



*April 2023*

Vincentian **Wisdom**  
Quotes • Charism



## CALENDAR

Event

Lenten Day of Reflection

Saturday 4/4/2023

Event

Easter Sunday

4/9/2022

Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting - FRC

Tuesday 4/18/23, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Meeting

Spirituality and Formation Committee

Tuesday 4/18/23, 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Training

Ozanam Orientation

Saturday 4/29/23, 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM

St. Anne, Byron

Event

Ozanam Sunday

Sunday 4/30/23

Meeting

Board of Directors Meeting - FRC

Tuesday 5/16/23, 9:30 AM – 11:30 AM

Meeting

Spirituality and Formation Committee

Tuesday 5/16/23, 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

## BOB LILES CORNER

Do Not Stay Discouraged

Ever had someone that you are trying to help do a 180 and do something stupid and wipe out all of the progress that they had made?

When you get frustrated and feel like our mission of helping the poor is not working, here is something to remember.

In his “Holy Moments” book, Matthew Kelly writes: “Never stay discouraged. You will get discouraged; that’s part of life, part of humanity, that comes with trying to do good in this world. But people desperately need what you are doing, so never stay discouraged for long.”

**WRITTEN CONSENT** – better not ignore it

Recently we received a letter from a law firm. A family that a conference had been helping on and off for about ten years approached the law firm and complained that SVdP had given their private information to others. Now people that were unknown to them were contacting them about the information they had given to SVdP and wanted to keep private.

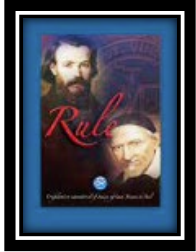
Fortunately, it turns out that the conference had done nothing wrong. A lawyer did not write the letter, but a law student did. He cited some laws that didn’t apply to the situation and didn’t even tell us to respond to a lawyer.

## CONSENT CONT.

However, it is a good indication of what people will do, even after you have spent much time helping them. Always make sure that they sign the waiver.

We live in a litigious world. Here are other things that you need to be very careful about. Never visit someone at their home by yourself. Never drive someone somewhere by yourself. If they claim that you did something to them, you have no witness to dispute it, and SVdP insurance will not protect you since you are violating one of SVdP's rules.

Bob



### RULE 3.3.1 FREQUENCY OF THE MEETINGS

The Conferences meet regularly and consistently, usually weekly, but at least every fortnight.

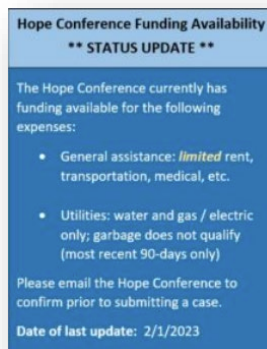
### CONFERENCE STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE

YOUR CONFERENCE PRESIDENT HAS ALL THE FORMS, AND YOUR CONFERENCE SHOULD BE REVIEWING ITS STATUS AND TURNING IN EVERYTHING BY THE MONTH'S END.

Links to the documents your conference needs to help it see which areas it is strong and which it could use some work are on the CCDC website at the bottom of the Conference Operation webpage: [www.svdpc-cc.org/conference-operation/](http://www.svdpc-cc.org/conference-operation/). Thank you

### HOPE HAS SOME LIMITED FUNDING AVAILABLE

To check: The Hope Application, Release, and Forms necessary to submit your completed applications are available on our SVdP Contra Costa website <https://www.svdpc-cc.org/>. You can see if there have been any changes in funding status by going to the *BLUE Hope Conference Funding Availability \*\*Status Update\*\* Box* you haven't been on, going to the Members Dropdown Menu, and selecting Applications. Hope will only accept the new application and release form moving forward.





St Vincent de Paul Society  
*good works*



THE VINCENTIAN HEART  
KNOWS THAT  
THE HOME VISIT IS OUR HOLY  
GROUND.

The home visit is rooted in our Vincentian Heritage...and so the spirituality of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul begins and lives in the home visit. In the Providence of God, all the works of charity for Vincent de Paul began when he visited Chatillon in August 1617....399 years ago. Vincent always remembered and he often told the story: "whilst I was living in Chatillon, a little town near Lyons, to which God had called me to be parish priest, one Sunday when I was vesting to say holy Mass, I was told that, in an

isolated house, a quarter of a league away, everybody was ill; that there was not even one of them who could render any assistance to the others, and all were in an expressible state of poverty and indigence. This news touched me to the heart. I did not fail to commend them affectionately to the charity of the congregation in the course of the sermon, and God, touching the hearts of those who heard me, moved them with compassion for those poor afflicted people.

After Vespers, I took along with me a citizen of the town, a very upright man, and we went together for a walk to visit those people. We overtook on the road some ladies who had set out before us and, a little farther on, we met some others who were returning home. As it was summer and the weather was very hot, these good ladies were sitting on the side of the road to rest and refresh themselves. To sum up, there were so many of them you would say it was a regular procession... The next day, I then proposed to all those good ladies who had been animated by the charity to visit those people that they should band together to make soup, each on her day, and not only for them but for all who might afterward come, and that is the first place where the Confraternity of Charity was established. This was the beginning of the Charities where lay women from the parish cared for the sick and the poor.”

In prayer and reflection on this event, and in telling the story repeatedly, Vincent realized that the poor “profoundly touched his heart”. Vincent constantly found God’s presence in events and in the people involved in them, he came to know that indeed “God is here.” Indeed, we find God in the everyday reality of our lives. The mystery of the poor led Vincent along the road of detachment and humility and helped him see with eyes of faith.

[Credit SVDP Spirituality of the Home Visit Part I]



# ¿Dónde Está Tu Hermano?



sábado 6 de mayo de 2023 @ 9 am – 3:30 pm

St. Jerome, 308 Camel Avenue/Curry  
El Cerrito

*“Ver el rostro de Cristo en el pobre”*

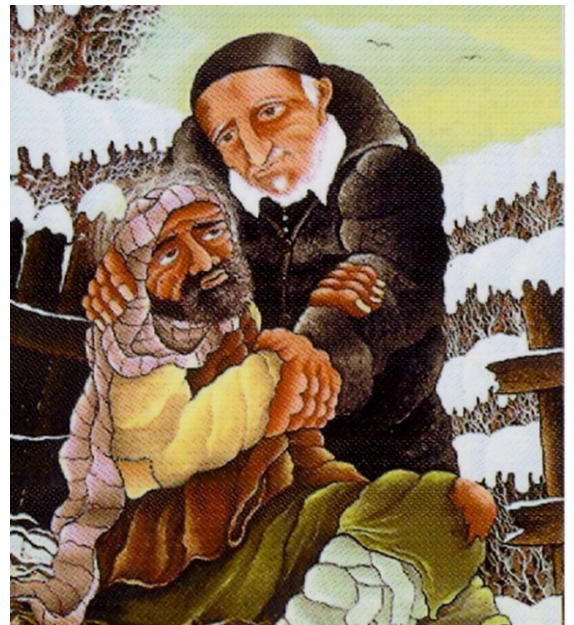
## Taller Ozanam

Para más información/inscribirse: <http://evite.me/HGPF6N9ZvR>

### **Bendiciones Vicentinos,**

¿En qué idioma oran los vecinos a los que servimos? Estamos creando un puente de esperanza para llevar el amor de Cristo y la ayuda material que tanto necesitan nuestros vecinos que están sufriendo. La Sociedad de San Vicente de Paúl y nuestros vecinos necesitan su ayuda para llevar el mensaje de amor de Cristo con ayuda a los más necesitados.

Las enseñanzas de San Vicente de Paúl tienen una "manera" de servir que ha estado funcionando en todo el mundo en 159 países desde el siglo XIX. Nuestro Taller Ozanam le proporcionará las herramientas básicas y le presentará los recursos disponibles para mejorar las vidas de nuestros hermanos y hermanas en nuestra comunidad que están en necesidad.



Nuestros vecinos necesitan nuestra ayuda y buscamos su liderazgo para llegar a ellos en su comunidad local. Este taller tendrá una reflexión y proporcionaremos todos los materiales, desayuno y almuerzo para todos los participantes. Por favor confirme su asistencia en el siguiente enlace: <http://evite.me/HGPF6N9ZvR>

Gracias y esperamos verte en el Taller Ozanam.  
**Todas las presentaciones se presentarán en español.**

*Amaras a tú Prójimo cómo a ti Mismo (Mt:19,16)*

## CONFERENCE MEAL SUPPORT



Vincentians,

Each week since our Free Medical Clinic began and we began to partner with RotaCare of the Bay Area, we host a meal for our volunteer Nurses, Interpreters, Doctors, PAs, and Staff that provide free medical care here at the St. Vincent de Paul Family Resource Center. As the Medical Clinic and services have grown, thankfully, so have the number of Conferences and individual volunteers wanting to participate in providing the meals.

Currently, we can cover all but the fourth Wednesday of each month, which is the reason for every year; I appeal for Conferences willing to participate by preparing the meal for the twenty volunteers and bringing it to the Family Resource Center or sponsoring the purchase for the Volunteers.

Last year we had the privilege of adding Free Dental Care for our neighbors in need. Through a partnership with Dentist on Wheels, we are now providing care each month for the same number of patients we were able to care for each year. The scope of the care has moved from our first focus, "the elimination of pain," to preserving the existing teeth and oral health care. The quality of care has created a backlog that fluctuates from 300 + to 400 applications on our waiting list. Again, all our Dentists, Oral Hygienists in partnership with Dentist on Wheels, are volunteers, with the Clinics taking place every Wednesday and Thursday.

We want to offer the same for the Volunteer staff and Dentists lunches twice a week. We have ten volunteer staff each day the Free Dental Clinic is open. (Includes the Dentists, Oral hygienists, and Dental Assistants).

If you are willing to support the Clinic dinner on the fourth Friday of a month for twenty volunteers (each of next 12 upcoming months are open) or can provide the Dental Clinic volunteers a lunch ten volunteers once each month, or once in 12 months contact Stephen Krank.

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## OZANAM ORIENTATION



On April 29, 2023, join us *in person* for an Ozanam Orientation

Hosted by the St. Vincent de Paul Community of St. Anne Catholic Church

2800 Camino Diablo Road, Byron, CA 94514  
**Ozanam Orientation from 8:45 am – 3 pm**  
(Continental breakfast and lunch provided)

Ozanam Orientation is an opportunity for Vincentians to learn, connect with one another, and to develop a deeper understanding of and appreciation for Vincentian life.

Please RSVP to  
Shawna Costanzo, Formator  
Spirituality and Formation  
Committee  
[shawna57@gmail.com](mailto:shawna57@gmail.com)

The Ozanam Orientation is a one-day workshop that covers the essential elements of what it means to be a Vincentian.



# Community Resources: Mental Health Services & Counseling

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR CHILDREN WITH MEDI-CAL COVERAGE

For children with health insurance other than Medi-Cal, call your health care or insurance provider for referrals for services.)

### **EARLY CHILDHOOD MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM**

Serves children from birth to age 6 living in West County and their families. Services include child and family therapy, comprehensive therapeutic nursery (preschool), wrap-around program for families with multiple service needs, parent support, parenting skills training. Offers limited services for children without Medi-Cal from low-income families.

Phone: 510-412-9200

Web site: [www.ecmhp.org](http://www.ecmhp.org)

### **LYNN CENTER MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Serves children from birth to age 5 living in East County and their families. Services include clinic for child therapy, child and parent therapy (including drug/alcohol services), and parent support, therapeutic preschool, wrap-around program for families with multiple service needs. Offers limited services for children without Medi-Cal from low-income families.

Phone: 925-439-9628

Web site: [www.ContraCostaARC.org](http://www.ContraCostaARC.org)

### **WE CARE SERVICES FOR CHILDREN MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAM**

Serves children from birth to age 5 living in Central County and their families. Services include early childhood mental health services, therapeutic services (individual, family, classroom-based), and wrap-around program for families with multiple service needs. Offers limited services for children without Medi-Cal from low-income families.

Phone: 925-671-0777

Web site: [www.wecarechildren.org](http://www.wecarechildren.org)

### **COMMUNITY HEALTH FOR ASIAN AMERICANS** (serves all families, not just Asian Americans)

Mental health treatment services for children and adolescents, adults at risk of homelessness and adults who have experienced domestic violence.

Phone: 925-778-1667 ext. 315

Web site: [www.chaaweb.org/](http://www.chaaweb.org/)

### **CONTRA COSTA COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES**

Regional mental health clinics provide counseling for children and families. Staff can provide information about mental health resources including the County's specialized services for people who are seriously emotionally disturbed.

For psychiatric emergencies go to Contra Costa Regional Medical Center (north side), 2500 Alhambra Ave., Martinez.

Phone: 888-678-7277 (anytime day or night) for emergency or appointments.

Web site: [www.cchealth.org/groups/mental\\_health/](http://www.cchealth.org/groups/mental_health/)

## BEHAVIORAL SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN IN EARLY EDUCATION/CARE

### **CHILD CARE SOLUTIONS**

Serves children from birth to age 5 in licensed early education/care programs in Contra Costa County. Free consultation for teachers, providers and parents when a child is experiencing behavioral challenges in his/her early education or care program. Parental permission is required for consultation.

**Early education/care programs located in West County**, call Early Childhood Mental Health Program

Phone: 510-412-9200

Web site: [www.ecmhp.org](http://www.ecmhp.org)

**Early education/care programs located in East County**, call Lynn Center

Phone: 925-439-9628

Web site: [www.ContraCostaARC.org](http://www.ContraCostaARC.org)

**Early education/care programs located in Central County**, call We Care Services for Children

Phone: 925-685-0207

Web site: [www.wecarechildren.org](http://www.wecarechildren.org)

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