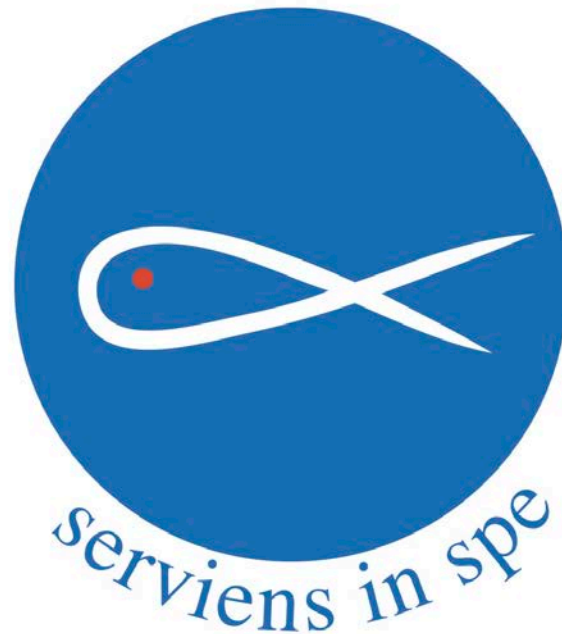


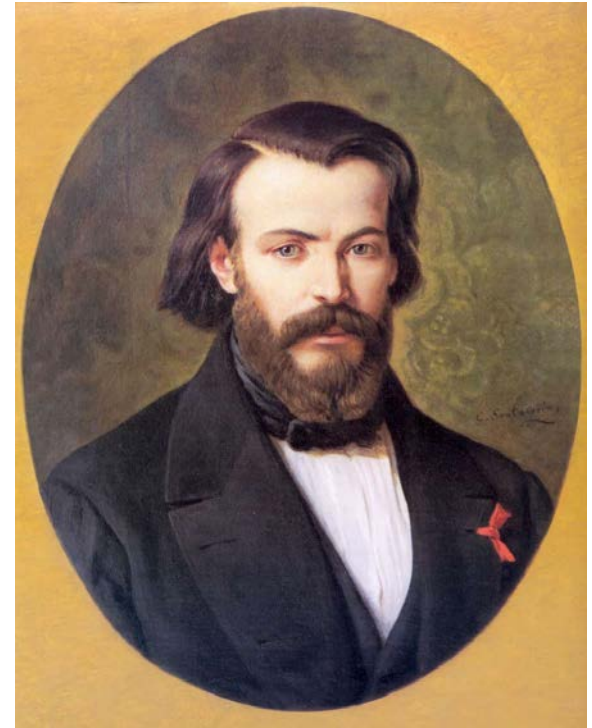
Creating a Social Justice Movement in Your Council

by Judith Nunn and Linda Alexander





Judith Nunn







?



Working together with other Vincentians is rewarding and achieves results





You care about those in need but seek renewed energy in your
conferences for social justice





You already know what social justice is. Are we ready now to take action to transform lives?





You want to make a difference, empower the family and help in an impactful way.



“ Do not be afraid of new beginnings.
Be creative. Be inventive.
Organize new works of love in
the service of the poor.
You who have energy;
who have enthusiasm;
who want to do something of value for the future;
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Frederick Ozanam



By adopting this three step approach you can engage collaboratively in social justice activities

1 2 3

Take a look at the culture and be ready to embrace change to a culture of 'relational ministry'

1



Be open to sharing ideas, successes and challenges across the conferences

2



Use impactful established Social Justice projects to guide teams to transform lives.

3



Relational Ministry means we plan to make time to interact with the families to get to know them better.

1





Families are worth it, lets bring them hope



“There are two causes of exclusion. Financial poverty and information poverty.”
Nicholas Barr



By becoming aware of local resources we can develop our roles as informed navigators.

Legal
Housing
Employment
Education
Food
Activities





Build relationships through interaction and conversation





Our mission and values remind us that we have personal contact with those in need.





Using our God Given talent and gifts



Be open to sharing ideas, successes and challenges across the conferences

2



Particular Council meetings and gatherings are the only way conferences can collaborate. Lets use them as a vehicle for change

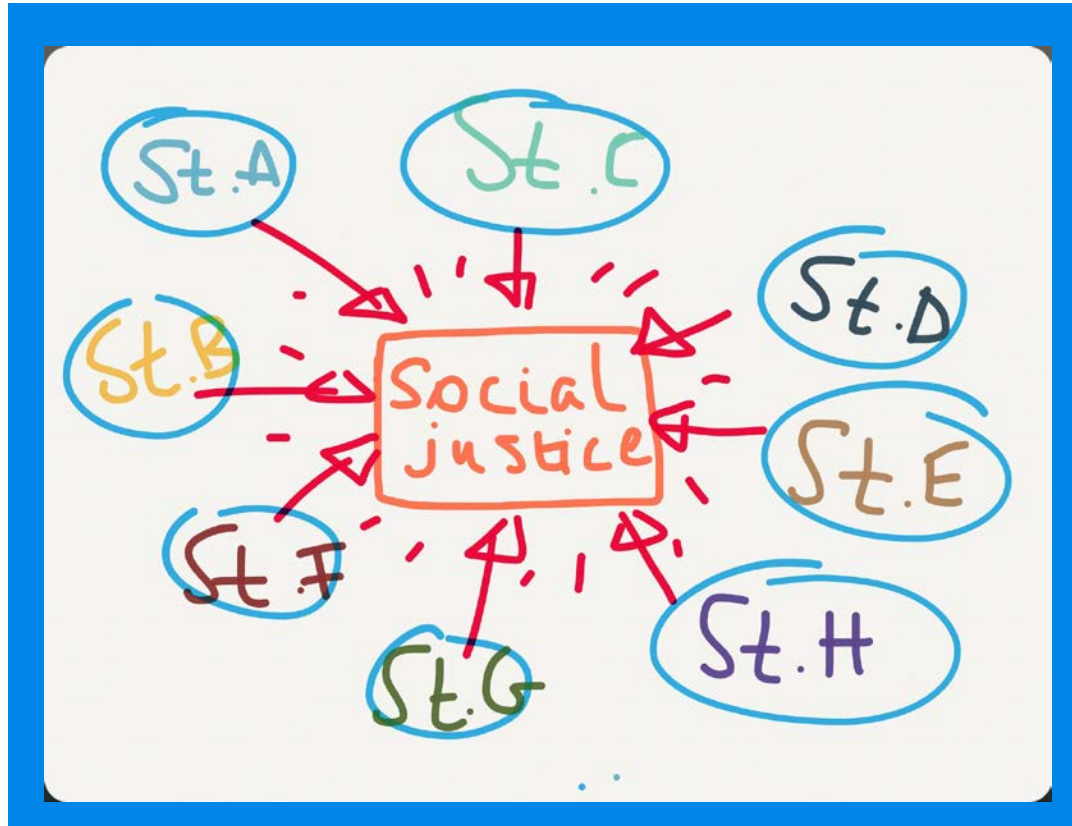




Dialogue takes place in the meetings and learning enhances engagement through sharing successes as well as challenges



Like minded people connect and cross-conference collaboration can launch a new Social Justice Team



"The way to get started is to quit talking and start doing," Walt Disney

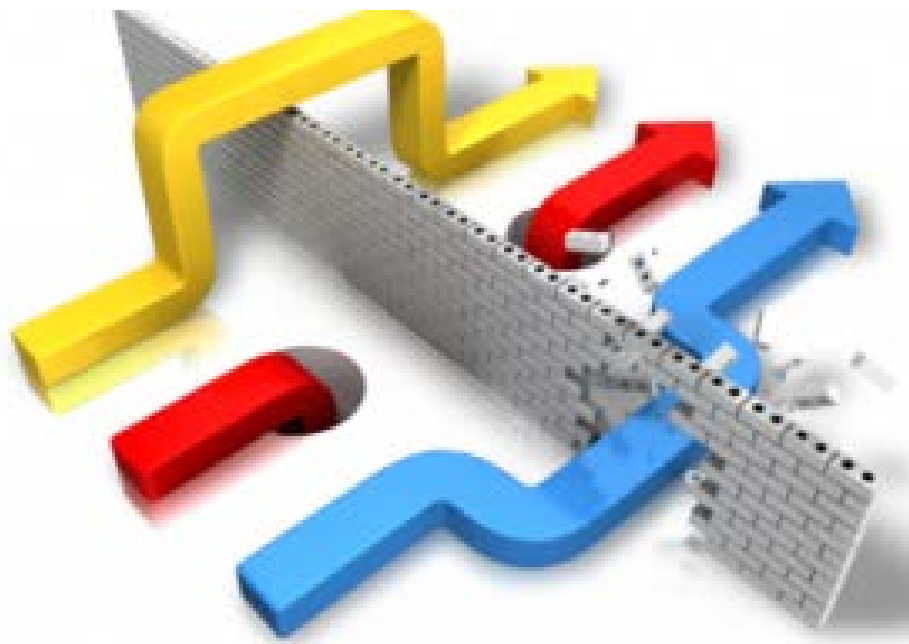


Structured Regular Meetings create vibrant task oriented Social Justice action to transform lives





Every one has problems and issues they are trying to struggle through and our SSVP families are no exception. We can lend a helping hand.



Use impactful established Social Justice projects to guide teams to transform lives

3



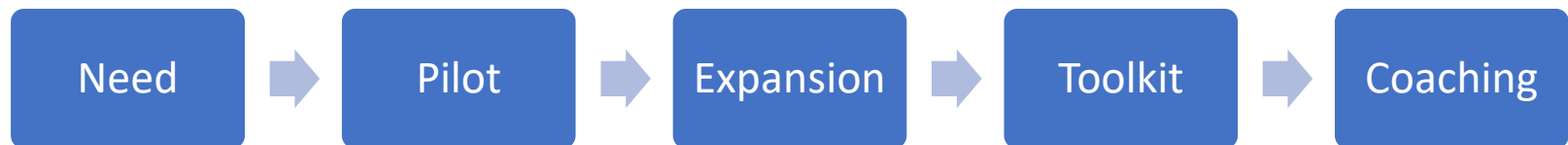


We have focused on three impactful themes in Canada Learning Bond, Dental and Recreation





We have found active projects to be a means to help the families better and to attract new volunteers who wish to use their skills to make a difference.





The Canada Learning Bond is free money for every child across the conferences but we need to help the families get access to this money.

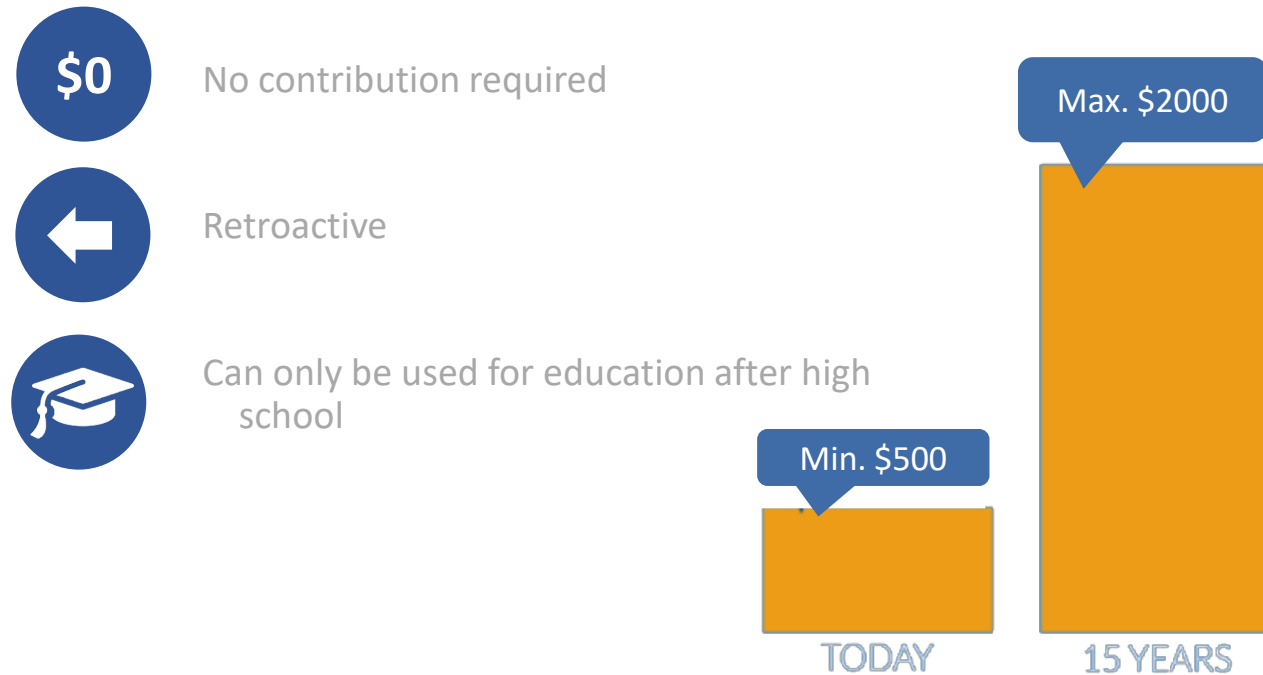


- Net family income of \$45,916 or less
- Income eligibility increases with number of children
- Children born January 2004 or later





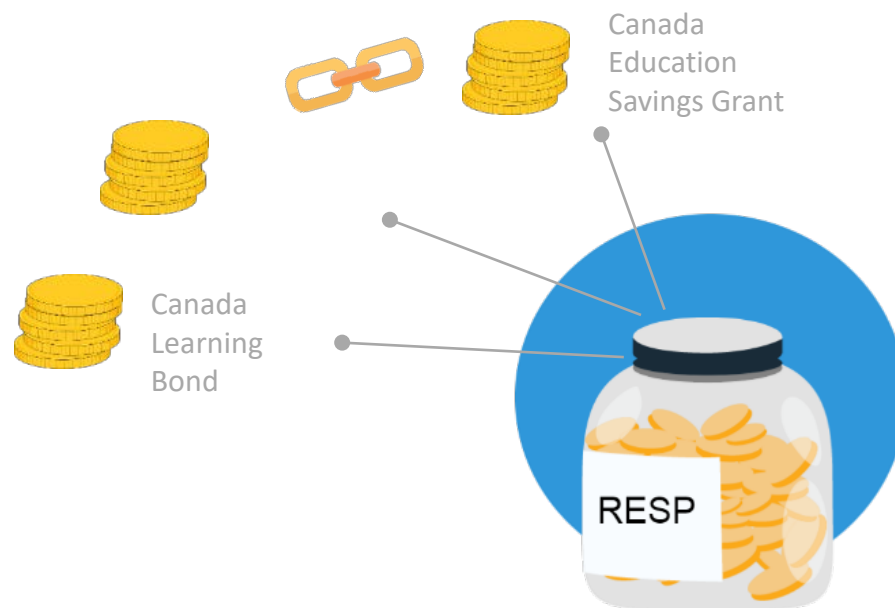
Why would we not help the children we serve access to the free money for their educational futures? How can we ensure they get connected?





Free Money!

- Awareness to access
- Walk alongside
- Start with one family
- Hope for the future





The Society of St Vincent de Paul & SmartSAVER.org

The Seeds of Hope Project

Project Toolkit

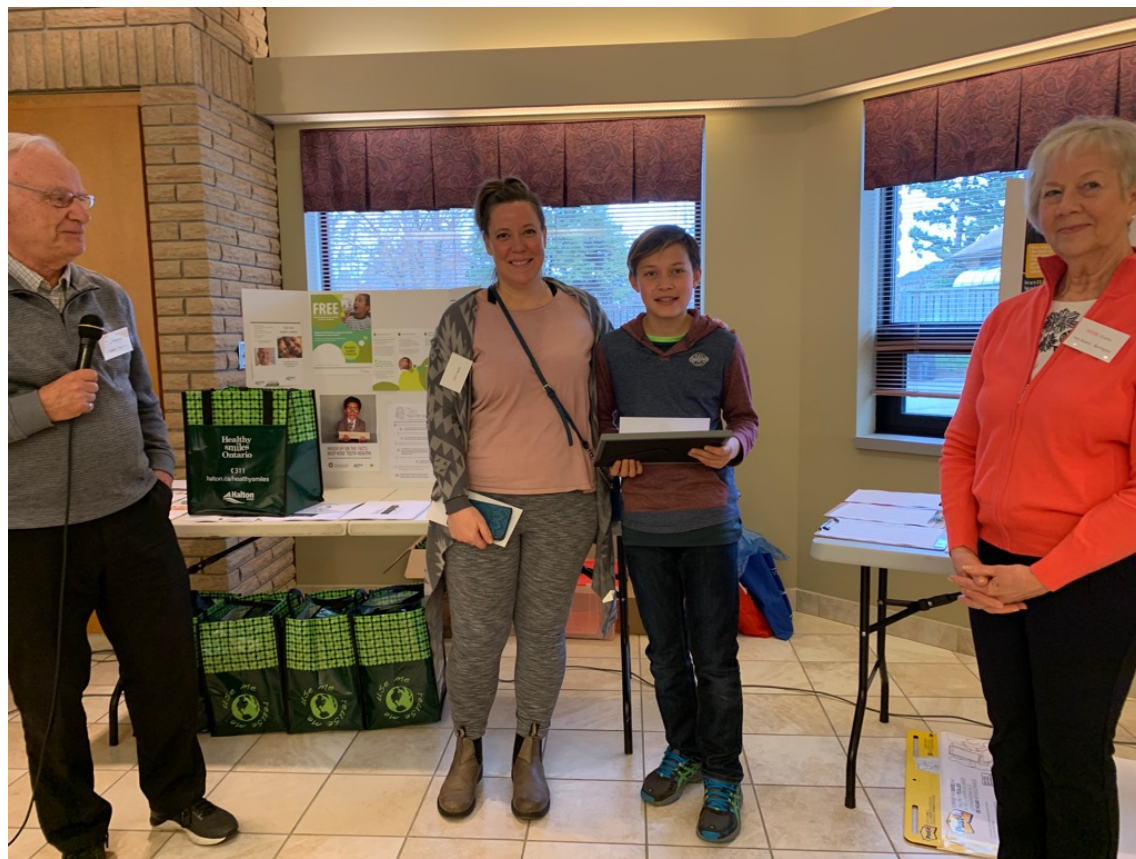
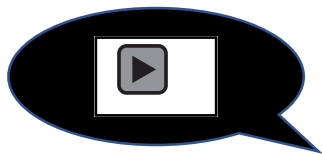


Roll your cursor over each image to access the document

<p>SSVP Canada Learning Bond 'Cheat sheet'</p> <p>Share this summary sheet with other interested volunteers in your conference</p>			<p>Volunteers will love the Action Map as it walks them step by step through the process of initial interview to filling out the application</p>
<p>Give this easy to reproduce 1-Page Info Sheet to families to better explain RESP, the Bond and the Online Application</p>			<p>The Quick Reference Guide clearly explains the additional matching grant program available to families that choose to make contributions into the RESP</p>
<p>Use this Poster to promote Canada Learning Bond access at your next SSVP Event</p>			<p>5 Specially branded information sheets from each participating Financial Institution can be used as 'Warm Introductions' by applicants</p>
<p>Award this Society of St Vincent De Paul 'We Believe in You' Certificate to RESP/CLB applicant families</p>			<p>Seeds of Hope Project Overview: This overview provides background to answer Frequently Asked Questions about RESP, the CLB and the 'Seeds of Hope' Project</p>
<p>Jess is a single mom of 3 from St. Catharines. This is her Learning Bond Story (2 Min Video)</p>			<p>Step by Step through the StartMyRESP online application (6 min video)</p>

Links to Critical Documents: [Awareness to Access Template](#), [Keeping Track](#), [Systemic Change Project Overview](#)

Lets all agree that we can have one of these certificates in each of the children's rooms.





Dental suffering is hidden but prevalent among all those in poverty and we can help alleviate this by connecting them to dental care.









There are three aspects to helping the families alleviate dental suffering



**Its easy to embed this type of learning into your home visits
and all your interactions with the families.**

 **Dental Project Checklist: How to start!** 

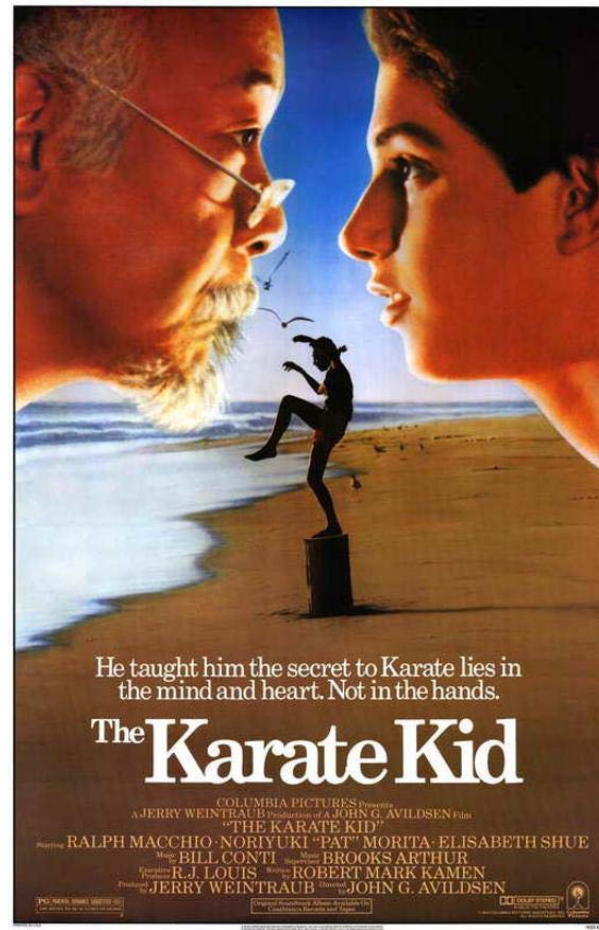
- ☐ Review the dental toolkit (ssvp.on.ca/members)
- ☐ Create a dental team in your conference
- ☐ Meet with the Region dental office
- ☐ Do a dental needs survey with your families
- ☐ Ask your own dentist to help us
- ☐ Choose one of the 3 dental pillars and start:
 - ☐ 1) Get kids into dental chair through awareness and access to Healthy Smiles Ontario
 - ☐ 2) Get adults access to teeth cleaning
 - ☐ 3) Get adults access to emergency dental care
- ☐ Celebrate and share successes!





Children need activities that will empower them, help them grow as individuals and give them hope for their own futures





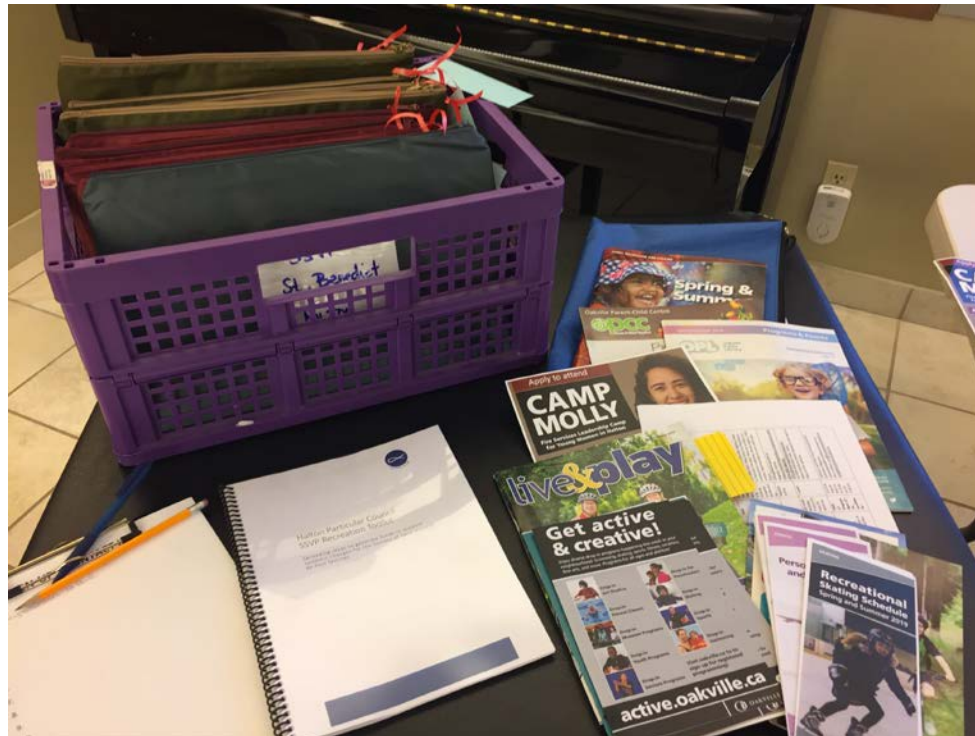
There are programs and financial assistance for all children to be involved in activities and sports.



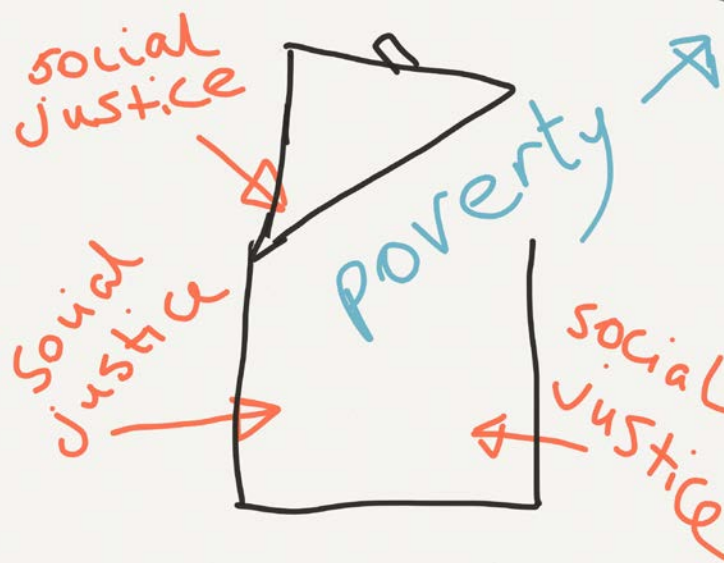
Recreation Connection



There are simple recreation resources that we can leverage for our home visits and any interactions we have with the families.



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All the heavy lifting has been done
and now it is up to all of us to work
on Social Justice to transform lives

<http://www.ssvphaltonpc.org>

[Resources](#) | [News](#) | [Reminders](#)

Healthy Smiles Ontario 4 Kids


FREE Dental Care


It takes judgement to know when to introduce these questions into the conversation at a Home Visit. But as we get to know the families and they learn to trust us, out of concern and compassion for their children, we can ask if we can help them connect to programs like this.

If they are not connected to HSO: we can help them. Call 311 and ask to enrol


If they do not have a dentist: we can help them. Find a dentist who takes HSO patients in your conference area.

If they are finding it hard to





Turning Concern into Action



In the National Strategic Plan, Pillar #2, 2.2 and 2.3 states that "Systemic change is part of the new Vincentian movement". The Ontario Strategic Plan states in 2.3B: All conferences will have a Social Justice Representative.

In Halton, the Social Justice Cross Conference team is almost one year old and our SJ reps have been sharing with their conferences some important action plans that are an invitation to all Vincentians to participate in, whenever they are meeting families in need. Our Home Visits are the perfect venue for putting social justice concern into action. This version of In a Nutshell will highlight the year 1 focus and will invite YOU too, to start with one family at a time. The dental toolkit is [here](#).

Home Visit Conversations: