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# Charitable pharmacy grows volume in first year

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A pharmacy that provides free or low-cost prescriptions for poor people has seen substantial growth in its first year.

The St. Vincent de Paul Charitable Pharmacy reported that in its first year that ended in August, it dispensed more than 4,500 prescriptions, with a retail value of about \$381,500, to 467 people. The prescription volume has grown about 20 percent each month since the West End pharmacy opened in September 2006.

The pharmacy was founded to help the working poor who have no prescription coverage, the unemployed and those with Medicare who either have gaps in their coverage or can't



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afford pharmacy co-pays. It uses pharmaceutical samples donated by physician groups, and generic drugs from **Skilled Care Pharmacy** and Keysource Medical, and also purchases wholesale and generic drugs.

Students from the **University of Cincinnati College of Pharmacy** work at the pharmacy for course credit, and other volunteers include UC College of Pharmacy alumni, students and professors.

The pharmacy, which serves people in Hamilton, Butler, Warren and Clermont counties, was founded with the help of the Academy of Medicine and Leadership Cincinnati. For more information or to make donations, call (513) 562-8841, ext. 264, or visit **[www.svdpcincinnati.org](http://www.svdpcincinnati.org)**.

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