St Vincent de Paul Society
A hand up, not just a hand out

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Youth & Education Development Team
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SNAPSHOT

1. **WHY** – Why do we do what we do?

2. **HOW** – The Vinnies model of providing a “hand up”

3. **WHAT** – Practical ideas and evaluation of social justice initiatives

Each individual Christian and every community is called to be an instrument of God for the liberation of the poor, and for enabling them to be fully a part of society.

Pope Francis Evangelli Gaudium
Who’s who in the zoo?

Our role in the Vinnies Youth and Education team
Who's who in the zoo?

What brought you here today?
What challenges do you face in making “faith in action” a reality in your school?
WHY: Faith in Action

BRAINSTORM – What is our why?

Why is it important to engage students in meaningful “faith in action” initiatives at school?
HOW: The Vinnies model of providing a “hand up”
‘Yours must be a work of love, of kindness, you must give your time, your talents, yourselves. The poor person is a unique person of God’s fashioning with an inalienable right to respect. You must not be content with tiding the poor over the poverty crisis; you must study their condition and the injustices which brought about such poverty, with the aim of long term improvement.’

Bl. Frederic Ozanam 1813 - 1853
Faith in Action – What are we trying to achieve?

- A hand up versus a hand out
- Charity and justice

“Charity teaches us that when we visit the poor we gain much more than they do.”

Blessed Frederic Ozanam
Our Framework

SEE   THINK   DO!
WHAT:
Evaluation exercise
Dignity of the Human Person

Inside everyone, there is a diamond. Sometimes it gets a bit dirty.

It can be hard to see under all the muck.

But it’s always there. CST Principles #3: Human dignity

If one just takes the time to look. Vinnies good works
Common Good

I WANT PEPPERONI!!!

I WANT PEPPERONI!!!

I WANT OREGANO!!!

GREATER GOOD

COMMON GOOD

Vinnies good works

St Vincent de Paul Society VICTORIA good works
Solidarity

What difference can I make?
I’m just one little brick!

Every Brick Counts!
DO YOU WANT SOME SUSHI?

NO THANKS

CAN YOU BELIEVE THAT? HE'S ON THE STREET! HE SHOULDN'T BE PICKY!

HE'S ALLOWED TO SAY NO, MAYBE HE DOESN'T LIKE SUSHI?

FAIR CALL... MAYBE I'LL ASK FIRST NEXT TIME.
Case studies

- Soup Van Street Retreat program
Case studies

Berwick Soup Van and St Francis Xavier College
Case studies

West Heidelberg Reading Club
CLC Eltham
Loyola College, Watsonia
OLMC, Heidelberg
Case studies

Mini Vinnies Cluster

- Hosted by Nazareth College, Noble Park
  - St Elizabeth’s, Dandenong North
  - St John Vianney’s, Mulgrave
  - St Anthony's, Noble Park
  - St Justin’s, Wheelers Hill
  - Resurrection, Keysborough
Some things to consider…

FOOTSTEPS OF FREDERIC LEADERSHIP PROGRAM
Some things to consider...
In your groups, use the framework below to outline effective social justice initiatives for students to engage in. Aim for a mixture of short and long term & big and small projects.

**SEE:** What is the issue?

**THINK:** How does it relate to Catholic Social Teaching?

**DO:** What actions can be taken? What are the steps?
Any questions?
Thank you