

OUR FOCUS



SPIRITUALITY

Putting our faith into action. Sharing, Reflecting, and Praying. Seeing and being the face of Christ.



SERVICE

Personal encounters with friends in need. Empowering the voices of the poor. Pursuing a more just world.



FRIENDSHIP

Making meaningful, life-long friendships. Encouraging and supporting one another on our journeys in faith.

DID YOU KNOW SVDP WAS STARTED BY COLLEGE STUDENTS?

The Society was founded in Paris, France in the year 1833 by a small group of college students.

Challenged to show how they live their faith, they began gathering together to pray and serve their community.

We are a network of friends, inspired by Gospel values, growing in holiness and building a more just world through personal relationships with and service to people in need.

We are more than volunteers.
We are living out our vocation.
We are Vincentians.

We are changing the world by our spirituality, friendship, and service through an international network of charity.

CONTACT US

SVDP Youth & Young Adults

youngadults@svdpusa.org

(314) 576-3993, ext. 221

www.svdpusa.org



THE SOCIETY OF
ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

DO GOOD.

HOW IT WORKS

1 Conferences meet regularly.

A conference must maintain officers including President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Spiritual Advisor. Meetings should take place minimally once a month.

2 Report your works annually.

Each year, your conference should be reporting the good works that were performed throughout the year to your local council and national office. Youth & Young Adult conferences try to follow the Rule and Bylaws to the best of their ability.

3 Attend Ozanam Orientation.

Ozanam Orientation is the official training for conference members. Some councils have adapted this full day training for youth and young adults. You should attend orientation within 1 year of joining SVDP.

4 Incorporate person-to-person service.

The Home Visit is the traditional way Vincentians established personal relationships with our neighbors in need while providing material assistance, friendship, understanding, and prayer.

Younger Vincentians often come up with creative ways to incorporate person-to-person service through SVDP meal sites, programs, and more.

Grow in holiness.

We are called to see the face of Christ in those we serve, and pray that those we encounter see Christ's love in us. Prayer and reflection are key to growing in holiness. All meetings and service activities should begin and end in prayer.



GET STARTED

DO SOME RESEARCH

Identify the need.

- A group of young people is interested.
- A local council/conference needs help.
- A Vincentian is interested in young leaders.

Make some contacts.

It is important to connect with your local Vincentian leadership and National leadership, as well as the leader of the potential connection, whether it be a school, parish, university, etc.

ESTABLISH A PLAN

Determine the details.

For youth and young adult conferences it is recommended to have 2 adult coordinators. Review your local council's safeguarding policies. Another important detail to discuss prior to starting is banking and financial support. Check with your council for options and requirements.

Plan a meeting.

Next is deciding on what, where, and when. This first meeting should be advertised ahead of time and be mostly informational. We recommend having some refreshments and fun icebreakers built in. When choosing a time, be conscious of school and commitments. Evenings and weekends tend to work best.

DO A LITTLE GOOD

Once you have a group together, brainstorm ways you can serve in your community. There are lots of advocacy and educational resources out there. Seek support from your council and national! Don't forget to share your good works with us.