



## Society of St. Vincent de Paul St Michael Conference 2015 Summary

### Membership

Number of active members:	39
Number of auxiliary members:	6
Number of volunteer hours:	~2,400
Monthly meetings:	4th Tuesday monthly, except December, July & August

### Home Visits

Number of Homes visited:	134
Total # of visits to these homes:	270
Number of Adults served:	187
Number of Children served:	142
Number of Visits to the Sick:	8

### Finances

Total Donations:	\$96,212.92
Total Expenses:	\$89,785.94
Deficit / Surplus:	\$ 6,426.98

### Christmas Hamper Outreach (131 hampers for St Michael's Church; 30 for St Bernard's Church)

Number of Hampers:	161;	Number of Individuals helped:	551
Average value of each hamper:	\$279.		
Number of children's gifts:	219;	~Value of donated gifts:	\$8,760
Estimated cost of <i>donated</i> food:	\$15,200;	Cost of <i>purchased</i> food:	\$12,505.
Cost of <i>purchased</i> gift cards:	\$6730;	Value of <i>donated</i> gift cards:	\$1,050
Overhead (estimate):	\$ 760		

- The Women's Ministry provided an additional 45 gifts to children from 23 St Bernard's families, at a total cost of \$800.00.

### Disbursements/Expense Breakdown (Expenses = \$89,785.94)

Office Supplies and Administrative Expenses (insurance, supplies, GST, misc.)	2,287.55
Bank Charges and Interest	164.70
Rent Assistance	30,491.00
Larder Food purchases	13,322.18
Utilities assistance	4,812.82
Client Transportation (bus tickets, moving expenses)	5,461.50
Youth Conference (conference fees)	1,554.43
Client support (clothing, medical, work, household items etc.)	3299.08
Christmas Hampers and Gift certificates	19,235.19
Support of SSVV works (local, national, international - twinning, contributions to central council)	9,157.49

### **Basic Principles of the Society**

- The Society is a lay Catholic organization that is open to all who wish to live their faith by loving and serving Christ in the poor, the lonely, and the disadvantaged.
- It serves all those in need, regardless of creed, ethnicity, origin, or point of view.
- All funds donated to the Society in principle belong to the poor wherever they are found. In this spirit, St Michael's conference twinned with a conference in Guatemala, to which we donated \$2000.00 in 2015, and contributed a tithe of 5% of 2014 revenues (\$4590.) to the Calgary Central Diocesan Council, to help meet gaps in our community where no SSVP conference has been established.

***Thank you to all our benefactors who so generously donated to the Society in this past year.***

The following illustrates the type of situation in which the Society is able to intervene as a direct consequence of the generous support of our benefactors – the parishioners of St Michael Catholic Community.

#### ***Service in Hope – One Family's Journey***

The family of 3 emigrated from Iran as returning Canadians in October 2014, in the midst of the economic downturn. Adam (not his real name), an electrical engineer, was unable to find employment. Having exhausted their financial resources, Adam was diagnosed with Stage 3 colon cancer. Following oral chemotherapy and radiation, he underwent surgery in mid-August, and remained hospitalized for 50 days post surgery due to massive infection. Drainage tubes were inserted in his back causing unrelenting pain and discomfort. After 6 return hospitalizations, Adam now has an enlarged spleen, is experiencing intense pain in his bones and was recently readmitted to hospital. Throughout this time of crisis, the Society has paid rent, and provided food, emotional, and spiritual support. Adam's wife has been at his side and has cared for their 9 year old son who has a childhood kidney disease and fragile immunity. The compassionate support of the Society and the family's newly found faith in Jesus has sustained them throughout their difficult journey. Jesus has been their anchor and their hope. Adam clings to his comfort cross and proclaims, "Jesus had been my helper. He will finish His work in me. I love him." Breaking down in tears, Adam extends profound gratitude to the Society and to St. Michael Catholic Community for "saving my family's life, for loving us and giving us hope." Please uphold this family in your prayers... their journey continues.

**“Charity never looks to the past but always to the future because the number of its past works is still very small and the present and future miseries that it must alleviate are infinite.”**

*Blessed Frédéric Ozanam, Founder of the Society*

As the needs in our community continue to grow, we thank you in advance for your continued support and generosity in the coming year. Your acts of compassion provide much hope to our friends in need.

Please contact ***the Society of St Vincent de Paul*** at (403) 240-0423, ext 122 if you have questions or would like to join our Ministry.