

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DEPAUL CHICAGO



CULTURAL BELIEFS

The following are the Cultural Beliefs that make up the Society's creed and therefore define our Ministry so that as Vincentians we are committed to:

Advocate for Justice:

Advocate along with the poor for just policies and practices at the local, state and national levels.

Embrace Accountability:

Build a strong Society by holding each other accountable to our Mission, to the Essential Elements of the Society and to good Governance.

Inclusive Planning:

Foster ownership by involving all members in planning and decision-making.

One Society:

Contribute to the success of our Vincentian work when we support One Society.

Servant Leaders:

Develop ourselves and others to become Servant Leaders.

Spiritual Growth:

Grow in holiness through prayer, service, friendship and formation.

Today's Society:

Strengthen the Society by embracing new and diverse ideas and people.

WHO WE ARE

The Society of St. Vincent DePaul Chicago (known as Vincentians) is the oldest charity in the Chicago area, with a rich history in the Catholic tradition of service to people in need in Cook and Lake Counties since 1857.

The Society provides services to individuals and families in our communities during their tough times. We provide tangible assistance to those in need on a person-to-person-basis, which makes the work of the Society unique.

The help we provide includes the very basics for human dignity such as food, shelter, and clothing with flexibility under certain circumstances to provide for utilities, rent, transportation, medical needs, and a variety of other needs.

Most importantly, we provide emotional and spiritual support and advocate with people in need for a better world.

Vincentians themselves see this work as an opportunity to grow spiritually through fellowship and service to others.

MISSION

The Society of St. Vincent DePaul exists in Lake and Cook Counties to witness God's love in the world by building a better tomorrow for those in need through works of charity and social justice.

VISION

As Vincentians we want to be people who:

- ❖ Eliminate poverty one person at a time through material and spiritual assistance.
- ❖ Grow spiritually through service to others, fellowship, and advocacy for social justice.
- ❖ Do our work best through a network of friends and partners - inspired by Gospel values, diverse and inclusive - building a more just world through personal relationship with, and service to, and public advocacy with people in need.

FOCUS AREAS IN STRATEGIC PLAN FOR 2020-2024

1. Encourage and support Vincentians on their spiritual journey.
2. Encourage and support Vincentians in their ministry.
3. Provide better communications to and from Vincentians
4. Expand retail operations and special works.
5. Improve and expand financial support for SVDP Chicago.