



Evolving Back to Youth Involvement in SSVP

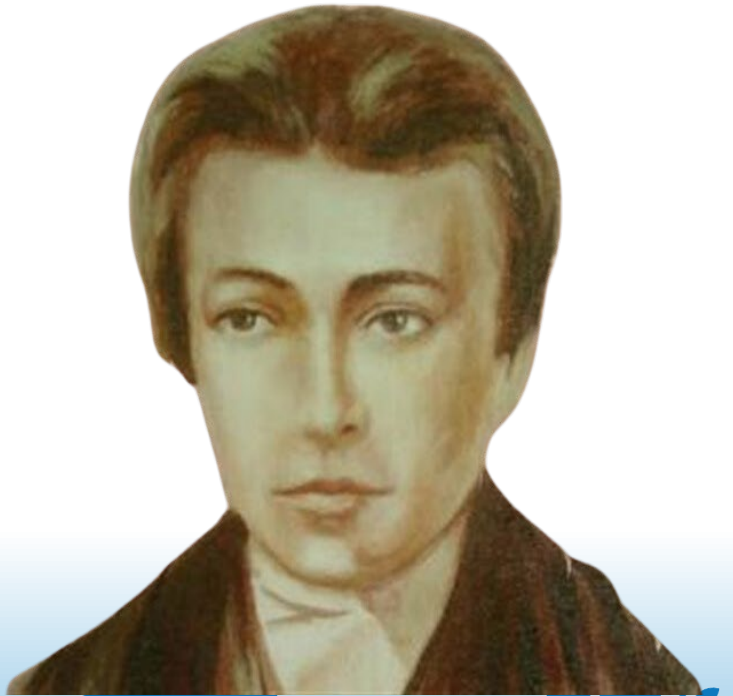
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

Société de Saint-Vincent de Paul

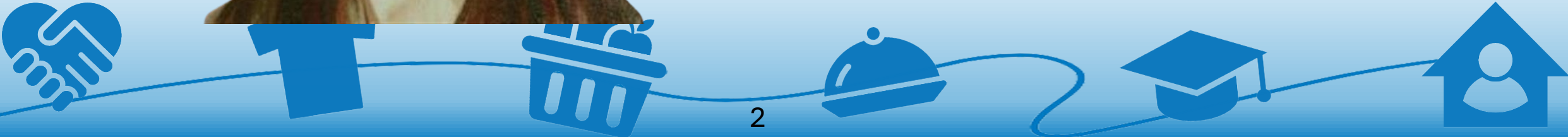
Sponsored by
ONRC Rejuvenation Committee



Remember this young man?



Our principal founder
Frederic Ozanam





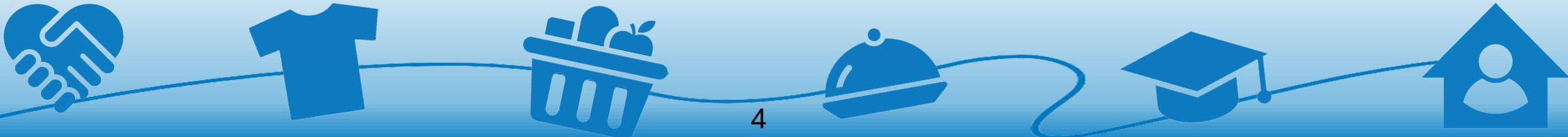
Saint Louise de Marillac Youth Conference

Holy Family Parish
London, Ontario



Structure

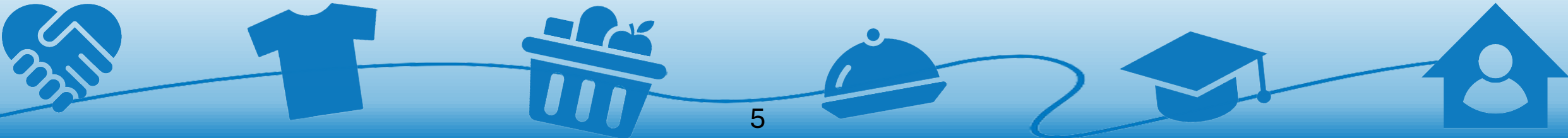
- Pre-season Executive team build - August
- Executive Monthly meeting
- Recruitment for youth at the beginning of each school year
- Training session – first Saturday of October
- Events see below for services/activities
- 2 potlucks to include Presidents of SSVP HF Adult, LPC and National – January and June (families of Executive invited and new Executive members)





Leadership

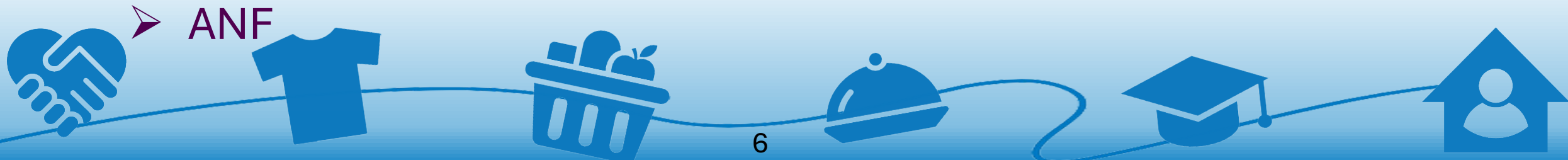
- Executive Youth Team
- 1 spiritual adviser, 3 youth advisers and 6-8 youth
- President, Vice President, Secretary, Media, Photographer, SJ representative for PC





Formation

- Training beginning of school year
- Social Justice Retreat Day and Sleep Out for Poverty
- Social Justice workshops
- PC retreats
- ONRC Meetings Spring and Fall



Service activities



Street ministry:

- On The Street
- Bagged lunches
- Soup kitchen
- SSVP Thrift Store



Other activities:

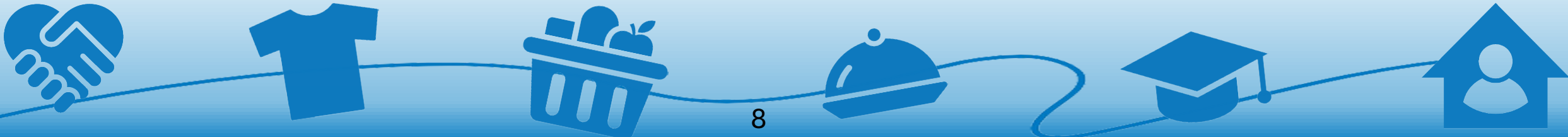
- Earth Day clean up
- Last Post Remembrance Day Clean up,
- Hyde Park Santa Claus Parade
- ClothingWork Winter Apparel Giveaway
- SJ Series – Laudato Si Environmental issues
- Painting of memorial stones
- International pencil case drive
- CWL – Bazaar
- Sleep out for Poverty and SJ Retreat
- Pollinator garden
- Fundraisers – Bee Bombs, Art





Past Events/Activities

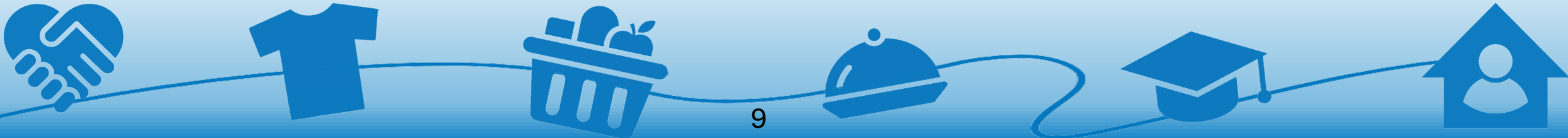
- L'Arche
- Long Term Care – Bingo
- Ronald McDonald House
- Fundraisers – Christmas Cookies and Valentine's Day
- Boys and Girls Club of London
- Thoughtfulness packages – for families who have someone incarcerated



Vincentian spirituality



- Deacon Tom – monthly Reflections at Executive meetings
- Opening and closing prayer with reflection at the beginning of each activity
- Land Acknowledgement
- After Training Day we share Family Mass
- Teaching our youth to be stewards of Creation
- Presented to the future Deacons at the Seminary – SSVP Youth Activities
- Future Spiritual Retreat – full team



Saint Louise de Marillac youth Conference is finishing up our 16th year



Our focus is Social Justice and Street Ministry.

Our youth are very involved.

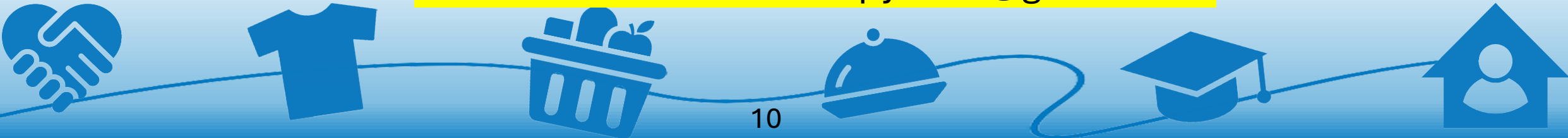
Each year we try to find another event to keep our members engaged.

- Human Rights
- Environmental issues
- Street Ministry

Serving with love, respect, justice and joy.

Thank you for your time!

Contact Lil Mulder hfssvpyouth@gmail.com



Creating and Sustaining a Culture of Caring

The Evolution of Youth Involvement



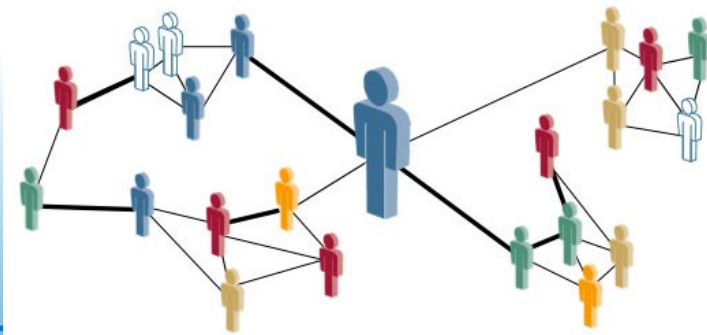
Brant Model
SSVP ANF '25

Peter Giordano
Youth VP,
SSVP Brant

Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

About Me:

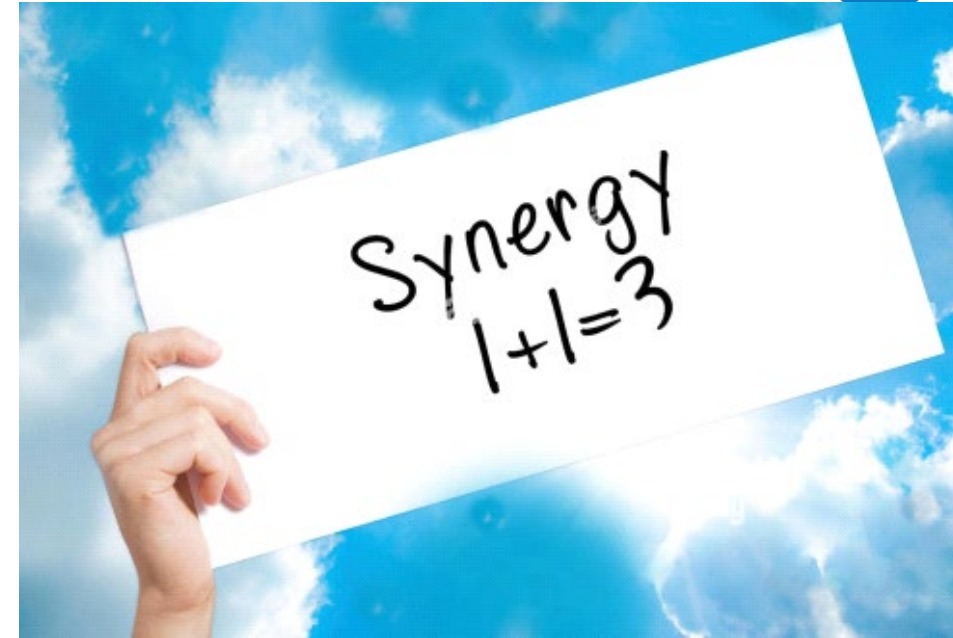
- High School Science teacher/Dept Head in the Brant HN Catholic District School Board for 32 Years
- Retired in 2012 (OMGOSH!!!! 13 years ago???)
- Taught science teacher candidates at Nipissing University
- Started Volunteering at SSVP Brant in 2013 as Youth Coordinator, mainly in charge of the newly formed Bed For Every Child Program
- Position changed to VP of Youth with a seat on Council
- Connections with school and Board staff very helpful for my position
- As former colleagues retire, former students take their place: Connections maintained!!



SSVP Brant Youth Model: School Board Partnership



- a collaborative **relationship** between the **Brant Haldimand Norfolk Catholic DSB** and **SSVP Brant**
- **together** we can do what neither of us can do **separately**
- our **combined efforts** result in a **greater output** than the **sum** of our **individual efforts**
- SSVP provides a real **hands-on** way for the Catholic school board to help students attain the **Catholic Graduate Expectations** (1998) that distinguish Catholic boards from public boards hopefully **evolving** into a lifelong **Culture of Caring** amongst our **youth**



THE ONTARIO CATHOLIC SCHOOL
GRADUATE EXPECTATIONS



Common Goals: our partnership hits on 5 of the 7 Catholic Graduate Expectations overlapping with our Vincentian Spirituality



A Discerning Believer



A Reflective, Creative And Holistic Thinker



A Collaborative Contributor



A Caring Family Member



A Responsible Citizen

A responsible citizen who gives witness to Catholic social teaching by promoting peace, justice and the sacredness of human life.



A Win -Win -Win -Win -Win Partnership!!!

- We at **SSVP** are the **vehicle** by which the **school board** can connect with the **broader community** with a **focus** on **Catholic Social Teaching** and **Social Justice**.



- The **school board** provides us with **physical** and **organizational** resources as well as **access** to their numerous **community** **committees** of **teachers**, **parents** and literally **thousands** of **youth**, to help us fulfill our mission and spread our **Vincetian Spirituality**.



- The various drives raise **thousands** of **items** and **clothing** each year which go directly to our **neighbours in need**.

- Students are able to **live** the **faith** and start developing a **lifelong** **commitment** of **empathy** and **caring** for their **peers** and **others**. (+CS4?)

- **Society** becomes a **gentler** more **compassionate** place



Example of our shared Common Goals: Yearly Board Spiritual Themes



2024-2025 Board Spiritual Theme:



Catholic
Education | 
**PILGRIMS
OF HOPE**

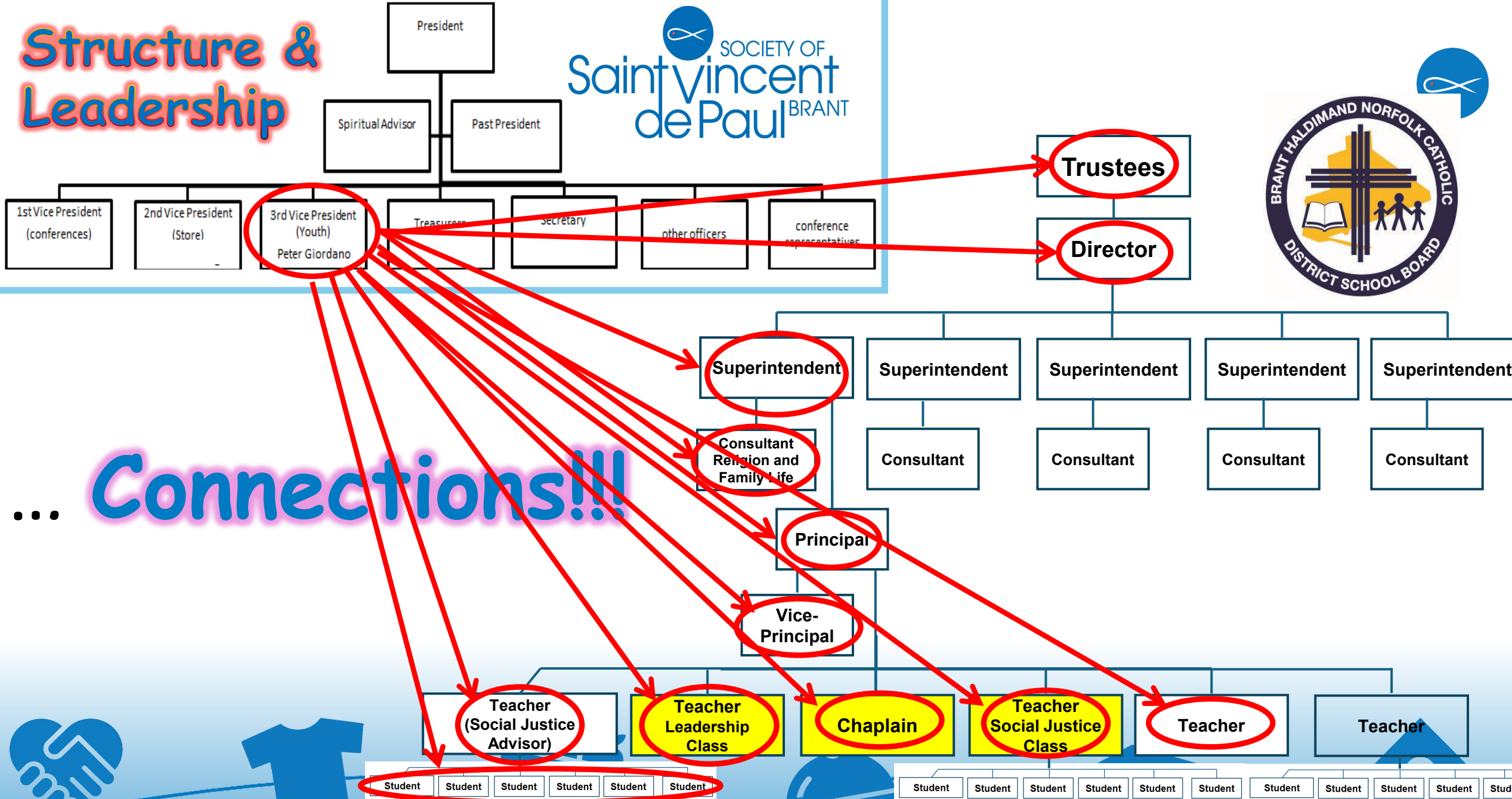
**“We must fan the flame of hope
that has been given to us.”**

*Letter on the Jubilee Year of Hope, February 11,
2022*

**Spiritual Themes are used as springboards in
presentations and approaches for students and staff**



Structure & Leadership



Formation

- Brant deanery convened a meeting to which both BHNCD SB and SSVP Brant were invited
- At that meeting an invitation was extended to SSVP to attend and make a presentation at a meeting of the local Catholic principals
- From there, SSVP was asked to participate in a board-wide PD Faith Day session where we presented a workshop on how the SSVP help our neighbours in need
- Board's Strategic Plan after that identified a need to improve connections with the broader Catholic community with an emphasis on Catholic Social Teaching and Social Justice.



Formation

- The support of key school board staff (**Director, Religion Consultant, principals, teachers**) was, and still is, **crucial** in the **relationship**
- We were (and are still!) **blessed** to have former **teachers/principals** as **Vincentians** who helped pave the path in the early years
- Having a **Vincentian** position exclusively dedicated to **supporting and growing the relationship** has also been crucial (**VP of Youth -that's me!!**)
- I **personally** have found that my **already-established connections** with the **staff** and **students** has been **extremely helpful**.
- As old **colleagues retire** and leave the system, we have been blessed to have **former students** hired into the board to take their places as **teachers, principals, consultants** etc., and the close, trusting relationships continue... ❤️❤️❤️



Anita Reansbury



Pat Lenz

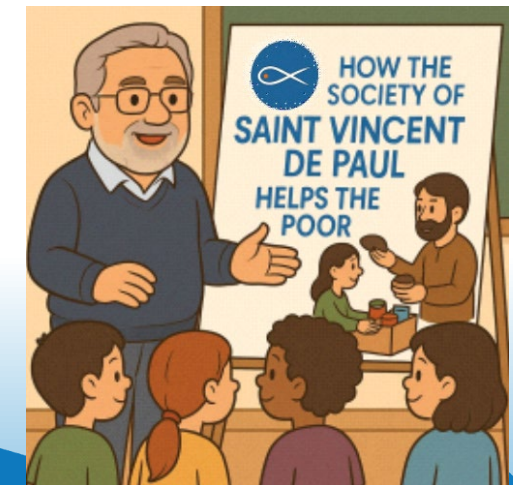
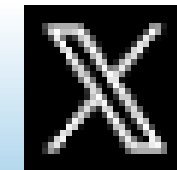
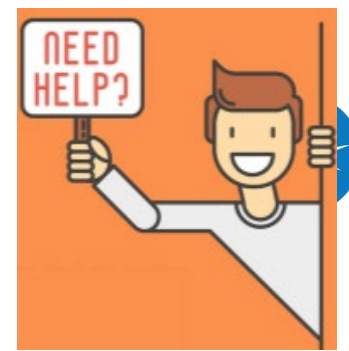


Process

- We **reach out** to principals and teachers and **ask for assistance** with various **needs** as they arise (often they will offer, unasked!!)
- **Teachers/principals** will organize and coordinate a drive/campaign/activity to help **fulfill our needs**
- We will assist in **all possible ways**, sometimes taking a **more active** role, sometimes **less active** (from **detailed logistical planning** to simply **picking up items**)
- We will often **give presentations** to the various **school groups**, outlining the **community need**, how **we** assist, and how **they** can assist us
- We will **acknowledge**, **advertise** and **support** their events through **social media** (Facebook and X) as well as **planning**, **organizing** and **actual physical assistance**



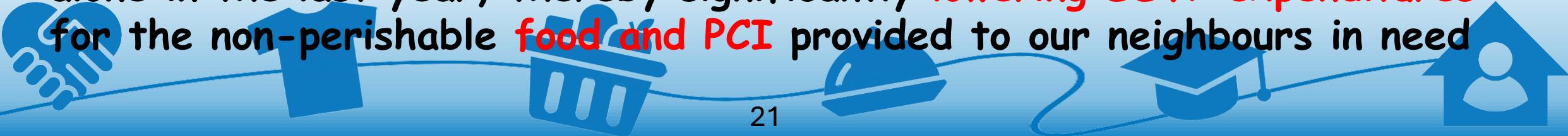
or



A Sampling of Service Activities



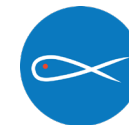
- **54 events/activities** in the latest **12 month** period, involving **15** different schools/youth groups
- Total of **\$26,036** raised since April of last year (mainly cash-online **Halloween, Advent, and Lenten drives, high school dress-down days**)
- over **1,500 beds** given to children since **Bed for Every Child Program** was initiated, in **2014**)
- **SSVP Store tours/visits** as authentic experiences of service by students from Gr. 6 up (school prefects, campus ministry teams, social justice groups, religion classes, Gr. 8 graduates, leadership classes, social justice classes, special needs students etc)
- **community involvement hours** opportunities;
- **Food, clothing, and personal care item (PCI) drives** collecting a conservative estimated total in excess of **28,000 thousand pounds of food** alone in the last year, thereby significantly **lowering SSVP expenditures** for the non-perishable **food and PCI** provided to our neighbours in need



A Sampling of Service Activities: continued

- Food and PCI as well as yearly warm clothing drives for Whale Cove, Nunavut as part of SSVP Canada's North of 60 project;
- in-school donation bins (some short term - for specific campaigns, others permanent);
- school presentations about the reality of poverty locally as well as the Society and how it addresses this need
- social media support (tweeting and retweeting SSVP's communications) by the district and schools.
- Pencilcase project donations to third world countries
- Youth trimmed trees, weeded and cleaned up the store exterior
- Massive Book Drives (the latest one netted >6000 lbs)
- Helping organize and run a Fashion Show at our store featuring all in-house clothing and accessories.



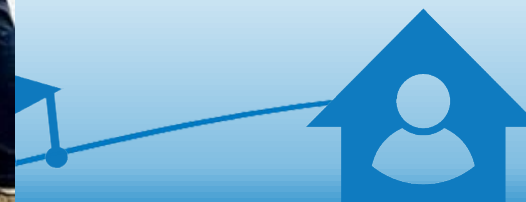
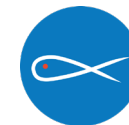


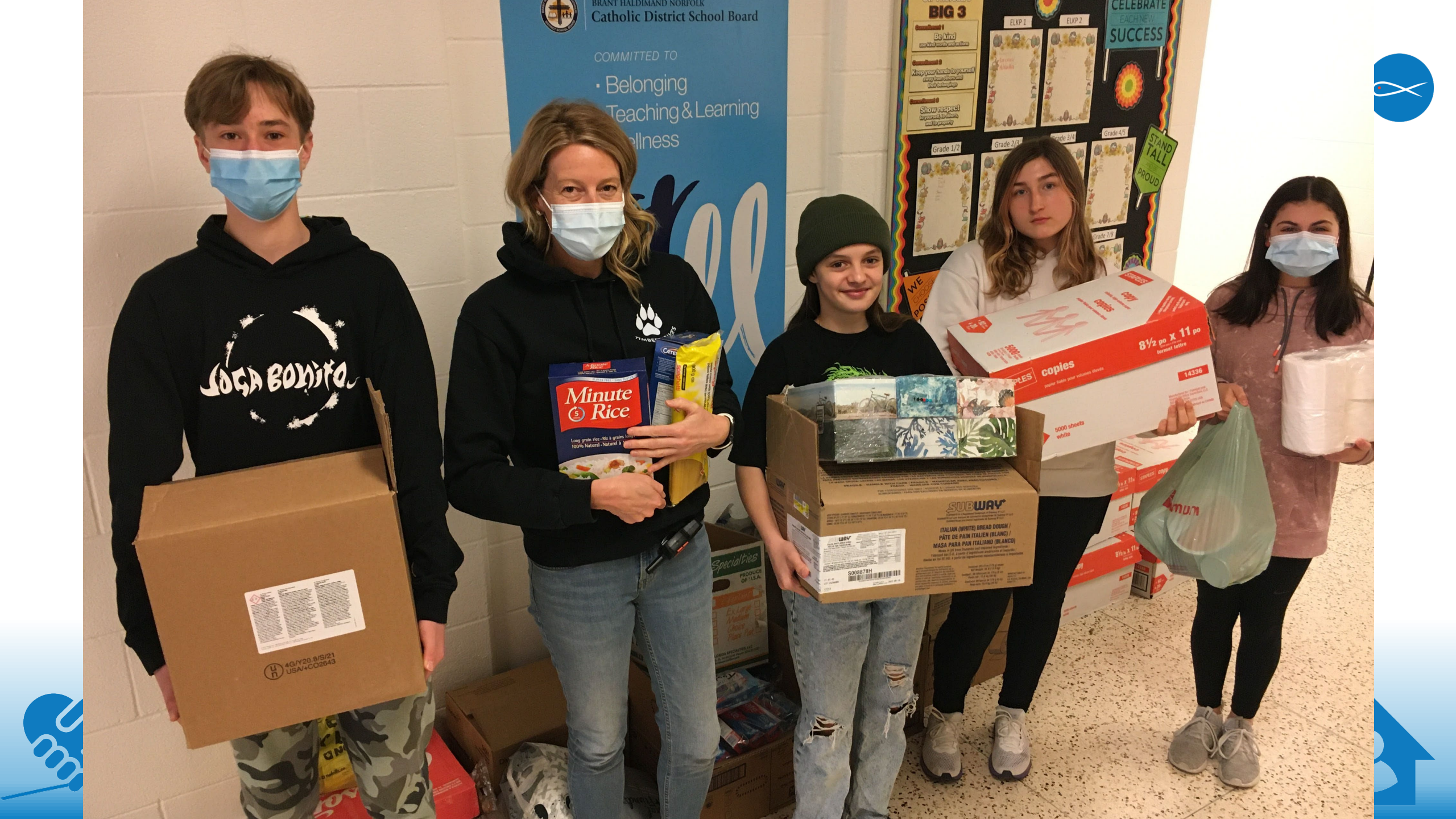
Halloween for Hunger



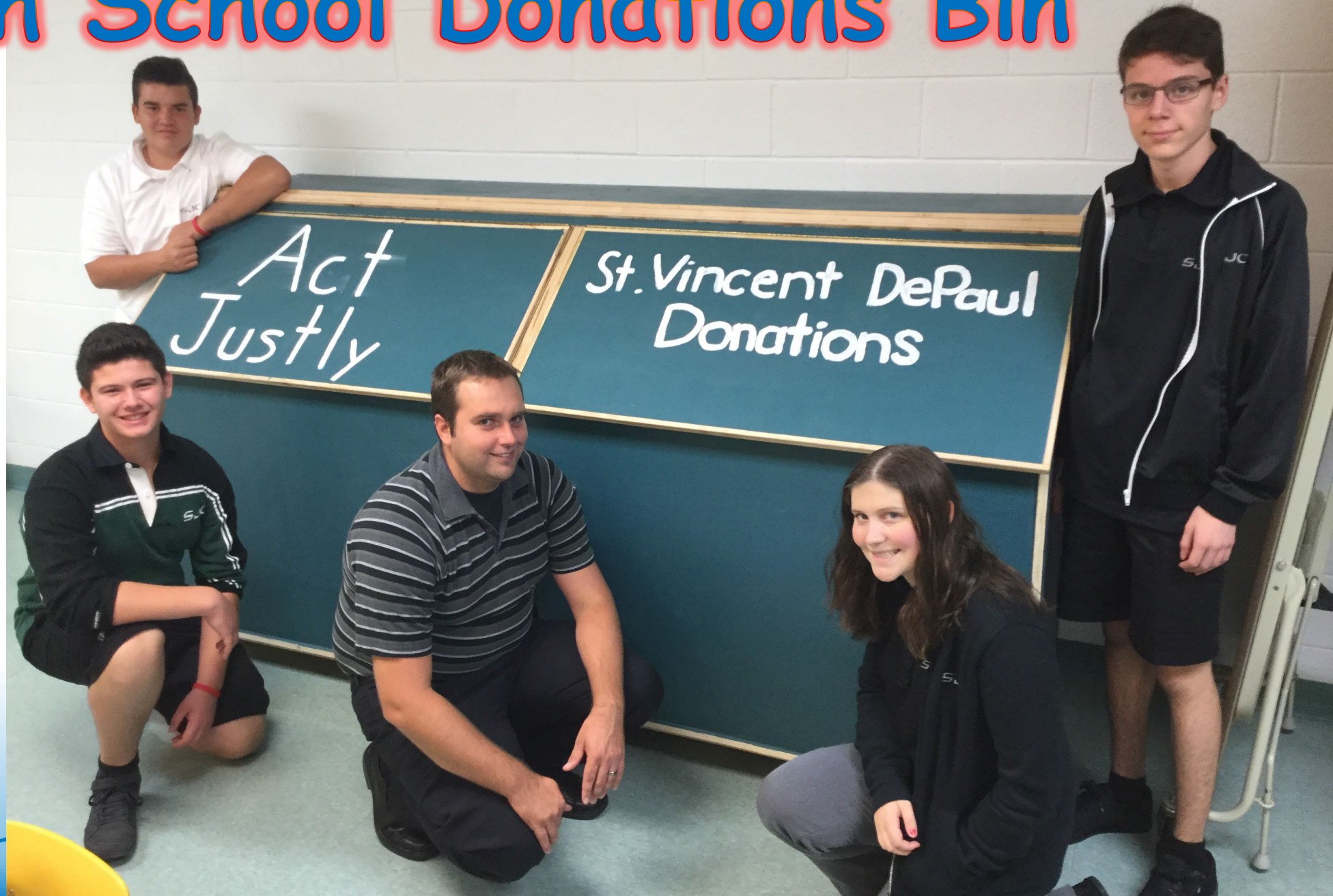
ACS Scares Hunger







High School Donations Bin



**Witch checking the
Best Before date....
Priceless!!**

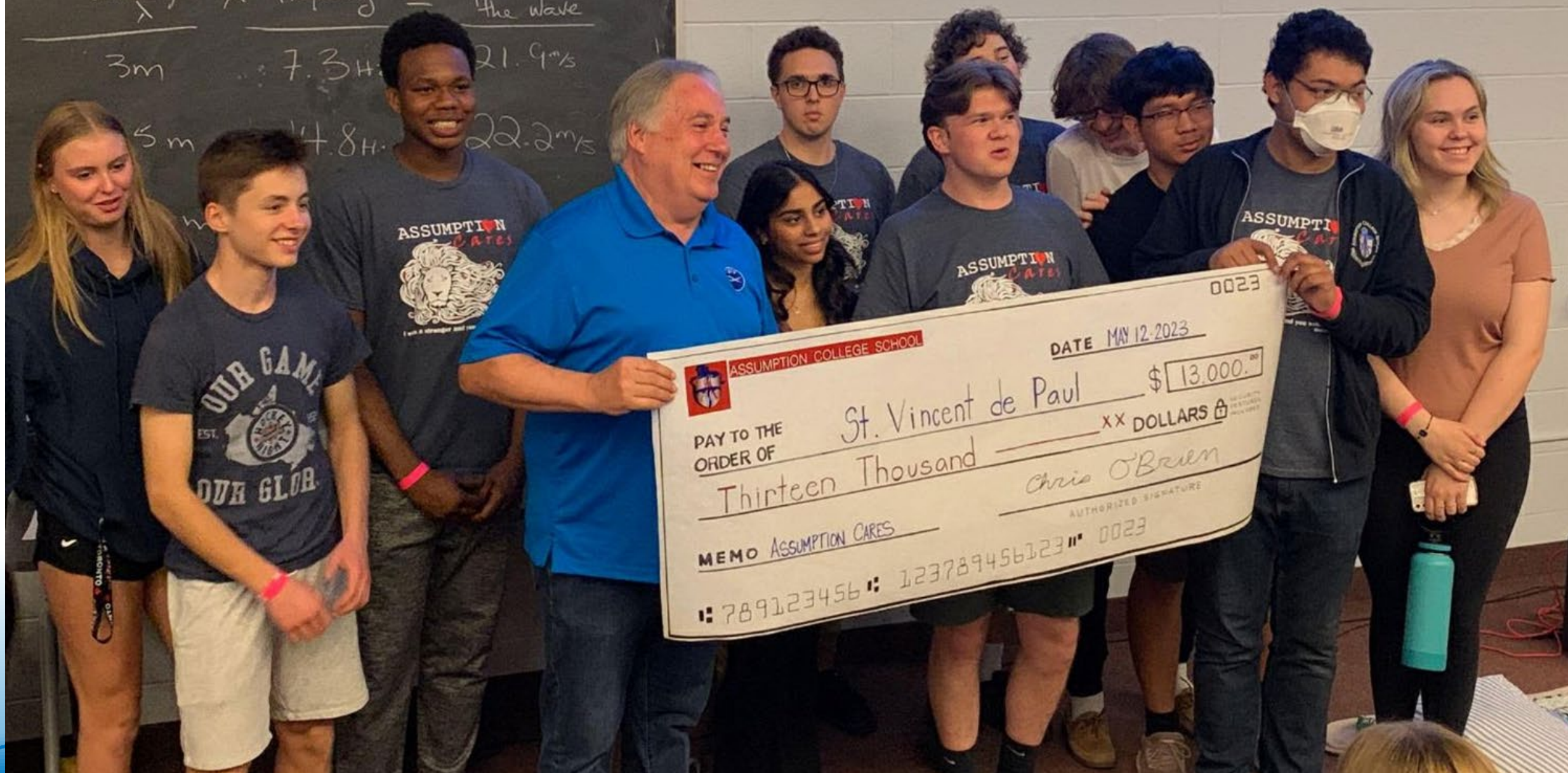


in a string $V = 22.36 \text{ m/s}$

$$\text{Wavelength} \times \text{frequency} = \text{Speed of the wave}$$

$$3\text{m} \times 7.3\text{Hz} = 21.9\text{m/s}$$

$$5\text{m} \times 4.8\text{Hz} = 22.2\text{m/s}$$





Advent Food Drive



Advent Sock Gifts



Lenten Food Drive



Book Drive



Book Bags for Bed for Every Child Program



SSVP/ACS Fashion Show '25



@marlo.dia



@marlo.diaz_



@marlo.diaz_

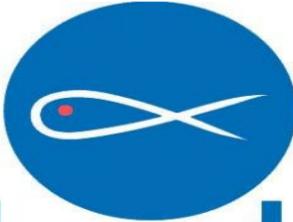


@marlo.dia



@marlo.dia

We...
Are...



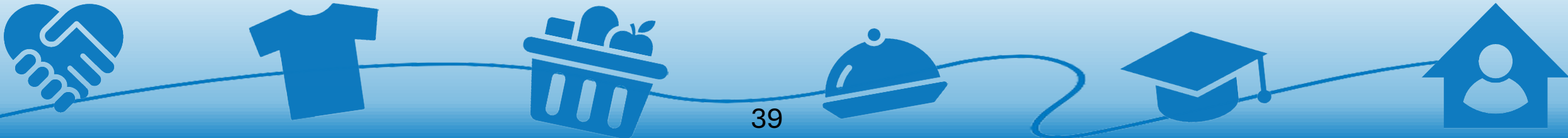
SOCIETY OF
Saint Vincent
de Paul BRANT



Thank You for your Attention!!



If you have **additional questions** that have not been addressed, or if I can assist you with advice on setting up a **similar model** in your organization, please contact me at **pgiordano2000@gmail.com**



...as you did it to one of the least of these my
brothers and sisters,
....you did it to me....



Matthew 25:40

Thank you and God Bless
You!!!



Sharing the MMOG (Halton) Young
Vincentian Journey
Linda Alexander
October 2023

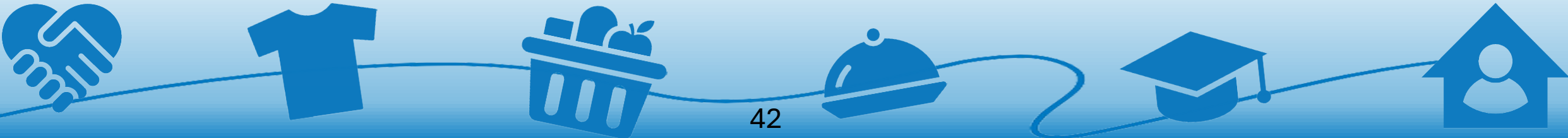


Society of Saint Vincent de Paul
Société de Saint-Vincent de Paul



Discussion Contents

- Background of MMOG SSVP
- Overview of MMOG Young Vincentian Journey
- Lessons Learned
 - Privacy & Pillars
 - Committed Adult & Youth Leaders
 - Start with the Church
 - Engagement & Fun
- Getting Started
 - Links to Resources
 - Contacts





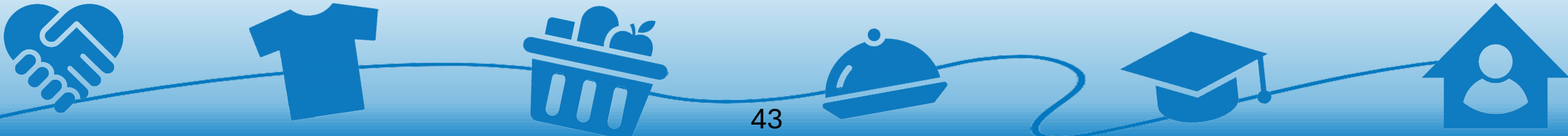
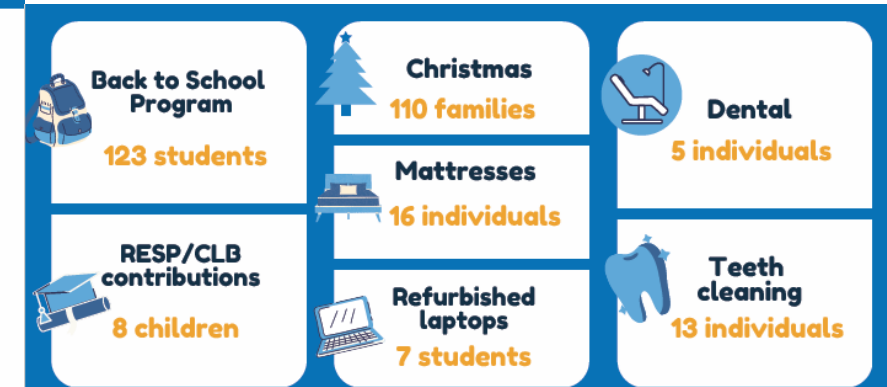
Background – MMOG SSVP



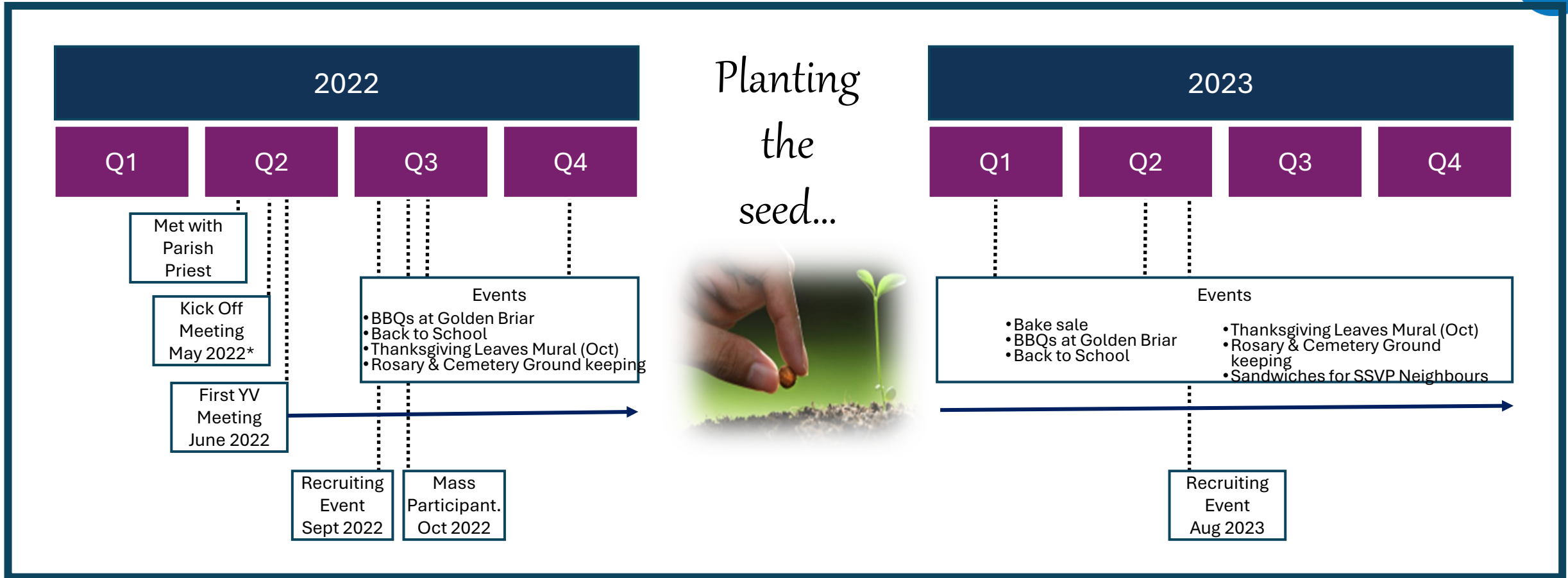
Society of Saint Vincent de Paul at Mary Mother of God
Community Impact 2022



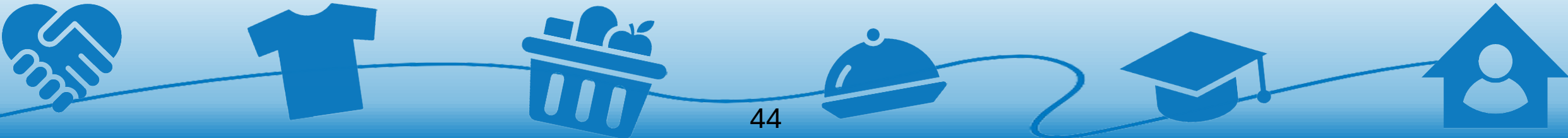
Total number of interactions = 1342



Young Vincentian Journey



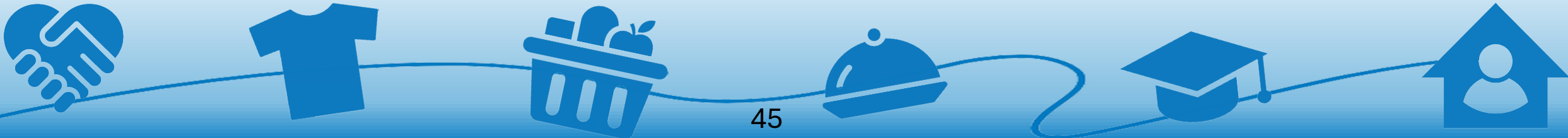
- We leveraged the SSVP national web sites for reference material and guidance and also connected with Sophia Mutuc (National Youth Rep) and Lil Mulder (Ontario Youth Rep) to get ready for this kick off
- Ensuring all required forms and documentation were completed by students and parents is a critical success factor





Young Vincentian Thanksgiving

MMOG Young Vincentian Thanksgiving Video



Lessons Learned



1

Focus on the Mission & Pillars

- Focus on the SSVP mission and pillars so they understand why we do this.
- Our goal is that they become lifelong Vincentians
- Privacy is a non negotiable that we need to reiterate often

2

Adults & Youth Leaders

- Ideally 3 adults driving the bus that slowing and thoughtfully move to the back of the bus and let the older youth drive
- YV Core Team with high commitment required for take off and to keep it going

3

Start with the Church

- Engage them in liturgy so they attend mass
- Designate a mass that is theirs and where they engage in the liturgy
- Ask the Vincentians to pray for the ministry
- Let all other ministries know the YV is starting & ask for support
- Add YV as part of monthly meeting agenda – have them present

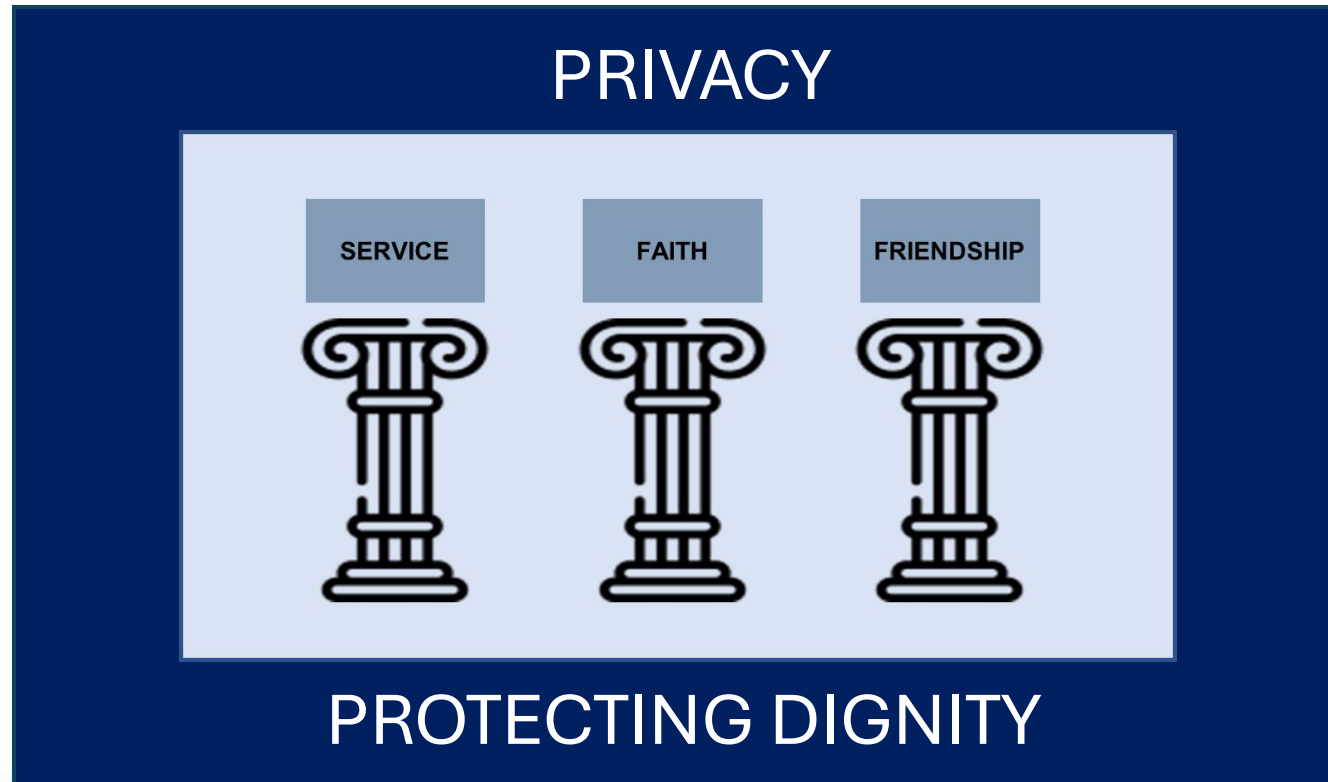
4

Engagement Fun &

- Help them become a team – t-shirts, ice breakers
- Value their ideas, follow their lead, their enthusiasm and their creativity
- Make it fun and have lots of food!



Focus on the Mission & Pillars



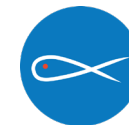
Protecting the dignity and privacy of those we serve is paramount.

We will not share any information we become aware of in our ministry work.

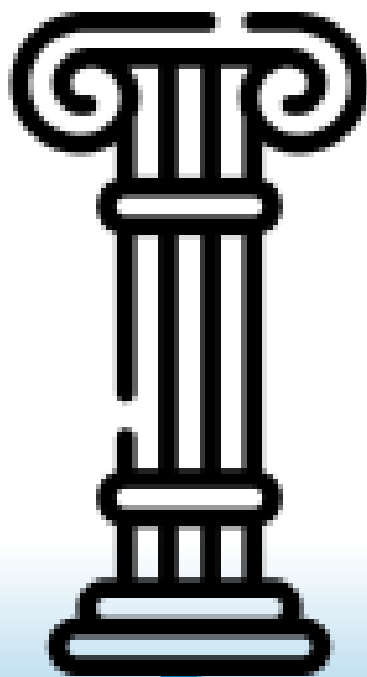
We always think, **how would I want to be treated if I was in a situation where I lacked resources and had to ask for assistance.**



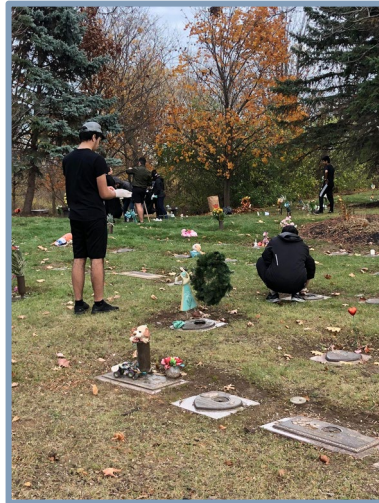
Pillars of the YV Ministry



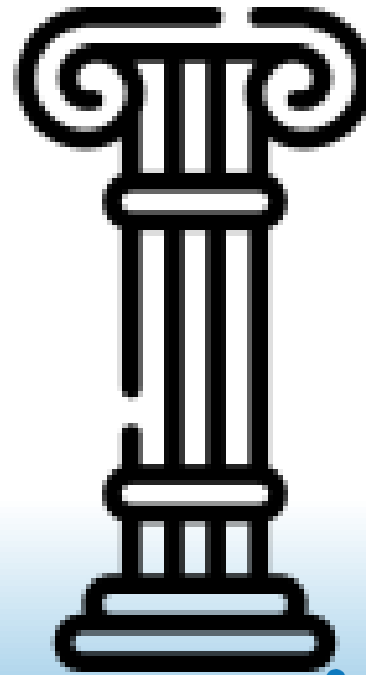
SERVICE



Pillars of the YV Ministry



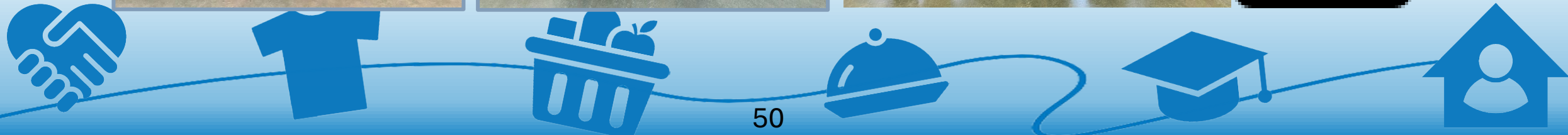
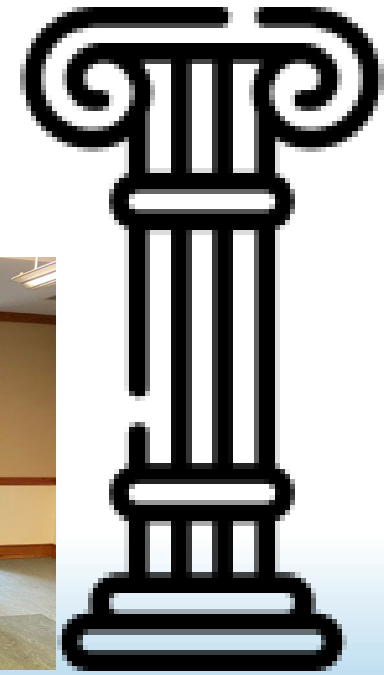
SPIRITUALITY



Pillars of the YV Ministry



FRIENDSHIP



Engagement & Fun: Calendar Ex.



Young Vincenzians at Mary Mother of God Parish



September 2023
"Saying Hello"
Orientation and meet & greet

August 2024
"Fun and Games Part II"
Community BBQ & Back-to-School



October 2023

"Let us be thankful"

Preparing sandwiches for families in our neighborhood

July 2024
"Fun and Games Part I"

Community BBQ - serving food and kids' zone

November 2023

"Praying and remembering the dead"

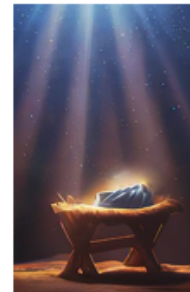
Clean up at Glen Oaks Cemetery and pray the rosary on All Souls Day

June 2024
"Refreshing our souls Part II"
Retreat

December 2023

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

Caroling and crafts at Retirement and Long-Term Care homes



January 2024
"Refreshing our souls Part I"
Adoration

May 2024
"Let's listen learn and discuss together"
Youth Talk



February 2024

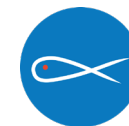
"Let's have a sweet treat"
Bake sale

March 2024
"Bringing Jesus to the lonely"
Mission

April 2024
"Let's cook and have a meal together"
Serving community meals at Kerr Street Mission



Engagement & Fun: Recruiting & Agenda



Our Recruiting Table



Sample Mtg Agenda

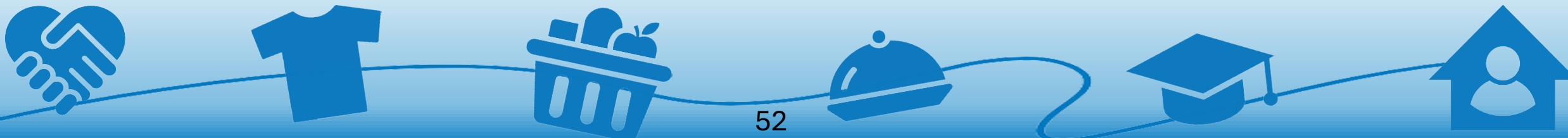


Young Vincentians Orientation Session

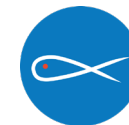
Meeting agenda – *Sunday September 17th, 2023*

1. Quick Welcome + Opening Prayer (5 mins) *Stephanie/Ian for prayer - Aiden for welcome*
2. Introduction of the Core Team (2 mins) *Aanya*
3. Ice breaker games (20 mins)
 - (i) Would you rather *Stephanie*
 - (ii) Musical chairs *Ian*
 - (iii) Who dun it *Kyle*
4. Pizza lunch (20 mins) - Say Grace *Aanya*
 - Present the presentation
 - Service (include ideas + ask for more)
 - Include the plans for the year*Core Team*
5. Talk about our first service project - The sandwiches (5 mins) *Stephanie and Aiden*
Hand out sign-up sheets - Mon Oct 23rd from 4:30-6:30pm. Meet in the kitchen.
6. Extra time for games
7. Closing prayer (3 mins) *Stephanie/Ian for prayer*

Our next meeting is Sunday October 22nd.



Other Considerations

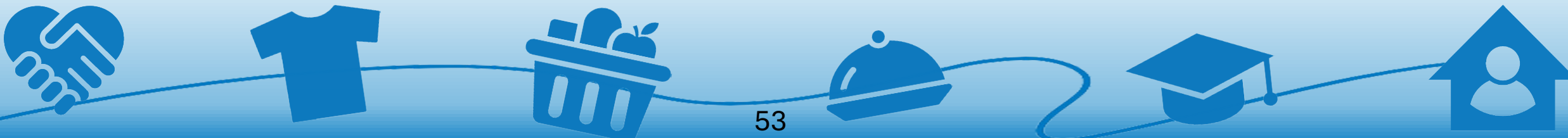


Succession Planning Some youth will be moving to post secondary every year, ensure there is a plan for their successor early so cross training can happen. Important to start at grade 7 to keep filling the pipeline

Get them involved in the Mass It encourages mass attendance for them and their families which creates more opportunity for the Holy Spirit to do its work

Parent Orientation Night By engaging the parents we create another level of awareness of needs in the community, of Young Vincentians and their mission and also potentially more donors and/or adult SSVP volunteers!

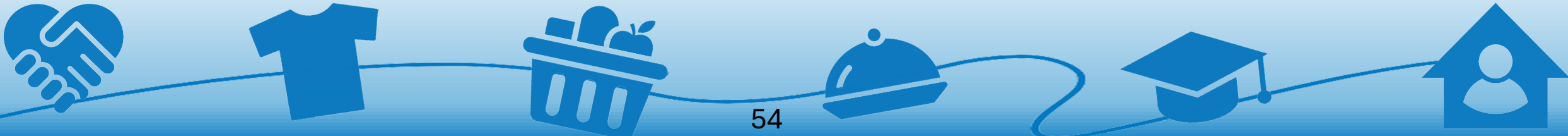
Don't reinvent the Wheel Imitation is truly the sincerest form of flattery. We owe it our neighbours to leverage what is already available so we can spend our time finding more ways to help them or actually helping them!



TIPS



Administr- ation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leverage website/resources for key documents such as - code of conduct, release for photos, etc. • Set up an organized system to collect paperwork. Forms need to be completed, tracked, etc. • Have documents available in soft and hard copy • Collect the parent emails as well as the youth emails so you can copy in the parents (youth may not open email or respond to the emails) • Consider using Google sheets for signing up for events • Set up a system to collect volunteer hours. Youth will also keep track. This can become a time consuming task so need to be organized. See if there is a parent volunteer who can take on this task • Do not drive youth. If you must there is a Diocese form that needs to be completed, that covers parent consent and confirmation of adequate insurance • Paperwork process is essential to protect the youth, the church, the SSVP ministry
SSVP Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a budget line to provide funds for the YV, t-shirts for purchase, food, etc. • Figure out a way to connect youth and adult leaders across Halton, also across Ontario and Canada - there is a SSVP Instagram youth page • Have an agenda item on the Halton Particular Council meeting on Young Vincentian (so it stays in focus) • Have a spot on the monthly collection table for YV (have signage, new member forms, sign up sheets) • Provide Youth with an overview of SSVP so they can appreciate the bigger picture, where they fit in • At the June 18 first meeting we did a short presentation on SSVP (explained National/Halton/Parish, got some stats on how many volunteers Canada wide, poverty stats, number of families, etc.)
Connecting Youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have planted the seed when Sophia attended one of the sessions that one day some can participate in World Youth Day • YV from across Canada meet, YV from around the world meet each other
Same Mission, Different Journey	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do what works for you, while the mission is the same and we don't want to reinvent the wheel, different things will work for different conferences • For example, a big difference in Hamilton is that they have stores, some councils really get the students involved. We didn't reach into the schools yet, but St Dominic's did - so again every group will be different



Young Vincentian FAQ



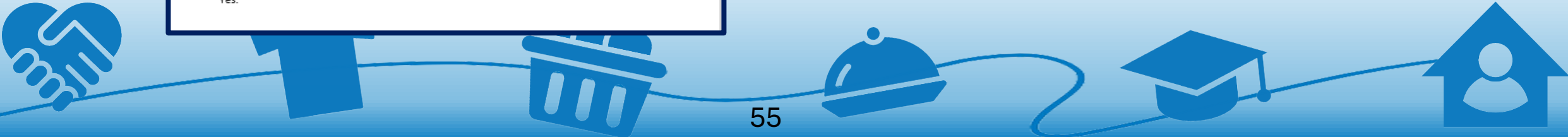
YOUNG VINCENTIANS – MARY MOTHER OF GOD PARISH

LAUNCH DATE – MAY 14/15, 2022

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

- 1. Who are the Young Vincentians?**
The Young Vincentians are young members of the Society of Saint Vincent de Paul who seek to grow closer to God through service to those in need.
- 2. What activities will the Young Vincentians group at Mary Mother of God be working on?**
We do have a few ideas as we start – assisting at community BBQ's, helping with the upkeep of community gardens, and assisting with the SSVP back-to-school and Christmas drive.
Once the group is formed, the Young Vincentians will be responsible to plan their volunteer activities.
- 3. What is the expected time commitment?**
The time commitment will depend on the activity that is being worked on. We expect that the initial time commitment may be approximately an hour a week. This will include the time for planning and executing the activity.
This could change and may increase or decrease, based on the activity being worked on.
- 4. Where and how often will the group meet?**
This is yet to be decided. At the orientation meeting, the Young Vincentians will determine when and how they would like to meet.
Our initial thoughts are that the group may wish to meet once a month either in person or online.
- 5. Where can I drop off the completed forms?**
Please bring the forms with you to the orientation meeting on May 29th. If you are unable to join us for the orientation meeting and still want to be a member of the Young Vincentians, you can drop off the completed forms in the SSVP mailbox. As you enter the church, the mailbox is located inside the room that is at the far-left hand side of the Narthex next to the bulletin board.
- 6. Do you require a police report to be a member of the Young Vincentians?**
If you under the age of 18, a police check is NOT required.
- 7. Who should I contact if I have any questions?**
You can email your questions to either Christina or Marion at the following email address:
youngvincentians.mmog@gmail.com
- 8. Do we get volunteer hours?**
Yes.

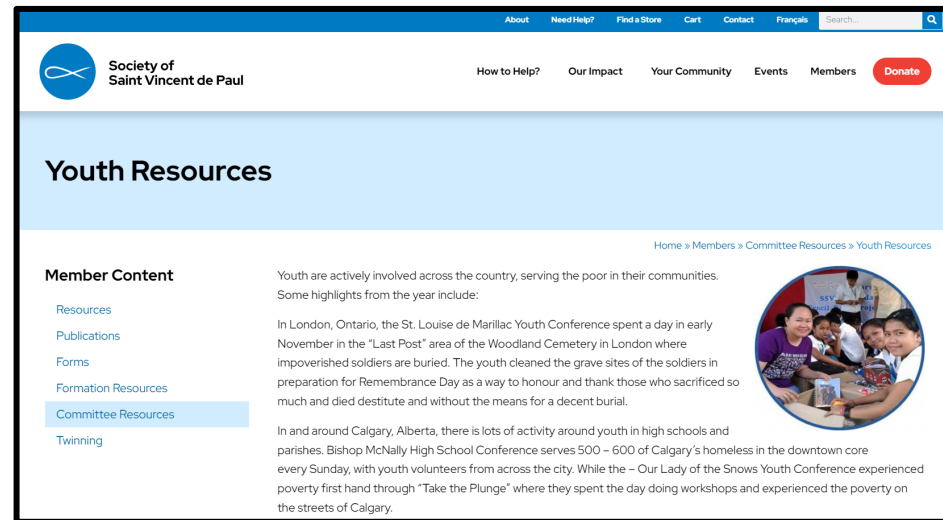
We provided this info sheet as a handout at the recruiting booth/table so students could easily understand what they were signing up for and/or they could just take one home to consider it on their own time, without any pressure.



Links to Resources & Contacts

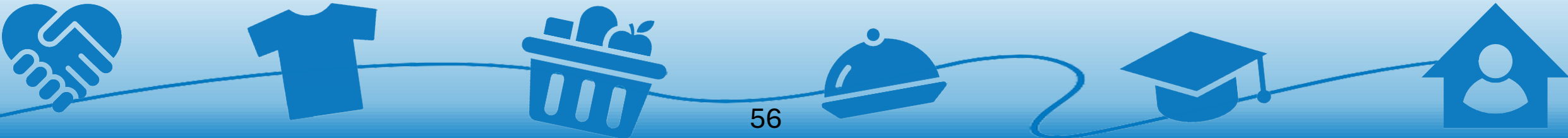


- <https://ssvp.ca/members/committees/youth-resources/>



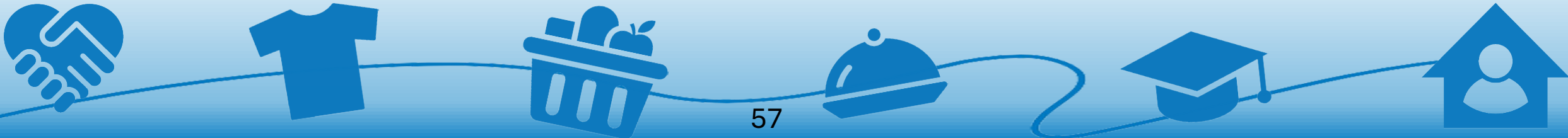
- Reach out!

Name	Contact Info
Linda Alexander	Lmja@bell.net





APPENDIX



Poster Example





Youth from grades 7 - 12...

Join Us!



The mission of the Society is to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope, and joy!



Support and give back to our community!



Meet other young, caring individuals!



Make a positive difference... and more!



Poster Example



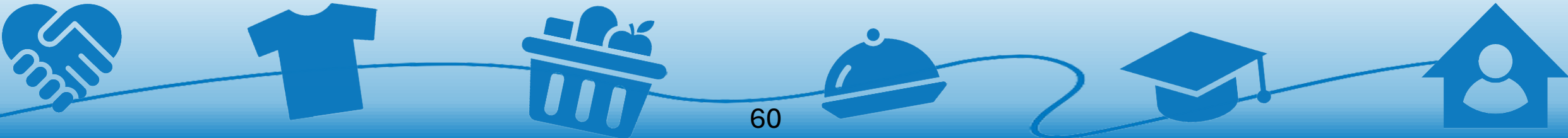


Victoria Goldsack

National Youth Representative

lcgoldsack@hotmail.com

on the Board of SSVP Canada





Please complete the evaluation form



Society of Saint Vincent de Paul

www.ssvp.ca

