

# Welcome, you are invited to take a look at Vincentian Service Corps West

## The Vincentian Tradition

The philosophy of St. Vincent de Paul forms the basis of our program goals. Vincent lived in the 1600's but his vision, spirituality, and understanding of how to reach out to the poor and marginalized inspire us today, as we also seek to integrate spirituality and service.

## Community Living

The VSC Members live in a community setting which offers companionship, support and a sense of responsibility for one another. The Vincentian tradition recognizes the value and importance of living in community because it supports its Members in making valuable contributions to their missions. A support person will meet with the community regularly to share community, nurture a sense of belonging and reinforce Vincentian values.

## Simple Lifestyle

We can have confidence in knowing that we can resist the temptation of consumerism and materialism as we embrace solidarity with the struggling and marginalized poor. VSC Members foster a lifestyle that is simple yet adequate and based on gospel values. The VSC program provides housing, food and a program related community expense fund.

## Service

Working with the poor and seeking to make a difference in their life is what we share with one another. The selection of a service site is based on what best fits with the personal interests, experience and talents of the VSC member as well as the articulated needs, goals and orientation of a specific placement site.

## Spirituality

God IS present in all of our lives and challenges us to grow beyond our "comfort zones." God is very much a part of every person's decision to join VSC whether this is recognized consciously at first or is only acknowledged partially. God "calls and invites" you to share His vision. Prayer and time for reflection become very important as VSC Members live their experience of service in a spirit of faith and a growing understanding of how God lives and works within us.

## Support

VSC Members participate in a week of orientation as well as four reflection/renewal weekends and one seminar weekend during the course of the year, held in different geographic areas. A support person participates in the Community Night and is available as needed during the course of the year.

*Know we will be praying with you as you discern  
whether VSC is the program for you.  
We sincerely hope so, and look forward to hearing from you.*

