

Turning concern into action

**Aim of session:**

- To turn their concern into action with preparation for their first project.
- To learn about some of the other branches of the Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVDP).
- To prepare to link with another branch of the Society of St Vincent de Paul.

What you will need:

- *Let's Learn About SVDP* Presentation (see website)
- Paper, pens and pencils
- *Minutes of the Meeting* template for the Secretary (see website)
- A reading or reflection chosen by one of the children related to helping others.

Procedure:

The President or another Vinnies Youth member starts the meeting with the opening prayer from the handbook. The agenda of the meeting is shared with all the members.

Invite the Vinnies Youth member who chose this week's reflection/reading to share it with the group. This should be encouraged in future meetings.

This meeting time could be used to carry out their first call to action based on what was decided in the previous meeting.

You could also use this time to further explore about the different branches of the SVDP and share the 'Let's Learn about SVDP' presentation with the children as a springboard for discussion.

Have everyone take a piece of paper and answer the questions in the brainstorm activity at right. Discuss.

Finish the meeting with a closing prayer.

Encourage the secretary to take minutes of this meeting and make the children aware of the next meeting.

**BRAINSTORM**

1. What could you do to help your local adult SVDP group?
2. Find out where the location of the nearest SVDP centre. How could you support their work?
3. What could you do to help if your school is near a Vinnies community shop?
4. Prepare your own short assembly to share with other children about the work of the SVDP in New Zealand.