

Home Visits

Conducting a Quality Home Visit



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Who am I

- **Linda Dollard**, National Council President
- **Vincentian** for 18 years
- **Doing home visits** for past 8 years



Getting to know you

- **How** long have been involved with the SSVP?
- **Have** you done home visits?
- **How** has your time of Service impacted you?
- **What** do you hope to learn today?



What we will cover today

- What is a Home Visit?
- Vincentian qualities necessary for Home Visits
- Conducting a quality Home Visit and preparation
- Home Visit scenarios
- Post Home Visit



Spirituality of the Home Visit



What is a Home Visit?



Who should conduct home visits?

- Not everyone can conduct home visits.
- Why is this important?
- Many different skills are required in Vincentian work beyond the Home Visit.

Vincentian qualities needed for home visits

- **What** are they?
- **Which** of these qualities are the most difficult to deal with when visiting a family?
- **How** do you overcome your emotions/feelings at that point in time?

First point of contact

The family in need calls the church, **what is the process?**

- **Why** is this important?
- **Telephone response** by responsible person.
- **Answering machine** response requirements.



The home visit

- Always visit in **pairs**
- **Prayer before a visit** – Why is this important?



Scenario 1

Arriving at a property of a family to visit – public housing project

- Row of houses, yards are littered, grass/weeds overgrown.
- Door of home damaged, screen missing, door bell wires exposed.



Scenario 2

You are in a residential area with nice homes, a large SUV, late model, is parked in the driveway



Greeting at the door

- What do you say when someone answers the door?
- What if no one is home?



Entering the home Scenario 1

You enter the home and observe the following:

- The home is untidy and has a bad smell.
- Kitchen table cluttered with dirty dishes, clothes and items scattered on the floor.
- Living room couch is rough looking and excessively worn.



Entering the home

Scenario 2

The apartment is well furnished, nice furniture, and large TV with sound system

- **You observe** pictures of children on TV stand. There is a child's piece of art displayed beside an award certificate.



Starting a conversation

How to start and maintain a conversation?



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Consider seeing someone who looks different



Preparing to leave the home

What do I say?

What do I do?

Thank them for inviting you into their home.



After the home visit

Post home visit recap and reporting

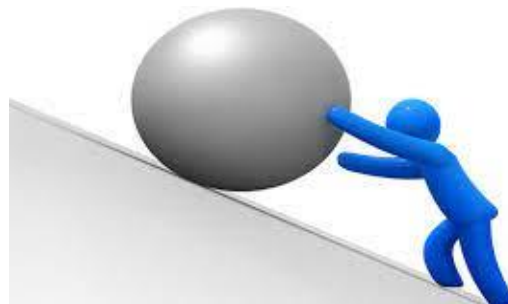
- What information do you retain and why? Only collect necessary information.
- Pray for the family privately, as a pair or as a conference.
- Share home visit stories at your conference meeting, especially those that were particularly difficult or rewarding.



Challenges

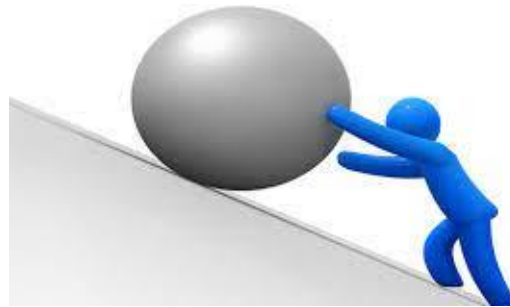
You experience a situation on a rare occasion where your Vincentian values are challenged?

- A family seeks help every 3 months, they have 6 children, they appear to have sufficient income from OW, child tax credit and other government support.
- What do you do?



Ask yourself

- If Jesus was your partner making this home visit, how do you feel He would handle the situation?
- What responses would He use?
- What questions would He ask?
- Let this guide you through any challenging moments.



What was accomplished by your visit

- The family likely benefited financially/materially from your visit.
- What other gifts did you leave behind?
- How did the home visit strengthen your spiritual relationship?

Resources

- Be aware of resources in your community.
- www.ssvp.ca/members/formationressources/vlif3home visiting



In Closing

We covered:

- What is a home visit
- Doing a quality home visit
- Vincentian qualities necessary in doing home visits
- Home visit scenarios, Vincentian qualities that might be challenged & how to overcome negative thoughts



Thank you / Merci

Questions / Questions



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Merci d'avance pour votre soutien !