

# St. Vincent de Paul Members Go Rogue

## MEET JESSICA

Last year the number of **families we helped almost doubled to 260 families!** These are our neighbors in East Asheville and the Swannanoa Valley. We assisted with things like:

- Rent
- Power
- Water
- Medical bills
- Car repair/gas
- Gift cards
- Bus tickets



Jessica came to our St. Vincent de Paul for assistance; however, bathroom remodeling is not part of our mission. Fortunately, two of our members took the initiative to coordinate a community effort to help. Jessica had polio that deformed her left foot. Her husband and caregiver recently passed away; she found it dangerous to get in and out of her bathtub on her own. The community came together to make this possible. Jason and Michael of Byrd Custom builders, along with two SVdP volunteers, donated 6 days between Christmas and New Year to rip out the old bathroom, rebuild the floors and walls, and install a new walk-in shower, glass doors and a new sink. This could not have been possible without the volunteer work and donations from, St. Margaret Mary's Parishioners, Knights of Columbus, Swannanoa Valley Christian Ministries, Groce United Methodist Church, Byrd Custom Builders, and individual donors.

Volunteers found that additional home repairs were needed. A SVdP volunteer continued to work with Jessica to connect her to Habitat for Humanity. They accepted her application and will be working on more of her repairs.

### How You Can Help:

1. Mail your tax-deductible donation made payable to St. Vincent de Paul Society or SVdP, PO Box 4, Swannanoa, NC 28778
2. Website Donation:
  - ✓ Go to website [saintmmc.com](http://saintmmc.com)
  - ✓ Scroll down and click on the 'Online Giving' button
  - ✓ For recurring or one-time gifts, click 'Fund' and 'St. Vincent de Paul Society'
3. SVdP poor boxes are in the church vestibule and in the overflow seating entrance
4. Make a donation in honor or memory of a loved one: call Rudy 704-458-0678

We are devoted to feeding, clothing, housing, and healing individuals and families. We do so much more than just financial assistance. We give hope and assurance that others care, when things seem very dark. By helping with love and respect, we show people that they matter and they are children of God. Your generous donations and prayers are deeply appreciated.





*Strengthening Families. Building Communities. Reducing Poverty.*

Catholic Charities Elder Ministry in collaboration with AARP Mountain Region will be hosting the following educational presentations at St. Joan of Arc in Candler, NC.

**1. Topic: HomeFit – Make your Home a Forever Home**

Join us for a practical, energizing overview of simple steps you can take to identify modifications that will assure that your home is safe and accessible. An AARP HomeFit presentation can help you make where you live a life-long home that's comfortable, safe, and a great fit! Includes a full-page color pamphlet that highlights the key points of this presentation.

**Date: Wednesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>**

Time: 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

**Please register by May 16<sup>th</sup>** by contacting Diane Hawkins at 828-337-7714 or Sandra Breakfield, Catholic Charities Elder Ministry at 704-370-3220 or email: [sandrab@ccdoc.org](mailto:sandrab@ccdoc.org).

**2. Topic: Brain Health – It's never too late to take charge of your brain health!**

In this hour-long, interactive session you will learn about the five pillars of a brain-healthy lifestyle, share your brain-boosting activities, and be inspired by others. This session is a good overview for anyone interested in improving their brain health and will provide you with actionable steps you can take along with resources to learn more.

**Date: Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>**

Time: 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

**Please register by May 23<sup>rd</sup>** by contacting Diane Hawkins at 828-337-7714 or Sandra Breakfield, Catholic Charities Elder Ministry at 704-370-3220 or email: [sandrab@ccdoc.org](mailto:sandrab@ccdoc.org).

**3. Topic: Downsizing and Decluttering – Clear the Clutter!**

Having too much stuff can impede people from relocating or getting health care into their homes. This engaging presentation explores why stuff is so important for some people and teaches practical, easy-to-follow tips on downsizing and decluttering. Learn how to get started!

**Date: Wednesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>**

Time: 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

**Please register by May 30<sup>th</sup>** by contacting Diane Hawkins at 828-337-7714 or Sandra Breakfield, Catholic Charities Elder Ministry at 704-370-3220 or email: [sandrab@ccdoc.org](mailto:sandrab@ccdoc.org).

