



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
National Council of Canada



MEMBER ORIENTATION

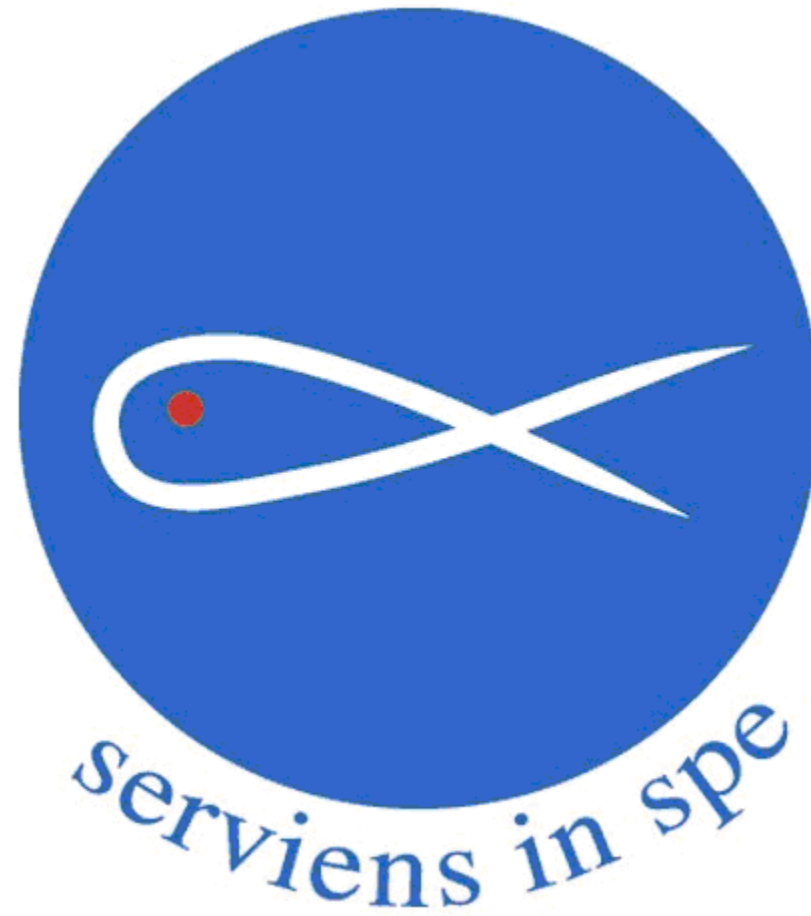
HOME VISITING

Please view presenter notes
available by pointing the mouse
on the orange symbol in the
top left of each page.

THE VISIT



OUR LOGO





SOCIETY OF SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL

National Council of Canada

MISSION

The Society of Saint Vincent de Paul is a
lay Catholic
organization whose mission is:

**To live the Gospel message
by serving Christ in the poor
with love, respect, justice and joy.**



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VALUES

The Mission of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul implies that as Vincentians we:

- See Christ in anyone who suffers;
- Come together as a family;
- Have personal contact with the poor;
- Help in all possible ways.



The Light of Christ

Vincentians are called to lead in the Light of Christ so others may follow.

Scripture, the Cross & prayer.

"... When Jesus spoke to the people again, he said: I am the light of the world; anyone who follows me will not be walking in the dark, but will have the light of life.—John 8:12



From

Apostolate of the Laity:

Wherever there are people in need of . . . Food, drink, clothing, housing, employment, education.

Wherever men lack the facilities necessary for a truly human life, afflicted with serious distress illness, suffer exile or imprisonment, there Christian Charity should seek them out and find them, console them with great solicitude and help them with appropriate relief.

The obligation is imposed above all on every prosperous nation and person.



A Unique Reflection -

“The street and the stairs will be long and unfriendly, the poor often ungrateful. You will soon find charity a heavy burden, heavier than the jug of soup or the full basket. But you will still be pleasant and smile. Distributing soup and bread is not everything. The rich can do that. The poor are your masters and you will find them terribly exacting masters. So the more unattractive and dirty they are the ruder and unfair they are, the more you must lavish your love upon them. It is only by feeling your love that the poor will forgive you your gifts of bread.” (St. Vincent de Paul)



Conferences Are Unique

- Home Visiting is a goal to work towards, for your conference and those you serve
- Home visits aim to help our friends, not make life easier for us
- Another thought, is it my house or your house, what works for you



Visitations

- The fundamental purpose of the Society
- Friendship, follow up
- Records keeping
- Pray for guidance

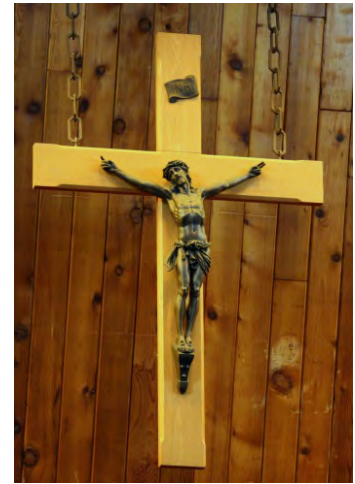


Can Everyone be a Home Visitor?



Discernment

- Pray first
- What is needed
- Why am I here
- What is God's plan
- What is my role
- Be a witness
- Share God's Love





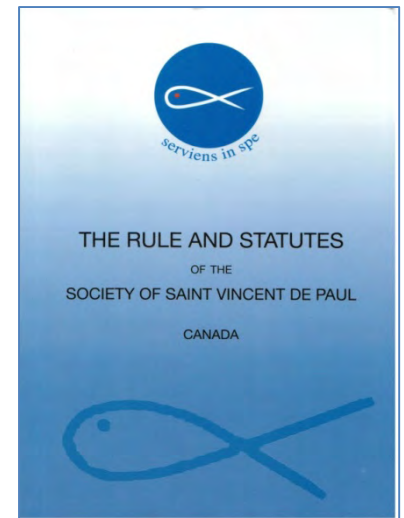
Qualifications and Personal Traits

- Compliance with the Rule and Statutes and National Policies
- A Desire, Ability and Commitment to Serve
- Humility and Generosity
- Sensitivity and Sense of Humour
- Good Judgment and discernment
- Willingness to develop a personal spirituality

Steps To A Home Visit



- The Rule
- The call
- The need
- Prayer
- Action



Handling Requests -

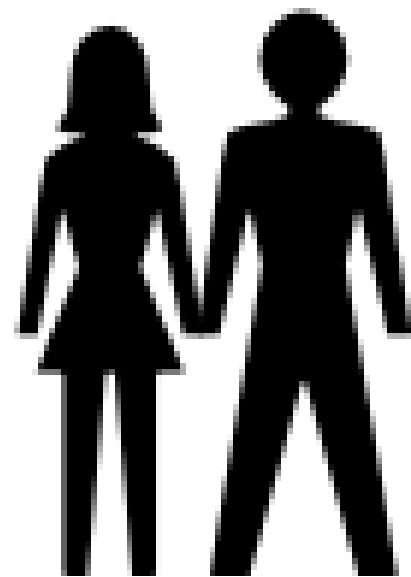
- Friendly phone response
- Be aware of your conference guidelines
- Gather proper details before going on the visit
- Each visit is a team effort





Serving Christ in Those in Need

- Visit in pairs
- Bring the gift of yourself
- Treat with dignity
- Do not judge
- Bring the Holy Spirit
- Collaborate, do not compete





Tips on Home Visitation

- Know the purpose of your visit.
- Be there for their needs, not our own.
- Let them feel they are loved
- They deserve dignity and respect
- Introduce yourselves.
- Be friendly and listen and observe
- Encourage them to share their story





Additional Visiting Tips

- Take the time needed to get the details – make brief notes
- What are the true needs
- What will our responses be
- Remember you are not professionals, you are advocates
- Always maintain confidentiality



And More Tips ...

- Remember to provide empathy, not sympathy.
- Never put your self in danger
- Be kind and gentle
- Do note making after leaving
- Each visit gets a detailed description of the event for your records and reporting procedures

Special Types of Visits

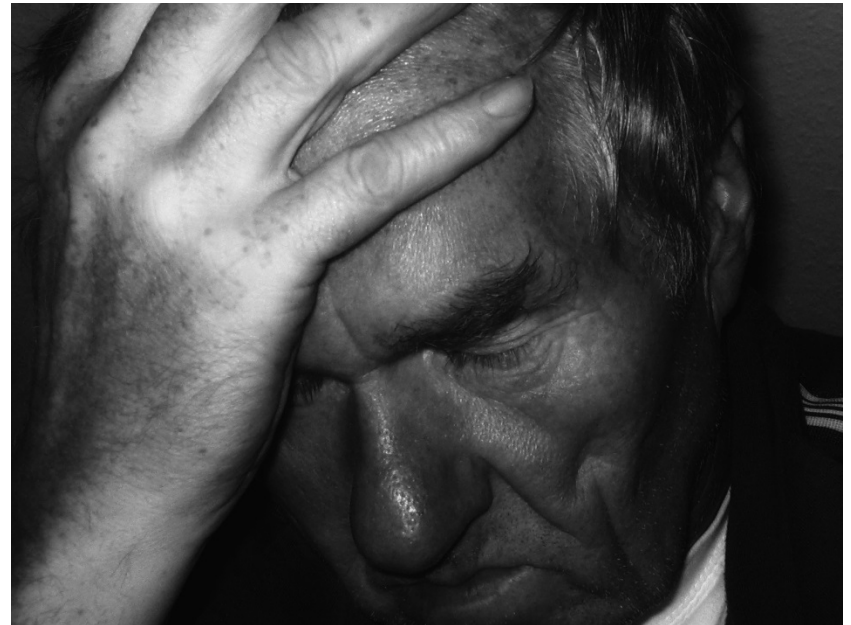
- Low Income, Single parents
- Poor Management
- Unexpected expenses
- Special Needs, Disasters
- Mental Health, Addiction
- Disabilities
- Seniors





Meet the needs as they arise

- Programs
- Alternatives
- Advocacy
- Social Justice





Summary of Our Mission to Serve

- As a Vincentian we offer gifts of charity to those in need.
- We do home visits promptly and regularly.
- Vincentians are characterized by a spirit of humility and cordiality.
- Vincentian home visitors have certain abilities but are not visiting in a professional role.
- Vincentians do not judge. Never, never.
- Know who we Serve



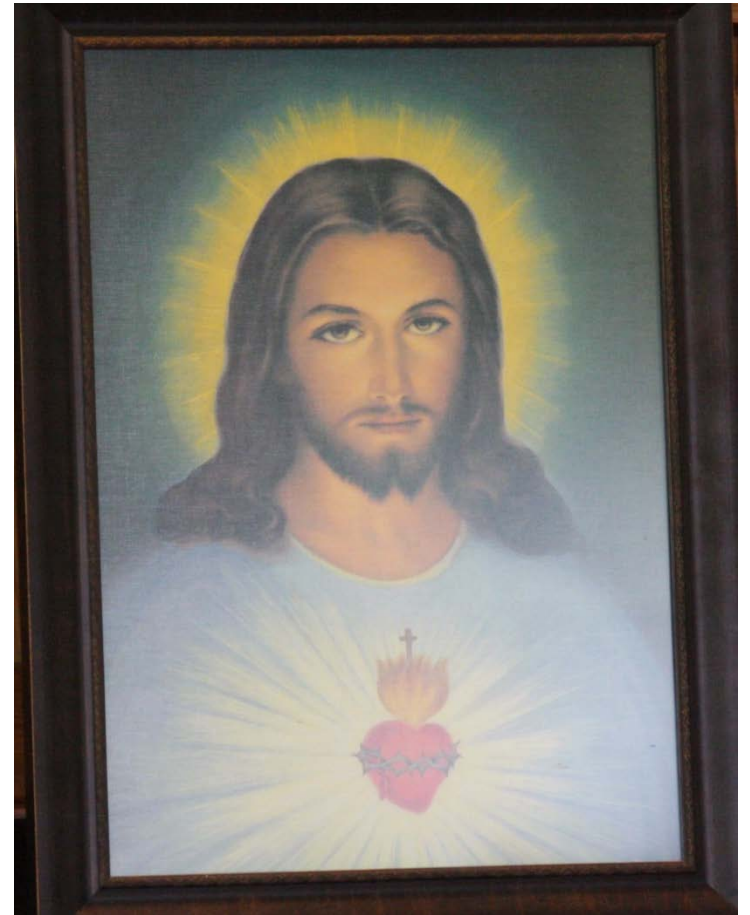
Matthew 25:37

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing: And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the King will answer them. 'Truly, I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.'"



**What do we say
when we are asked
to go visiting.**

**Yes Lord,
Amen**





Comments and Questions?

- Resources: The Rule Book
- New to Home Visits? – ask local conferences who do visits to share their procedures, practices and reporting means
- Contact your Regional Trainer

Thank You for your Time