



Personal Encounter Workshop

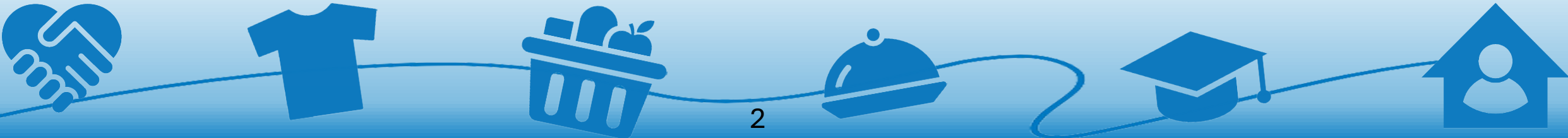
June 2025

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul



Who am I

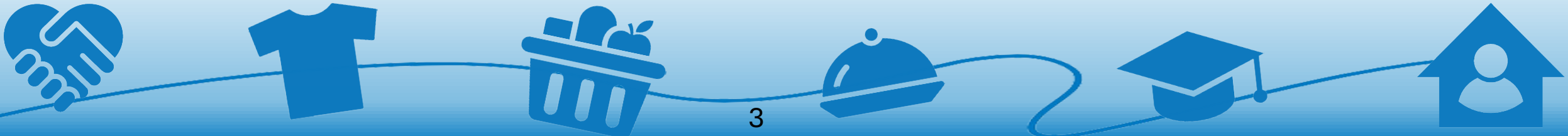
- **Linda Dollard**, National Council President
- **Vincentian** for 19 years
- **Doing home visits** past 9 years
- **Volunteering at SSVP Thrift Store** past 4 years
- **Doing outreach to people who are homeless** past 4 years





Getting to know you

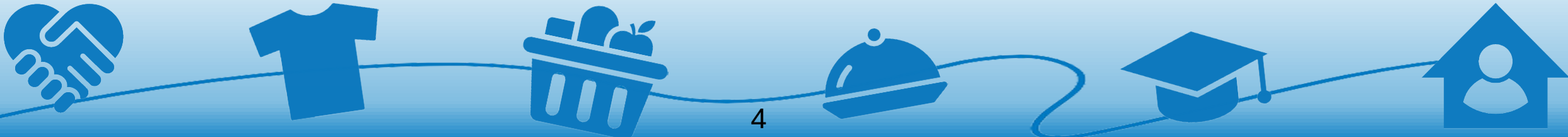
- **How** long have been involved with the SSVP?
- **Have** you had personal encounters with people in need?
- **How** has your time of Service impacted you?
- **What** do you hope to learn today?





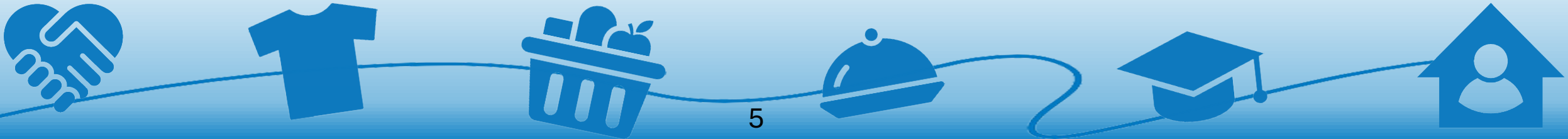
What we will cover today

- Personal encounters through **home visits**
- Personal encounters through **outreach to people who are homeless**
- Personal encounters through **SSVP Thrift Store visits**
- Personal encounters through **food bank/pantry visits**





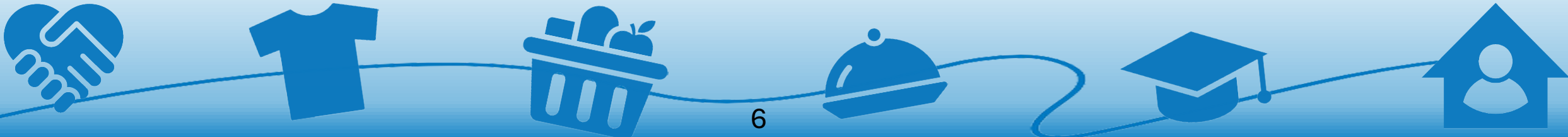
Spirituality





Personal Encounter through Home Visit

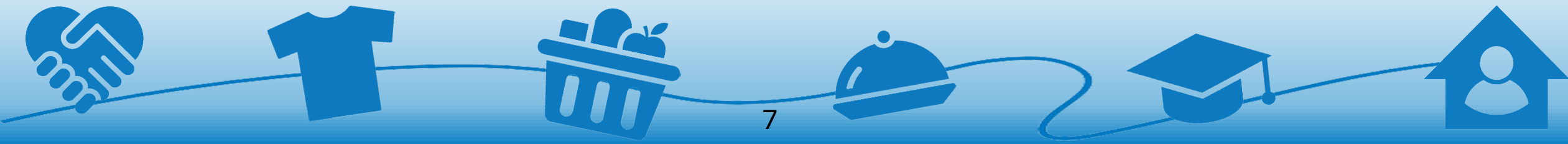
- Always visit in pairs
- Focus on the person and having a conversation to understand need
- Provide assistance
- Thank the person for inviting you into their home





Personal Encounter through Outreach

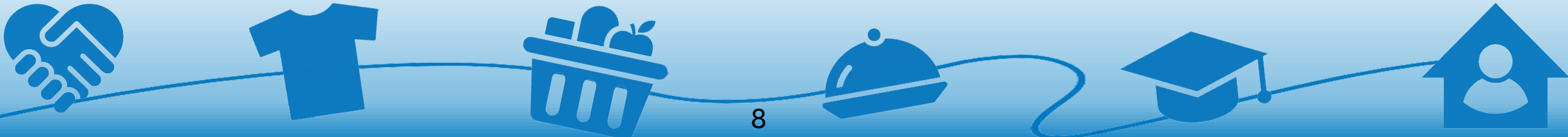
- Always do outreach in pairs
- Outreach can involve visiting someone in a tent or wherever they are staying on the street
- Focus on the person and listening to what they want to share
- Provide assistance needed





Personal Encounter at SSVP Thrift Store

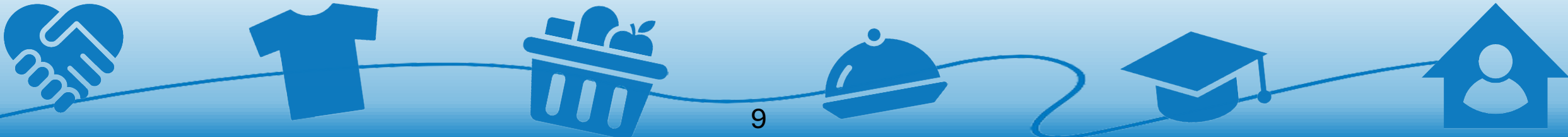
- People in need visit SSVP Thrift Store
- SSVP Stores provide assistance with clothing, furniture & household necessities
- SSVP Stores offer food assistance & hygiene items
- SSVP Stores offer clothing & blanket to those who are unhoused
- Focus on the person and listening to their need





Personal Encounter through Food Bank/Pantry

- People in need visit food bank / pantry
- Boxes may be pre-packaged with food items depending on number of people in family
- Focus on the person and listening to their need
- Provide food assistance





Starting a conversation

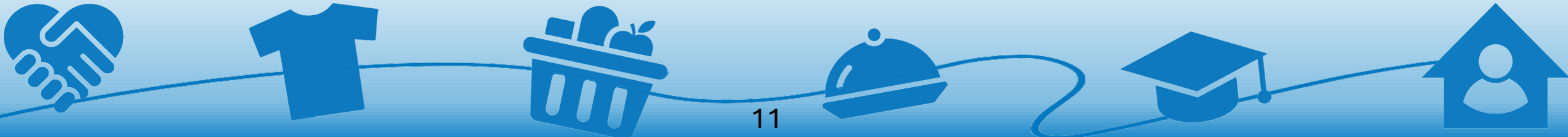
- How to start and maintain a conversation with any personal encounter





Vincentian Qualities

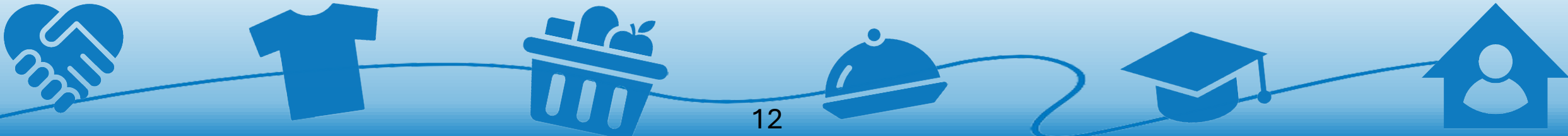
- **What** are they?
- **Which** of these qualities are the most difficult to deal with when having a personal encounter?
- **How** do you overcome your emotions/feelings at that point in time?





Concluding Personal Encounter

- **What** do I say?
- **What** do I do?
- **Thank them** for their time.

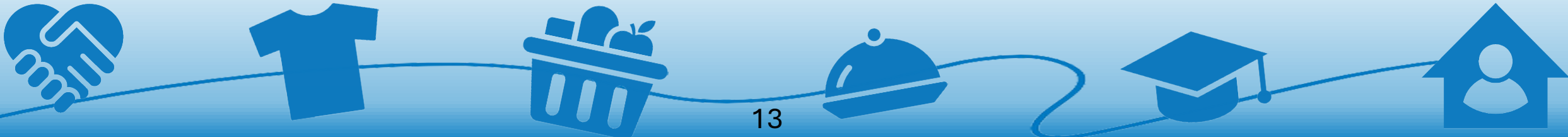




After Personal Encounter

Post personal encounter recap and reporting

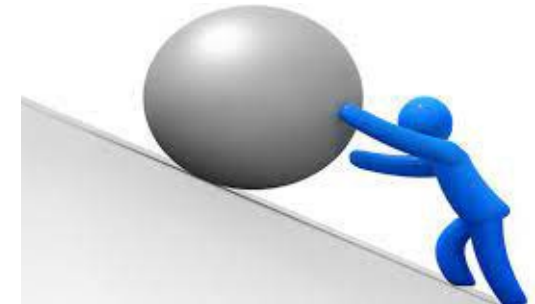
- How did you feel about the encounter?
- What information do you retain? Only collect necessary information.
- Pray for the individual / family helped.
- Share personal encounter stories at your conference meeting, especially those that were particularly difficult or rewarding.





Challenging Situations

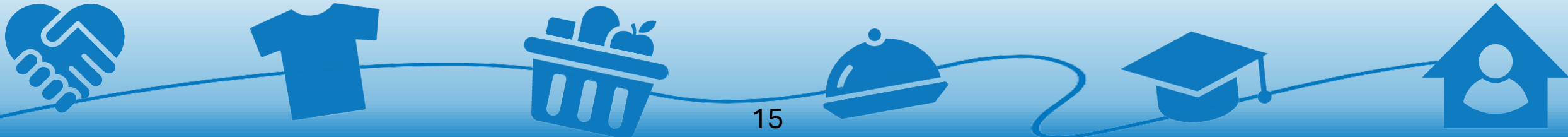
- If Jesus was with you on the personal encounter, how would he handle the situation?
- What would he say?
- What would he ask?
- Let this guide you through any challenging moments.





What was Accomplished

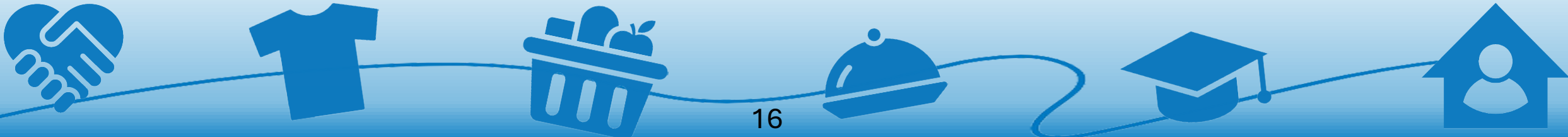
- The individual/family benefited financially/materially from your encounter.
- What other gifts did you leave behind?
- How did the personal encounter strengthen your spiritual relationship?





Sharing Personal Encounter Stories

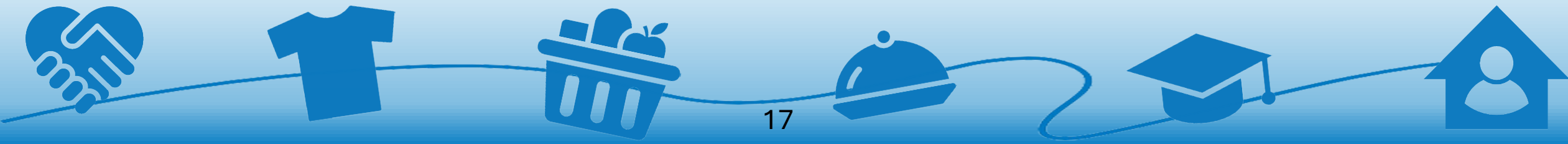
- Sharing personal encounters through home visits
- Sharing personal encounters through outreach to the unhoused
- Sharing personal encounters at SSVP thrift store
- Sharing personal encounters at food bank/pantry





Resources

Be aware of resources in your community

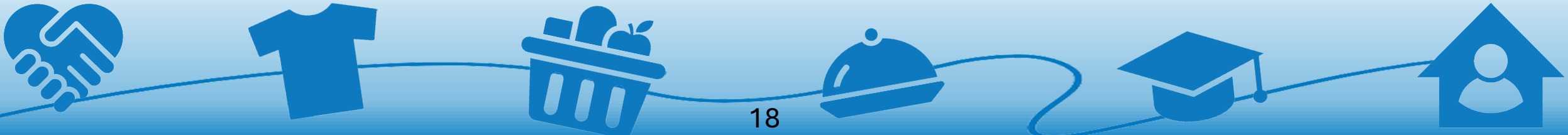




In closing

We covered:

- Different kinds of personal encounters & stories
- Starting a conversation
- Vincentian qualities necessary to do personal encounters
- Post personal encounters

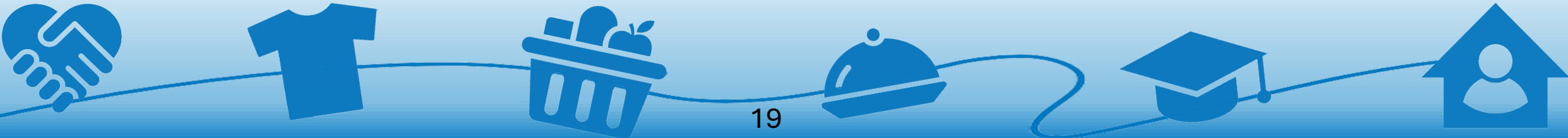




Thank you

Q & A

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Please complete the evaluation form



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