bridges Out of Poverty education, has team-taught the Society's national Getting Ahead facilitator training webinars; he has served as facilitator, mentor and Steering Committee Chair in Peoria Council's *Coming Together to Get Ahead* program.

In October 2017, Tom was elected to the Society's National Board of Directors as Vice President supporting Vincentians in the North Central Region. Tom is a father of 3 and a grandfather of 6; was married for 41 years, widowed, and was blessed to marry Sue Prebil in October 2018. Tom was born in Chicago and grew up in Kansas City & St Louis before joining Caterpillar - - working 37 years in sales and marketing, while moving 12 times including 18 years outside the U.S. before "retiring" in 2010.



### **Jill Pioter**

*National Director, Marketing & Communications  
National Council, SVdP*

Jill Pioter serves as National Director of Marketing and Communications for the National Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul. In her role, Jill collaborates with the Advancement team to strengthen our brand and name recognition as a Society, with her efforts benefitting both the National Council and the Society's local Councils and Conferences across the United States.

Jill's work includes oversight of all Society communications, including electronic outreach via email communications, on our website, and through our social media channels. She is a long-time writer and copy editor who brings a consistent voice to the Society's messaging, and is also an experienced graphic designer who brings brand cohesion and elevation to the Society's direct mail outreach efforts.



### **Sr. Norma Pimentel**

*Executive Director  
Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley*

Sister Norma Pimentel, MJ is a Mexican-American nun of the Missionaries of Jesus and the executive director of Catholic Charities of the Rio Grande Valley. She has been praised by Pope Francis and others for her work with refugees and immigrants to the United States. She oversees the charitable arm of the Diocese of Brownsville, providing oversight of the different ministries and programs in the areas of emergency assistance, housing assistance, counseling, and pregnancy care to all four counties. She was instrumental in organizing community resources to respond to the surge of Central Americans seeking asylum in the United States and setting up Humanitarian Respite Centers in McAllen and Brownsville, Texas in June 2014. These efforts brought Sister Norma recognition as a recipient of the 2015 Martin Luther King, Jr. "Keep the Dream Alive" Award from Catholic Charities USA and a nomination for "Texan of the Year".



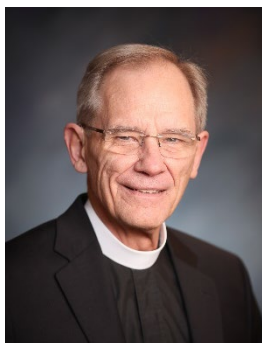
In March, 2015, she spoke at the UN Headquarters in New York City at the invitation of the Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations. Sister Norma received her Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from Pan American University in Edinburg, Texas, a Master's Degree in Theology from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas, a Master's Degree in Pastoral Counseling from Loyola University in Chicago, IL, and an Honorary PhD in Humane Letters from Holy Family University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



### **Anthony Pluchino**

*National Director of Programs  
Disaster Services Corporation*

Anthony Pluchino has had a very diverse career serving in the Military, as a Teacher, Finance Industry Executive, Business Owner and currently in the Non-Profit area with DSC SVDP. His current position with DSC SVDP USA is the National Director of Programs. He has managed Disaster Case Management programs involving the 2016 Floods in North and South Louisiana, Puerto Rico Maria Program, Harvey Texas Program, Florida Irma and now Michael programs. He has written grants for the Disaster Case management programs, state Disaster funds, ARC Grants, EFS grant and NJ Pandemic relief fund. He is the Monmouth County, New Jersey COAD Co-chair. In addition, he is the Vice-Chair for the New Jersey state VOAD. Anthony serves on the National VOAD committees for Disaster Case Management and Long Term Recovery. He has been instrumental in setting up DCM programs for the Louisiana, Florida and Puerto Rico disasters.



### **Msgr. Gerard Ringenback**

*Member  
Diocesan Council of Rockville Centre*

Msgr. Gerard Ringenback is a retired priest of the Diocese of Rockville Centre. For the past ten years he has served as the Diocesan Spiritual Advisor and has worked with the Vincentian Staff to provide days of prayer, weekly spiritual reflections, contact with local pastors, and input for individual conferences. His priestly ministry has included serving as associate pastor, spiritual director at the diocesan seminary, and then pastor of 3 parishes over a period of 3 decades. In the years he has collaborated with the society, he is most impressed with its emphasis on spiritual growth.

### **Lalo Rodela**

*Task Force Representative  
South Central Region*

Lalo Rodela was born and raised in El Paso, Texas and has three adult children, Andres, Teresa and Alejandro. I also have three granddaughters, four-year-old Mia, two-year-old Emma, and one-year-old Charlotte. I'm happy to say that I finally met her this past March, a week after her first birthday! I am retired from the city of El Paso after serving 27 1/2 years with the fire department.

I have been serving as a Vincentian for about seven years. I am the president of the Saint Raphael Conference. I was elected to the position last September after serving as treasurer for about four years. I am also a trained Spiritual Advisor and have served in that capacity in our Conference and our Council. I am also a Formator for our council and the South Central Region, The region includes the

states of Arkansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas. The president of our region is Ray Dupont.. I was the (volunteer) director of the SVDP thrift store for two and a half years. I also serve with the Multi-Cultural and Diversity Committee, which oversees and supports this Task Force.



### **Pura Santangelo**

*Member*

*Archdiocese Galveston-Houston*

Pura Santangelo was born and raised in Falcon, Venezuela. Her Catholic education includes the Salesians Academy for Girls and Catholic College Preparatory. After graduating from high school, Pura enrolled in the English as a second language program at the University of Houston Central Campus. After completing the program, she pursued a degree in the Hilton School of Hotel and Restaurant Management. Prior to joining the Society, Pura worked in the hospitality industry for 17 years specializing in event planning.

In July 2004, she started volunteering at the Society's Central Office answering incoming calls to our helpline. Pura was hired three months later as a Vincentian Services support staff. She worked her way up to Director of Vincentian Services. Pura is responsible for overseeing programs that promote greater spiritual growth, encourages greater unity and solidarity, and strengthens relationships within our Parishes, Conferences, and Districts.



### **Joe Sabatino**

*Chair*

*National Housing Task Force*

Joe Sabatino has held a variety of leadership roles in his time with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, where he currently serves as Chair of the Society's National Housing Task Force. At the local level, he serves on the Board for SVdP Cares in St. Petersburg, and is a past Diocesan President for the Venice, Florida Council. In addition, he previously served as a Past District Council President for Charlotte

County, Florida.

Sabatino also represents the Diocese of Venice, Florida on the St. Vincent de Paul National Council. He is a member of the Sacred Heart Conference of St. Vincent de Paul in Punta Gorda. A retired Exxon Mobil executive and Vietnam veteran, he has been active in the Punta Gorda community, serving as president of the Burnt Store Isles Association and chairman of the city's Utility Advisory Board.



### **Ray Sickinger, Ph.D.**

*Liaison for Formation*

*National Council, SVdP*

A member of the Providence College ordinary faculty since September of 1974, Raymond Sickinger has served in a variety of administrative and teaching positions. Ray is currently Professor Emeritus of History and Public and Community Service Studies, upon retiring from Providence College in December of 2020 after 46 years of service.

Ray's research interests in History have revolved around the Nazi Era in German History, the connection of superstition and folklore in popular culture, and, especially, the

impact of faith and service in the case of Frederic Ozanam. In 2018, his book, *Antoine Frederic Ozanam*, received first prize for best biography from the National Catholic Press Association. Ray has been an active member of the Society since 1985. In the past, he has served as a conference president, council president, and Regional Vice President for the Northeast Region. He is currently chair of the Leadership Task Force and a member of the National Board of Directors.

## **Shirley Smalley**

*District Council President*

*District 11: St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Council*

Shirley joined the Society in Oklahoma City in 1984. Since then, she has served in seven conferences in five states. In Phoenix, her numerous leadership positions include Vice President of the Diocesan Council, District Council President, and chair of the Conference Resources and Serve our Stores Committees. She is a member of the Diocesan Council Board and an Ozanam Formation facilitator. With a background in social work, community organization and service, Shirley brings a wealth of relevant experience to St. Vincent de Paul. Her passion and long-time commitment to the mission and works of SVdP add a unique perspective and energy to all of her talks and presentations.



## **Mark & Cathy Stine**

*Co-Founder*

*ServWare*

Mark and Cathy Stine are co-founders of ServWare. ServWare is Vincentian-developed neighbor tracking software, customized for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's Councils, District Councils, and Conferences. As Vincentians in Dayton Ohio, they developed the software from first-hand knowledge of the needs of their local Society of St. Vincent de Paul conference.

Mark and Cathy each have over 30 years of IT background and expertise. Mark has extensive experience in the design and implementation of Web-based software applications. Cathy has a background as a software product owner, project manager, trainer, and technical documentation. ServWare is a web-based application designed to support charitable conferences by providing a secure, easily accessible location for conference members to collaborate on charitable activities. ServWare has been a National Partner with the National Council of the United States Society of St. Vincent de Paul since 2017.



## **Linda Strasburg**

*Formation Coordinator*

*South Central Region*

Linda and her husband, Ken, have been married 53 years, have 4 children and 3 granddaughters. They have been Vincentians since 1995. Linda was instrumental in bringing the Getting Ahead program to the Santa Fe archdiocese, she is part of the national systemic change task force and on the national leadership team for Getting Ahead. Her hobbies include quilting, machine embroidery and reading. During the school year, Linda, with other retired elementary teachers, packs week-end food packages for children with food insecurity.



## Mike Syslo

*Governance Committee Chair  
National Council, SVdP*

Mike has been a member of St. Vincent de Paul since 1983. Starting as a Conference member at Good Shepherd in Garland, TX, he served as Conference Treasurer and Conference President. He also served as Vice-President of the Dallas District Council. Mike has written extensively on topics concerning the Society. He has presented workshops at many National and Regional Meetings. Mike has also served on multiple National Committees. He was a member of the task force which developed *Serving in Hope*, the *Ozanam Orientation* Trainers Guide, the *Invitation for Renewal* Leadership Retreat, the *Vincentian Pathway*, and is currently on the National Governance Committee, the National Extension Initiative, and on the board of National Administrative Services. Mike is also a member of the Board of Directors of the Archdiocesan Council of Chicago. Until his retirement on April 30, 2015, Mike served as Senior Director of Governance for the National Council Office.



## Trace Trylko

*Executive Director  
SVdP Orlando*

Trace Trylko, Executive Director for St. Vincent de Paul Orlando and a Vincentian for 15 years, works behind the scenes and in front of the camera to bring the stories of "Our Faith in Action: Today's Society of St. Vincent de Paul" alive. Trace, a former TV news reporter/anchor, produces, writes, reports and hosts OFIA.

## John Walters

*Chair  
Stores Committee*

John Walters- Graduated from Indiana University School of Business. Worked for May Dept stores for 40 years. Retired as Senior Director of Store Operations for 300 stores. I was Store Director of SVDP Thrift stores in St. Louis for 8 years. Grew from 4 stores to 10 and put together a By Pound store and central processing warehouse. Retired June 1. I am on National Board for our National Store in Arizona and also Chair of our Stores Committee for National. Married to Lynne for 50 years and have 3 twin boys – a nurse and a Macys Manager.



## Kathleen Walters

*Director of Partner Success  
C.A.R.S.*

Kathleen has a degree from the Hugh Downs School of Human Communication, BS, Arizona State University; 6+ years creating vehicle donation program marketing strategies to drive more revenue and 15+ years in for-profit and nonprofit marketing





### **Jaime Waters, Ph.D.**

*Associate Professor, Catholic Studies  
DePaul University*

Jaime L. Waters is associate professor of Catholic Studies at DePaul University. She teaches biblical studies courses and is the author of *"Threshing Floors in Ancient Israel: Their Ritual and Symbolic Significance,"* (Fortress Press, 2015) and *"What Does the Bible Say About Animals?"* (New City Press, forthcoming 2022). Waters is also a contributor at America: The Jesuit Review of Faith & Culture. She holds a Ph.D. from John Hopkins University, MA from Yale University, and BA from Boston College.



### **Brynn Wheaton**

*Partner Success Coordinator  
C.A.R.S.*

Brynn has a Business Administration (General Business), BS, degree from San Diego State University. 5+ years of customer care; Creates promotional marketing plans for over 5,000 nonprofits to drive revenue for their missions.

### **Fr. Clarence Williams, CPPS, Ph.D.**

*Founder*



*Institute for Recovery from Racisms Promoting  
Racial & Social Sobriety*

The Rev. Dr. Clarence Williams, CPpS, PhD is committed to assisting, resourcing and coaching leaders to realize their mission of service to their particular audience. Through the Institute for Social Sobriety his mission is to assist in developing leadership free itself of the "stinking thinking" of racism, sexism and classism. The Rev. Dr. Williams has realized that he most effective with institutional leaders who have struggled to overcome these hardships with the human family and are now in a position within their organization to make a difference. Williams' approach to a whole set of chronic human interaction problems, provides a set of tools for doing the facilitation that leadership needs and facilitated within the context and confines of a particular organizational culture.



### **Tim Williams**

*National Director of Formation  
National Council, SVdP*

Tim Williams is the National Director of Formation for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the United States. Before joining the national staff, he served as 1st Vice President and Senior Formator for the Diocesan Council of Dallas, chaired the Spiritual Advisor Handbook Task Force, and was a member of the National Formation Committee. He has presented on Vincentian Spirituality and Formation at numerous Diocesan, Regional, and National Assemblies. Most importantly, he and his wife have made hundreds of home visits, serving Christ

in the person of the poor.



### **Dave Winslett**

*National Vice President  
Midwest Region*

David Winslett was elected National Council of the U.S., National Vice President – Midwest Region in 2017. Previously, he served as President of the Archdiocesan Council of St Louis from 2012 to 2017.

David retired from the for-profit sector in 2010 after a 43-year career that spanned Europe and North America, including direct responsibility for business activities in Japan and China. David's last role was as Vice

Chairman of Pretium Packaging LLC, a St. Louis-based privately held blow molding company with 15 manufacturing plants in North America and revenues of \$250 million.

David graduated from the University of Wales with a BSc in Chemistry (Magna Cum Laude) in 1967. He is a nationalized U.S. citizen, married for 52 years to Cyndi, with three children and nine grandchildren.



### **Julie Witzel**

*Member Services & Extension Manager  
National Council, SVdP*

Julie Witzel has been a part of the National Council Staff since 2015. She currently serves as the National Membership Services & Extension Manager. Before joining the national staff, Julie graduated from Truman State University. As a high school and college student, Julie enjoyed spending her summers on

mission trips in Nicaragua and Peru. On her trips to Nicaragua, Julie helped build schools and dig trenches for water supply. In Peru, she worked with pregnant women to help them better understand proper nutrition for themselves and their babies. It was during her time on those trips that Julie realized how much she enjoyed helping others. Upon graduating, Julie moved back to St. Louis and began working as an intern at the SVdP National Office. She was hired on as a full-time staff member in the Governance and Membership Services Department in the Spring of 2015. Julie lives in St. Louis with her husband, Matt, and their new puppy, Leo.



## **Deb Zabloudil**

*Member*

*Systemic Change Task Force*

Deb Zabloudil is a member of the St. Paul the Apostle St. Vincent de Paul Conference in Westerville OH. She has been a Vincentian for about 12 years (not counting the two years she spent as a student at DePaul University in Chicago). Deb is currently working on the Microloan Program in the Columbus Diocesan Council and is a member of the Alternative Lending and Financial Literacy subcommittee of the Systemic Change Task Force. She also currently serves on the Board of Directors for men's shelter in the planning stages for men returning from jail or prison as well as on a Board of Directors for the Vincentian Ohio Action Network (VOAN). Deb has been married to her husband Bob for 47 years, and they have three adult children, and their spouses and 9 grandchildren – all of whom are the loves of her life!



## **Terri Zenobio**

*Director of Vincentian Services*

*Diocesan Council of Rockville Centre*

Terri Zenobio is Director of Vincentian Services for the Diocesan Council of Rockville Centre, New York. She has been with the Society for eight years supporting the Extension and Formation efforts of the 63 Conferences in the diocese on Long Island. She received her Bachelor of Arts from the College of the Holy Cross, her Master's degree in Social Work from Boston University and a Certificate in Nonprofit Leadership from the University of Notre Dame.

Terri was an active member of the National Youth and Young Adult Committees and now serves as the Vincentian staff liaison to the National Formation Committee. After a career in various nonprofit organizations, she feels blessed to have discovered this charism and vocation as she collaborates with her colleagues in the Central Council and the 1400 Vincentians who assist neighbors in need.