Ralph Middlecamp Biography

Ralph Middlecamp served as the executive director and CEO of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul for the District Council of Madison from 1999 until his retirement July 31, 2017. He began his career with the Society in 1987 as a store general manager. During his 30-year tenure, the number of stores increased to seven, and he developed and built a free-standing processing center to manage goods donation intake, sorting, pricing and distribution, and also the Center for Vincentian Charity. The Center houses the administration of the District Council of Madison, serves as the meeting place for District Council meetings and events, and houses client services intake, the food pantry and the pharmacy. The organization has grown to nearly 300 employees today.

In his career, he not only grew the capacity of the stores, but also increased the Society’s charitable services in Dane County, which includes men’s, and women’s and children’s transitional housing programs, the largest food pantry in the county, a storage locker program for belongings of people who are homeless, and the first stand-alone charitable pharmacy in Wisconsin.

He has served on National Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul’s Store Committee and Communication Committee, and on the presenting team of the Society’s national leadership development program, Invitation for Renewal.

A native of Wisconsin Rapids, Middlecamp received his B.S. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1970. He was an organizer and former board member of the Community Meal Program and Luke House in Madison. Having received his Eagle Scout award in 1965, Ralph remained active in the Boy Scouts for many years. For the past 10 years he has served on the board of directors of the land conservation organization the Baraboo Range Preservation Association.

Ralph is married to Dr. Cathy Hurt Middlecamp, who is on the faculty of the Nelson Institute for environmental Studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison.