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Today's Agenda

Why we do home visits:	principles & guidelines	spirituality of home visit
How we do home visits:	process & tools	home visit scenarios

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God, our Father, thank you for the opportunity to visit with our neighbors in need.
 Lord, you know each of us. You knew us from the day we were born, you know our hearts, our needs, and everything about us.
 You told us that you will never leave us or forsake us.
 You ask us to seek, and we shall find, knock and the door will be opened, ask and it shall be given.
 We ask you to hear the prayers of our hearts today and to hear the prayers of our brothers and sisters in need.
 And so we pray together:
Our Father . . .
 Please Lord, walk with us and give us your strength in our worries and difficulties. Amen.

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Mission Statement

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.*

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**Home Visits
 Are The
 Heart of
 The Society**



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**Home Visits-
 Conversion of Heart**

**Frédéric Ozanam's Reasons for
 Home Visits**

Home visits are:

- Personal
- Sincere
- Familiar place for those in need

Result:

- Transformation
- Conversion

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Home Visits

- What do we bring to the poor?
- Presence & Compassion
- Information & Self-Help
- A Little Material Help
 - All of this provides HOPE

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Identify at least 3 family strengths!



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Basic Guidelines of Home Visits

- VISIT IN PAIRS!
- PRACTICE CONFIDENTIALITY
- FOLLOW SAFE ENVIRONMENT REQUIREMENTS
- Each conference has its own home visit guidelines and procedures.
- Initially, shadow an experienced home visit team.

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Are We Evangelizing? Bring the love of God as best you can

	We help anyone, Catholic or not
	Ask if they belong to a faith community
	Be ready to hear about their faith life
	Suggest local churches of any denomination

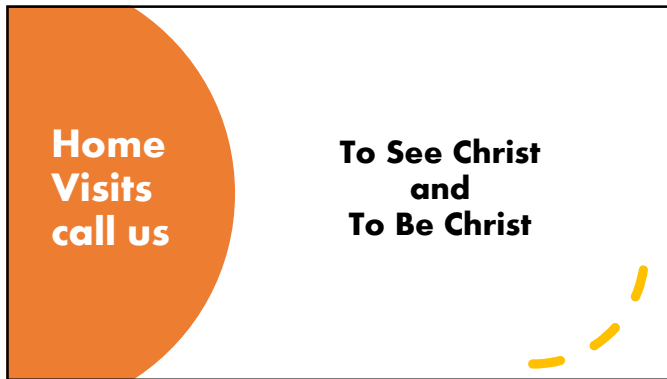
Resource: Member Handbook pp 20-23

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Home Visit Spirituality

- Vincentian hearts are formed in home visits
- Our tender sensitivity to those we serve is an essential first step
- Learn to empty yourself; acknowledge your own vulnerability
- Seek empathy not judgement
- Acknowledge your need for God's grace
 - Ask yourself: "where was God in this visit?"

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Preparation: Before the Home Visit	
Understand	Review intake information, records and notes in ServWare
Care	Always keep respect for and the dignity of the neighbor in need a priority
Inform	Updated resource and referral handouts, information on gift certificate redemption process, prayer card, parish bulletin, food or household essentials in-kind items
Pray	Pray before phone call and with your partner before and after the visit

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How Does a Home Visit Work?

- Be relaxed and friendly – you are a guest!
- Let your questions show that someone cares
- Be observant
- Help them prioritize needs
- Explain what assistance you can provide
- Discuss other available resources
- Tell what happens next & how you'll follow through
- Thank them for welcoming you into their home & ask them to pray with you

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Communication Tips

- Start with open-ended questions
- Continue with clarifying questions
- Listen more than you talk – active listening
- Suggestions, not orders
- When visiting non-native English speakers: speak slowly – but not loudly
- Be compassionate and empathetic
- Find something they have done well

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Follow-Up: After the Home Visit

Clarify	Take time to pray and examine the experience with your partner
Concur	Consider recommendations and consult with conference guidelines
Contact	Turn to conference members and agencies for support; make notations
Communicate	Contact neighbor with follow-up information; follow-up letter or call with supporting information and prayer card; Notify if you will stay in touch and how

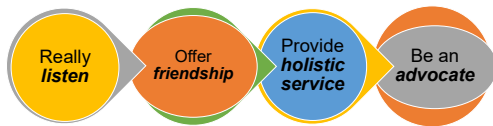
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Going Beyond Immediate Needs

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Truly SEE and SERVE Christ



[CCHD: Poverty Web USA](#)

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Frederic Ozanam Oct 1848 "Help Which Humiliates and Help Which Honors"

"Help is humiliating when it appeals to men from below, taking heed of their material wants only...It humiliates when there is no reciprocity, when you give nothing but bread, or clothes...-what, in fact there is no likelihood of his ever giving you in return...But it honors when it appeals to him from above...Help honors when to the bread that nourishes it adds the visit that consoles, the advice that enlightens, the friendly shake of the hand that lifts up the sinking courage.
Help then becomes honorable, because it may become mutual, because every man who give a kind word, a good advice, a consolation today, may tomorrow stand himself in need of a kind word, a good advice or a consolation The hand that you clasp clasps yours in return..."



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Tools You Can Use

PRAYERS

INTERVIEW
TEMPLATE

PRECAUTIONS

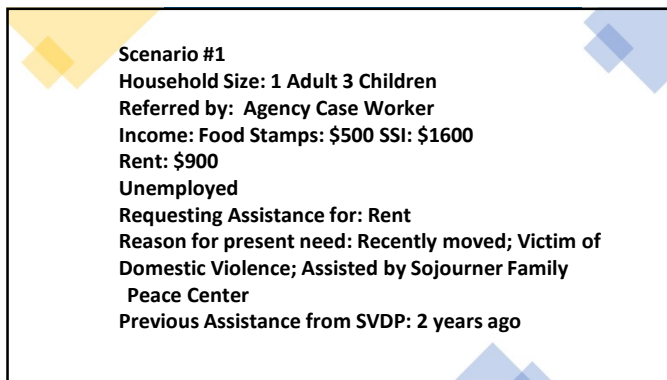
HOW to WRITE a GIFT
CERTIFICATE GUIDE

SERVWARE

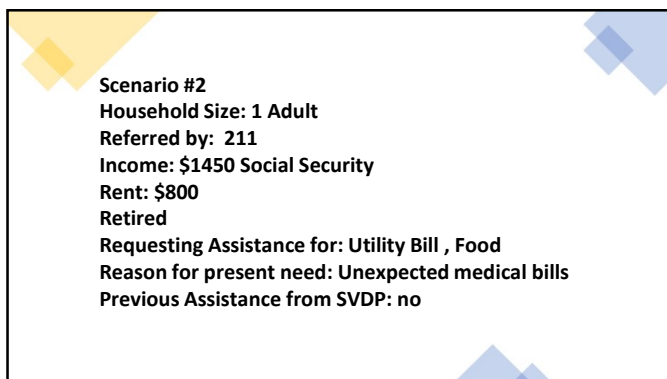
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Scenario #3**Household Size: 2 Adults 3 Children****Referred by: Self****Income: \$250 Food Stamps; \$650 W-2****Rent: \$950****Employment: undisclosed****Requesting Assistance for: beds for children, appliances****Reason for present need: recently moved; short of funds monthly****Previous Assistance from SVDP: yes; prior residences**

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Can we Answer your Questions?

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<https://svdpmilw.org/vincentian-resources.aspx>

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**Closing
Meditation:**
Faith Charity
and the Face
of Christ

*Words of
 Frederic Ozanam*



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