

# BOARD RESOLUTION VOICE OF THE POOR COMMITTEE CHARTER

At the Thursday, January 23, 2020, meeting of Board of Directors of the Society of St. Vincent De Paul Archdiocesan Council of St. Louis the following recommendation was proposed and approved.

WHEREAS the Board recognizes the service of Vincentians in creating awareness and advocacy efforts on public policies related to the Poor,

WHEREAS the Voice of the Poor Committee reviewed and recommends the charter statement below,

RESOLVED to approve the following committee charter:

#### Voice of the Poor Committee Charter

### <u>Purpose</u>

The Voice of the Poor Committee works to break the cycle of poverty by inspiring Vincentians to be effective servants of the poor and voices for just policies and systems, consistent with the Social Justice teachings of the Catholic Church and the policy positions of the Bishops. The work of the committee revolves around the following goals and objectives:

- 1. Raise Awareness on Poverty
  - Conduct group sessions with Vincentians or parishioners on poverty and related issues appearing in the news.
  - Plan at least one poverty conference/workshop annually in various SVDP districts within the St. Louis Archdiocese.
- 2. Give Voice to the Poor
  - Support advocacy groups or organizations in poor communities.
  - Ask Vincentians to contact their legislators in support or opposition to specific bills that affect the poor and economically challenged communities.
- 3. Motivate Vincentians to Fight Poverty
  - Encourage home visits in economically challenged communities.
  - Educate Vincentians on issues related to poverty and why changing policy is important.
- 4. Partner with Other Social Service Providers
  - Collaborate annually with at least one social service organization working for the poor on a joint project/event.

## **Membership**

The Voice of the Poor Committee, a standing Committee reporting to the Board of Directors, is established pursuant to the Bylaws to consist Vincentians, Board members, staff and/or outside resources, of which the majority are to be active Vincentians. The Committee Chair and Members of the Committee must be approved by the President of the Board. The Committee may include non-Board persons whose experience and qualifications may assist the Committee. The Director of Vincentian Membership Services shall serve a staff member to the Committee. A majority of the Committee members, present and voting, shall constitute a quorum.

## Meetings

The Committee will meet quarterly at a minimum upon the call of the Chairman of the Committee or the Executive Director, and shall maintain minutes of all meetings, which will be distributed to the Board, preferably in advance of the next regularly scheduled Board meeting.

### Status

The Voice of the Poor Committee consists of the following sub-committees:

- 1. Advocacy
- 2. Education

Board Secretary

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