

St. Vincent de Paul and Girl Scouts–Arizona Cactus-Pine Council Food Drive Patch Program

Join Girl Scouts–Arizona Cactus-Pine Council and St. Vincent de Paul (SVdP) to fight hunger and support families throughout Arizona. Through this patch program, Girl Scouts will explore the issue of food insecurity, learn about community resources, discover how nonprofits serve others, and take action to make a difference.

St. Vincent de Paul serves thousands of individuals and families each year through food assistance, shelter, supportive services, and volunteer opportunities. As a Girl Scout, you can help create positive change while learning about the importance of compassion, service, and community leadership.

Activities

To earn the St. Vincent de Paul Food Drive Patch, complete at least one activity from each section below, including participation in the GSACPC & SVdP Food Drive.

Taking Action Through Service

Girl Scouts are leaders who take action to make their communities stronger.

1. Participate in the GSACPC & SVdP Food Drive during the month of October 2026.
2. Donate non-perishable food items to your Service Unit collection site.
3. Create encouraging notes or cards to be included with food donations for families receiving support.
4. Help your troop, school, place of worship, or neighborhood collect donations for the Food Drive.
5. Share information about the Food Drive with friends and family and encourage others to participate.

Connecting With Our Community

Community partnerships help create lasting change.

1. Attend the Food Drive Kickoff Event on Saturday, October 3, and participate in the activities and presentations.
2. Learn about volunteer opportunities available through St. Vincent de Paul and discuss how volunteers make a difference.
3. Talk with your family about ways they can support local organizations that address hunger and homelessness.
4. Identify a need in your community and brainstorm ways your troop can help during the membership year.
5. Thank a community helper, volunteer, or organization working to support families in need.

Understanding Homelessness and Housing Insecurity

Explore the challenges that individuals and families experiencing homelessness face, and learn about community resources available to help.

1. Attend the virtual Homelessness 101 presentation hosted for GSACPC members.
2. Discuss with your family or troop what you learned about the causes of homelessness and housing instability.
3. Identify resources in your community that support individuals experiencing homelessness.
4. Reflect on common misconceptions about homelessness and share one fact you learned that changed your perspective.
5. Create a plan with your family or troop for how you can continue supporting community organizations that assist vulnerable populations.

Learning About St. Vincent de Paul

Discover how St. Vincent de Paul serves individuals and families throughout Arizona.

1. Visit the St. Vincent de Paul website and explore the programs and services available to the community. Share something new you learned with your troop or family.
2. Attend a tour of a St. Vincent de Paul facility during the Food Drive Kickoff Event and learn how donations are collected, organized, and distributed.
3. Research the history and mission of St. Vincent de Paul. Why do you think community organizations like SVdP are important?
4. Interview a volunteer, employee, or community member involved with SVdP and learn about their role in helping others.
5. Create a poster, drawing, or digital presentation illustrating the impact of St. Vincent de Paul in your community.

Fighting Hunger in our Community

Learn more about food insecurity and how it affects families in Arizona.

1. Research hunger and food insecurity in your city or town. Share your findings with your troop or family.
2. Learn about another food bank, shelter, or community organization that helps people in need. Compare it with St. Vincent de Paul.
3. Discuss with your troop ways families can access support when facing food insecurity.
4. Create a list of everyday actions that individuals can take to help reduce hunger in their communities.
5. Participate in a troop discussion about the importance of food access and healthy meals for all families.

Share Your Experience

Take photos of your participation in the Food Drive, service activities, and learning experiences on social media by tagging @GSACPC and @SVDPAZ. Share what you learned with your troop, family, and community. Every action—big or small—helps create a brighter future for Arizona families.

Patch Requirement

Complete at least one activity from each section, including participation in the GSACPC & St. Vincent de Paul Food Drive, to earn the St. Vincent de Paul Food Drive Patch.