 

**Introduction**

The powerpoint presentations on Diversity are designed as a training tool for a workshop(s) or training session(s) to supplement the material in the book ‘A Vincentian Guide to Diversity/ Multicultural Issues’.

The purpose of these notes is to offer guidelines to Vincentians leading the diversity workshops to achieve a basic level of comfort and proficiency with the material being presented. It is expected that presenters will have studied the book ‘A Vincentian Guide to Diversity/ Multicultural Issues’ and are familiar with the subject matter before making any presentation.

**Goals and desired Outcomes of Diversity Training**

Enable Vincentians to come together to reflect more fully on the rich diversity and heritage of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul in the US & the Catholic Church.

Encourage the inclusion and fuller participation of all God's People in the life and ministry of the Society by building up their Catholic Vincentian identity in a spirit of unity in diversity.

**Understanding the Powerpoint Presentations**:

Before conducting the workshop/session, presenters must review the powerpoint presentation which has speakers notes at the bottom of the slides. The presenter should then view the powerpoint presentation in the ‘slide show’ mode as the presentation will be seen by the participants.

Sessions ought to be interactive, making them learning experiences and they should last for no more than an hour each. The presenter is free to modify or add to the slides provided they stay within the framework of the book ‘A Vincentian Guide to Diversity/ Multicultural Issues’. Emphasis during the sessions especially towards the end, should be on reflection and sharing, encouraging participants to be open to changing their attitudes to Diversity as part of our Systemic Change process.

Additionally, each session features a list of resources in the book relevant to that specific session. The ‘Glossary of Terms’ at the end of the book, ‘A Vincentian Guide to Diversity/ Multicultural Issues’ provides useful terminology in the area of cultural diversity.

**Outlay of the Presentations**:

This folder currently contains the following material:

* Six powerpoint presentations, detailed below and
* Two Word documents
  + One is this document on – ‘Diversity - Notes to Presenters’, and
  + The other document is a ‘Diversity- An Introduction’ handout that goes along with the powerpoint presentation of the same name.

**Content of the Powerpoint Presentations**

‘Diversity – An Introduction’:

The powerpoint on ‘Diversity – An Introduction’ provides a big-picture view on Diversity as envisioned from the SVDP National perspective. It also serves as an introduction to the book ‘A Vincentian Guide to Diversity/Multicultural Issues’.

Material for this presentation is taken from several SVDP sources and covers:

- some Key Concepts of Diversity, (taken from Appendix 2 - pages 74 & 75 of the ‘Guide’),

- the Mission & Vision statements (taken from the SVDP website page on Diversity),

- the two Goals & Objectives on Diversity (taken from the National Strategic Plans). These two Goals have been broken down further into specific Objectives (listed in Appendix 1 on pages 72, 73 & 74 of the ‘Guide’).

The Mission & Vision statements and Objectives from the National Strategic Plans which are not in the ‘Guide’ is made available as a separate ‘Diversity – An Introduction’ handout which should be distributed to participants.

It is strongly recommended that the ‘Diversity – An Introduction’ should be presented by an SVDP leader who is at an appropriate level – Regional VP, Council President, Conference President, Regional Diversity Coordinator as part of a larger Shared Vision — a long term commitment, coming as a mandate or direction that lays a solid foundation on which to base Systemic Change.

Five powerpoint presentations from: ‘A Vincentian Guide to Diversity/Multicultural Issues’:

These five powerpoint presentations follow the topics as listed by sessions in the Index of ‘A Vincentian Guide to Diversity/Multicultural Issues’, with file names that correspond to ‘Session’ numbers from the book.

These are stand-alone sessions and could be presented a session at a time or sessions that could be presented over several days/weeks or as a workshop with a few sessions at a time.

Sessions 1 – “Multicultural Face of God”

Sessions 2 – “What does the Catholic Church say about Diversity”,

Sessions 3 - “What does the Society of St. Vincent de Paul say about Diversity”,

Sessions 4 - “What do our Founders say about Diversity”.

The three presentations (sessions 2, 3 & 4) have only a few quotes that point directly to Diversity. The speaker will want to pick and expand on other material/quotes from the Guide that they think are relevant.

Session 12 - “How to establish Diversity in Conferences”.

Sessions 5 through 11 from the book do not have any powerpoint presentations. It is visualized that these sessions are best presented by persons in leadership from those community or those working closely with those communities. Those sessions relevant to Councils, Districts or Conferences should be chosen and presented by speakers as their shared life experience. The material in these sessions from the ‘Guide’ could be used to guide/supplement their sharing.

We strongly recommend that participants buy a copy of ‘A Vincentian Guide to Diversity/Multicultural Issues’ that can be ordered from the SVDP National website.

**Feedback**: We welcome input and suggestions on the content, material, presentations which will go into future editions of ‘A Vincentian Guide to Diversity/Multicultural Issues’ as the book is only in its first edition. Emails should be sent to [diversity@svdpusa.org](mailto:diversity@svdpusa.org).