

ST VINCENT DE PAUL – SUPPORTING THE NEEDY

Talk presented by Gabe Culhane

Our Mission:

To live the gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy, and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society.

Our Vision:

To be recognised as a caring Catholic charity offering “a hand up” to people in need. We do this by respecting their dignity, sharing our hope, and encouraging them to take control of their own destiny.

My Background:

Member for about 15 years, inspired to join by my father who was also a Vincentian and cared for those marginalised in our Society.

Works of the St John's Conference

Weekly pick up of bread from local bakery

Delivery of fruit & vegetables from Belconnen markets of a Sunday

Christmas hampers

Home visitations – 4 nights a week in pairs – core business

We offer them a hand-up in a crisis

Our Clients

In 2012 we made 329 home visits & spent \$16,500 on direct assistance.

Almost 50% are single parents

90% receive Centrelink payments

Most are in rented government or private housing

We offer them a hand-up in a crisis

Employment – casual, loss of job

Health – chronic illness = expense

Separation

Accommodation – family moving for work

Addictions – hard when battling addictions

Loneliness

One-off, infrequent and recurring requests for help

Why am I a volunteer?

A sense of community - we're all part of God's family.

There go I but for the grace of God, how would I feel if I was in need of help.

A sense of purpose, the work we do is of value.

New members are always welcome.

– SEE ANY MEMBER OR PARISH WEBSITE FOR INFORMATION.