



**THE SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL**

FEED. CLOTHE. HOUSE. HEAL.

SVDP ORIENTATION

**A BRIEF OVERVIEW
OF WHO WE ARE AND
WHAT WE STAND FOR**

WHY DID YOU VOLUNTEER?

- **What first drew your attention to SVdP?**

- **How did you decide to volunteer?**

- **What did you expect?**

- **Is it what you expected so far?**



HOW IS SVDP **DIFFERENT** FROM OTHER ORGANIZATIONS?

- **Each person we meet is the face of Christ, no matter how dirty or disheveled they may be.**
- **We are to go **BEYOND** and provide loving and compassionate interest in each person with whom we come in contact.**
- **Our belief is that help with food or money is only one level of our connection to the people we serve**

BEGINNINGS

1833 – Paris, France – Six Catholic college students and a mentor joined together to create the first conference



St. Vincent de Paul is chosen as the patron saint for the group to emulate

Directed to “Go to the poor and suffering.”

A Rule is written for the group in 1835 and modeled on what had been practiced in the first few years of operation.

HOW ARE WE ORGANIZED?



SOCIETY'S CORE MISSION

Home Visit :

- **Respect those we are to serve by going **TO THEM** rather than requiring them to come to us.**



We recognize their dignity and find that they are much more open when we are on “their turf.”

- **(In some cases it is required that we conduct our visit Person-to-Person in a safe environment away from the home.)**

CHANGE AS THE WORLD CHANGES

During this time of a “New Normal” until it is considered safe to do home visits conferences may be handling their calls over the phone rather than an actual home visit.

In Part 1 of our Rule 1.6 states “Faithful to the spirit of its founders, the Society constantly strives for renewal, adapting to changing world conditions.”



SOCIETY'S CORE MISSION CONT'D

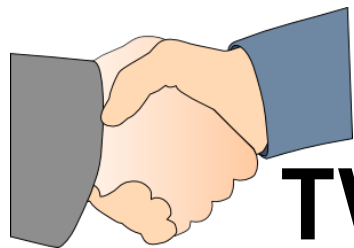


Incorporate prayer into the visit and bring God's love to our neighbors in a special way.

Grow in fellowship – with our Vincentian family and with those we serve.



Offer all an opportunity to serve.



TWO PARTNERS—SAME MISSION

**Over 3500 Volunteers from over 80 Conferences
serving the needy across the Phoenix Diocese**

**Food boxes/bags, rent assistance, utilities,
transportation, furniture, clothes, medical and dental,
car repair, listening and other support**

200 Staff

**Medical/dental clinic, 18 thrift stores, 5 dining rooms,
showers, clothing, counseling, tutoring, fresh produce,
travel assistance**

**Together, as partners, the work is extended to
over 1,550,000 people each year**

“No work of charity is foreign to the Society.”

(Rule 1.3)

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT FROM YOUR CONFERENCE?

- **A warm welcome!**
- **An orientation to how the Conference does it's work—format and frequency of meetings, scheduling of time, roles of officers.**
- **A plan to get you involved in works such as home visits/intake training, pantry, dining room, explanation of other possibilities.**
- **A mentor to help you get comfortable.**
- **A chance to feel fully involved in the Conference.**

WHEN YOU JOIN: **EXPECT**

- **The knowledge that you are participating in the primary Christian mission of serving the poor as Pope Francis challenges each of us.**
- **Being a part of an international community**
- **A deepening appreciation for God's gifts**
- **Inspiration from the Holy Spirit**
- **A profound sense of personal satisfaction**

YOU ARE INVITED TO:

**Attend meetings — get to know
other Vincentians**

**Enroll in the Ozanam Formation
Experience (OFE)**

Visit the downtown campus

Jesus said, “Come follow me!”

SHAPE OF HOPE VIDEO

Please enjoy this video of how we help.

[SVdP_Shape-Of-Hope.mp4](#)

