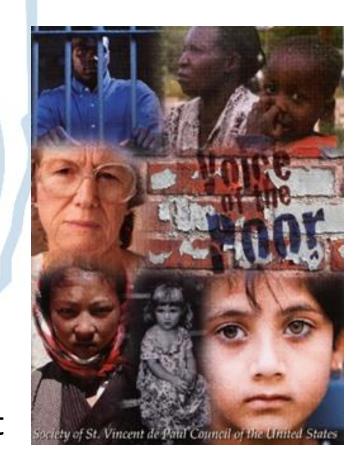
## So What is Voice of the Poor About?

- Catholic Social Teaching in Action
- Systemic Change That Produces Meaningful and Sustainable Differences in the Lives of the Poor
- What Do We Stand For? Affordable Housing, Fair Wages, Immigration, Environmental Stewardship, Restorative Justice, Homelessness, Education, Fair Lending Practices
- Advocacy for our neighbors about local issues that keep them in poverty.



### St. Martin District Council

# National Council of US St. Vincent de Paul Strategic Plan 2021-2024

Expand our Impact - External

- FA III: Advocate for and work towards a more just world
  - 3-2 Grow VOP Committees in every District Council
  - 3-3 Educate and advocate for issues that directly impact those we serve starting with more affordable housing

## Archdiocese of Cincinnati Voice of the Poor Goals 2022 - 2023

- 1. Continue to educate Vincentians and advocate about first area of focus affordable housing and lack of, tenant and other local issues
- 2. Educate Cincinnati Vincentians on Catholic social teachings
- 3. Expand Archdiocese Voice of the Poor Committee
- 4. Increase number of Vincentians on Voter Voice

#### St. Martin District Council

## Examples of Local Action

- Learn about issues and resources affecting neighbors we serve
  - research, read, guest speakers, partner organizations
- Present Affordable Housing: A Vincentian Perspective with Cincinnati District Presidents and at Mideast Regional Meeting (PDF attached to this email-not a link)
- Predatory Lending Legislation Advocacy
- Present Tenant and Landlord Rights & Responsibilities
- Include education pieces in Cincinnati District Newsletter
- Advocated for affordable housing units in Macy HQ project
- Advocated for stable, affordable housing with Gov DeWine

## CRITERIA FOR SELECTING ISSUES/PROJECTS

- Based on what we learn during home visits –not because of personal opinions or political beliefs
- •Is there something positive we can do about it?
- Does the issue affect many/most SVdP clients?
- Application and consistency with Catholic Social Teaching

#### St. Martin District Council

## VOICE OF THE POOR RESOURCES

- Voice of the Poor Quiz https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSftaXNMP0PI44Ar9LqwqgIc c1NMtHG-93-pd-TzbcP7Eg\_Tkw/viewform
- Voice of the Poor Third Thursday Webinar Library
- Vincentian Position Papers
- Voice of the Poor Issues
- Voice of the Poor Training Outreach and Advocacy Resources

#### St. Martin District Council

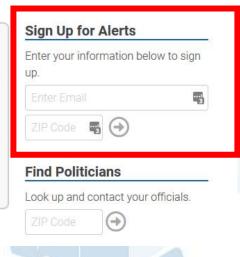
## Stay Active and Stay Tuned!



#### **ACTION CENTER**



Dear Vincentians, The Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic continues to ravage our nation with no end in sight. As we Vincentians take appropriate action to protect ourselves, our families, and vulnerable community members, we are already seeing what this crisis will mean for...





Just scan with your phone's camera!

votervoice.net/SVDPUSA/home

#### St. Martin District Council

## Dispelling The "Catholics Don't Do Politics" Myth

#### **Catholic Social Tradition Teaches:**

From US Conference of Catholic Bishops:

"Responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation."

#### **Pope Francis Teaches:**

See "The Joy of the Gospel" (2014) – Chap. 4 – The Social Dimension of Evangelization



"I ask God to give us more politicians capable of sincere and effective dialogue aimed at healing the deepest roots – and not simply the appearances – of the evils in our world! Politics, though often denigrated, remains a lofty vocation and one of the highest forms of charity inasmuch as it seeks the common good." Paragraph 205

St. Martin District Council
Serving Our Neighbors in Six Southwest Ohio Counties
St Peter Conference

### Dispelling The "Vincentians Don't Do Politics" Myth

#### What the SVdP Founders Said!

"There are many ways of providing Charity. The assistance of money or assistance in kind that we give to the Poor will not last long. We must aspire to a more complete and longer lasting benefit; study their abilities, their level of education and try to get them work to help them out of their difficulties."

Sr. Rosalie Rendu



"You must not be content with tiding the poor over the poverty crisis; you must study their condition and the injustices which brought about such poverty, with the aim of long term improvement." Blessed Frederic Ozanam



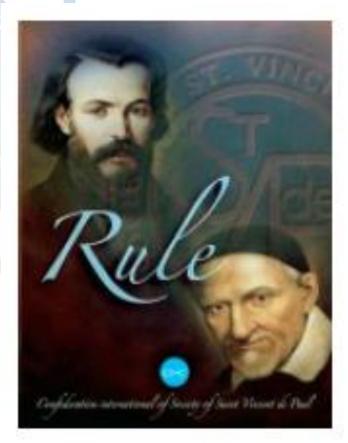
#### St. Martin District Council

## Dispelling The "Vincentians Don't Do Politics" Myth

### What the Rule Says!

Rule 7.6 of Society of St. Vincent de Paul:

"Where injustice, inequality, poverty or exclusion are due to unjust economic, political, or social structures or to inadequate or unjust legislation, the Society should speak out clearly against the situation, always with charity, with the aim of contributing to and demanding improvements."



#### St. Martin District Council

# Archdiocese of Cincinnati Voice of the Poor Committee

To get involved contact:

Cyn Macke St Peter Conference/St. Martin District 513-403-6679 <a href="mailto:cynmacke@gmail.com">cynmacke@gmail.com</a>

Jane Phelan, Chairman
IHM Conference/Cincinnati District
513-680-9549 janephelan02@gmail.com

Hybrid Meetings 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month 9:30 AM join via zoom or attend at Cincinnati SVDP Bank Street location