

NAME:

Overcoming Poverty – The St Vincent de Paul Society

ACTIVITY 2 - PRESENTATION

Use information from the 'Statistics in Australia' (page 5) and 'St Vincent de Paul Society' (page 30) sections of the fact book to create an informative presentation about poverty in Australia and how the St Vincent de Paul Society is helping.

Your presentation could be in the form of a poster, infographic, PowerPoint presentation, video or another format approved by your teacher. Make your design informative and engaging.



Teacher Guide – Overcoming Poverty – The St Vincent de Paul Society

Read through the ‘St Vincent de Paul Society’ (page 28) section of the fact book and complete the activities that follow.

ACTIVITY 1 – COMPREHENSION AND ANALYSIS

1. What does the St Vincent de Paul Society do to help people who are living in poverty?

The St Vincent de Paul Society helps people who are living in poverty by assisting with food, clothing, furniture, utility payments, financial assistance and someone to talk to. Vinnies provides emergency relief in the short term and financial counselling for people.

2. What are some of the recommendations made by the St Vincent de Paul Society to help eliminate poverty in Australia?

Vinnies makes a number of recommendations to help eliminate poverty in Australia:

- Social investment in the unemployed and underemployed – provide opportunities for these workers to shift into full-time work
- Alterations to government allowances
- Careful taxation and revenue reforms
- Address cost of living pressures – increase Newstart Allowance, increase access to public housing, increase Rent Assistance payment

3. Read through the ‘Case Studies’ (page 30) in the fact book. For each case, explain what Vinnies did to assist the person.

Jane’s Story

Vinnies provided assistance valued at \$10,800 over 12 months. This included help with rental assistance, food vouchers and hampers, and other bills. Vinnies also advocated with the Government Housing Department and succeeded in getting Jane’s family moved into community housing.

Danielle’s Story

Vinnies helped Danielle with outstanding bills, food and food vouchers at an estimated value of \$3,500. Danielle was also referred to several other organisations for assistance which has helped her with her mortgage repayments.

Tom’s Story

Vinnies paid \$4,000 off the mortgage arrears of Tom’s house which enabled him to catch up with the arrears enough that the bank would not foreclose his house.