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CINCY BLUES FEST AUGUST 7 & 8 HOSTING FOOD DRIVE FOR ST. VINCENT DE PAUL'S FOOD PANTRY

CINCINNATI, OH –July 24, 2009– The 17th Annual Cincy Blues Fest, highlighting more than fifty local, national and international Blues acts at Sawyer Point August 7 & 8, 2009 is hosting a food drive to help collect non-perishable food items for St. Vincent de Paul's West End Food Pantry, which serves nearly 15,000 local neighbors in need each year. Collection barrels will be placed at both main park entrances.

"We have seen nearly a tripling in requests for food assistance in certain areas of Greater Cincinnati. We are seeing clients we have never seen before -- people who have unexpectedly lost their jobs or those who are having a tougher time making ends meet as a result of rising food costs", said Liz Carter, executive director of St. Vincent de Paul. "Community support in terms of food donations is vital for us to be able to provide food to all clients. That support will ensure we don't have to turn anyone away", she continued

Cincy Blues Fest at Sawyer Point runs from 5:00 p.m – midnight on Friday, August 7. Admission is \$ 10. Cincy Blues Fest opens at 2:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 8 with nearly nine hours of Blues music on three stages; admission is \$ 15. Children 12 and under are free. For more information on the Cincy Blues Fest, go to <http://cincyblues.org/node/1>.

For more information about St. Vincent de Paul's food pantry, call 513-562-8841, ext. 225.

About St. Vincent de Paul

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SVDP) has been helping Greater Cincinnati and Hamilton County residents in need with the basic necessities of life for 140 years. The organization works personally with those in need, regardless of race or creed, to bridge the spiritual, emotional and financial gaps in their lives through home visits provided by neighborhood-based volunteer groups, and groundbreaking initiatives like the Charitable Pharmacy. The Society of St. Vincent de Paul continues to be a leading community service organization, recently recognized by The Better Business Bureau (BBB) as a Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics winner and by The CincinnatiUSA Regional Chamber of Commerce as Non-Profit of the Year. For more information, go to www.SVDPcincinnati.org.

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