

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

July 9, 2025

### **Ocean Bay Park Community Fund and Fire Island Ferries Launch Inaugural Summer Clothing Drive with St. Vincent de Paul Long Island**

Fire Island, NY – The Ocean Bay Park Community Fund and Fire Island Ferries are proud to announce a new partnership with the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Long Island (SVDPLI) to launch the Inaugural Summer Community Clothing Drive on Fire Island. This community-wide initiative aims to collect gently used clothing to benefit underserved individuals and families across Long Island.

Drop-off Location:  
Ocean Bay Park Ferry Dock

From July 9 through August 20, Fire Island residents and visitors are invited to donate new or gently used clothing. Contributions will support SVDPLI's mission by providing essential clothing directly to those in need free of charge. Select donated items may also be sold in SVDPLI's thrift stores to fund critical programs and services.

"This clothing drive is more than just a collection of garments – it's an expression of compassion, solidarity, and community support," said Steven Jaffe, President of The Ocean Bay Park Community Fund. "We're honored to work alongside SVDPLI to make a tangible difference in the lives of those who need it most. We encourage everyone in the Fire Island community to clean out their closets and give generously. Together, we can bring comfort and hope to our neighbors in need."

Transporting the 700-pound donation bins to Fire Island was no small undertaking. "We knew it was a challenge, but one worth taking," said Tim Mooney, owner of Fire Island Ferries. "Our Fire Island communities are always ready to help their neighbors, so it seemed like the right thing to do."

SVDPLI serves more than 110,000 individuals on Long Island annually, providing food, clothing, financial aid and support on the path to stability. Clothing donations ensure that Long Islanders in transition have access to dignity and warmth. SVDPLI proudly serves as a Champion of the Working Poor.

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**About St. Vincent de Paul Long Island-** At the Society of St. Vincent de Paul of Long Island (SVDPLI), we believe in the power of compassion, community, and consistency. Every day, we assist individuals and families facing homelessness, hunger, job loss, and hardship. As Champions of the Working Poor, SVDPLI aids those living paycheck-to-paycheck who may face a job-related, medical or financial hardship that can create an unstable environment for families. Through our assistance, we help our neighbors with furniture, clothing and financial assistance guiding them to the path of stability and dignity. SVDPLI is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law.

For more information about the St. Vincent de Paul, please visit [svdpli.org](http://svdpli.org) or contact:  
Trish Rongo, Director of Development at SVDPLI – (516)822-3132 x106

**About The Ocean Bay Park Community Fund-** The OBP Community Fund, Inc. (“OBPCF”) was created to raise money to benefit the Fire Island community known as Ocean Bay Park. OBPCF is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Donations are tax deductible to the full extent allowed by law. OBPCF strives to promote the best interests of the greater Ocean Bay Park community by supporting its civic, cultural and recreation programs, beautification of the community, efforts to improve and maintain Ocean Bay Park’s relations with neighboring communities, and projects to improve Ocean Bay Park’s public safety and general welfare.

The OBPCF supports these activities with donations from local residents, businesses, former residents and friends.

For more information about the OBP Community Fund, please visit [obpcommunityfund.org](http://obpcommunityfund.org) or contact:  
Steve Jaffe, President OBPCF – (646)831-1988

**About Fire Island Ferries-** Fire Island’s ferry history began with private sailboats in the late 1800s, evolved through family-run services in the 20th century, and culminated in today’s structured services via Fire Island Ferries and sister companies—an enduring network that keeps the island connected and alive.

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