Make a Difference!
SVDP HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

Youth Conferences
- Put our faith into action
- Gain a deeper understanding of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul
- Develop social justice advocacy awareness
- Participate in various service projects and earn service hours *see reverse
- Develop leadership skills
- Grow closer to God by serving others
- Build young leaders for tomorrow's future
- Increase self-worth
- Connect with youth Conferences locally, nationally, and internationally

“I want all young people with both head and heart to assemble for some charitable work.” – Frédéric Ozanam

If you or someone you know is interested in starting a SVdP Youth Conference, email Julie Witzel at jwitzel@svdpusa.org (in the subject line type: HSYOUTH) or call (314) 576-3993 x221
Increasingly, middle and high school students around the country are being required to perform community service hours as part of their learning experience.

Parents often struggle with how they can guide their children to select a community service project that will be meaningful, instead of just having it be something that students just mark off their checklist or use to pad their application for college.

If students can get involved in giving back to a cause or helping their community in a way that matters to them, the lasting benefits can be far-reaching. The satisfaction and pride that come from helping others can be life changing, and community service can lead to volunteering becoming a lifelong habit.

**SVdP Youth Involvement Benefits**

- Service hours for high school credit
- Participate in various service projects
- Take a more active role in their spirituality
- Socialize with other children their age
- Gain a deeper understanding of the Society
- Interact with adult SVdP Conferences

The Society of St. Vincent de Paul was founded in Paris in April, 1833 by a few young men and a Catholic newspaper editor. The principal founder was a man of twenty years of age named Frédéric Ozanam. At a club meeting, a student challenged Frédéric and the practicing Catholics. The challenger admitted the Catholic Church had done much good work in the past, but asked what good it was currently doing. Frédéric called for a meeting of five of his friends; in response to the question, they founded an organization to assist the poor, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.

For more information, contact:

**Julie Witzel**  
National Membership Services and Extension Manager  
(314) 576-3993 ext. 221  
jwitzel@svdpusa.org