

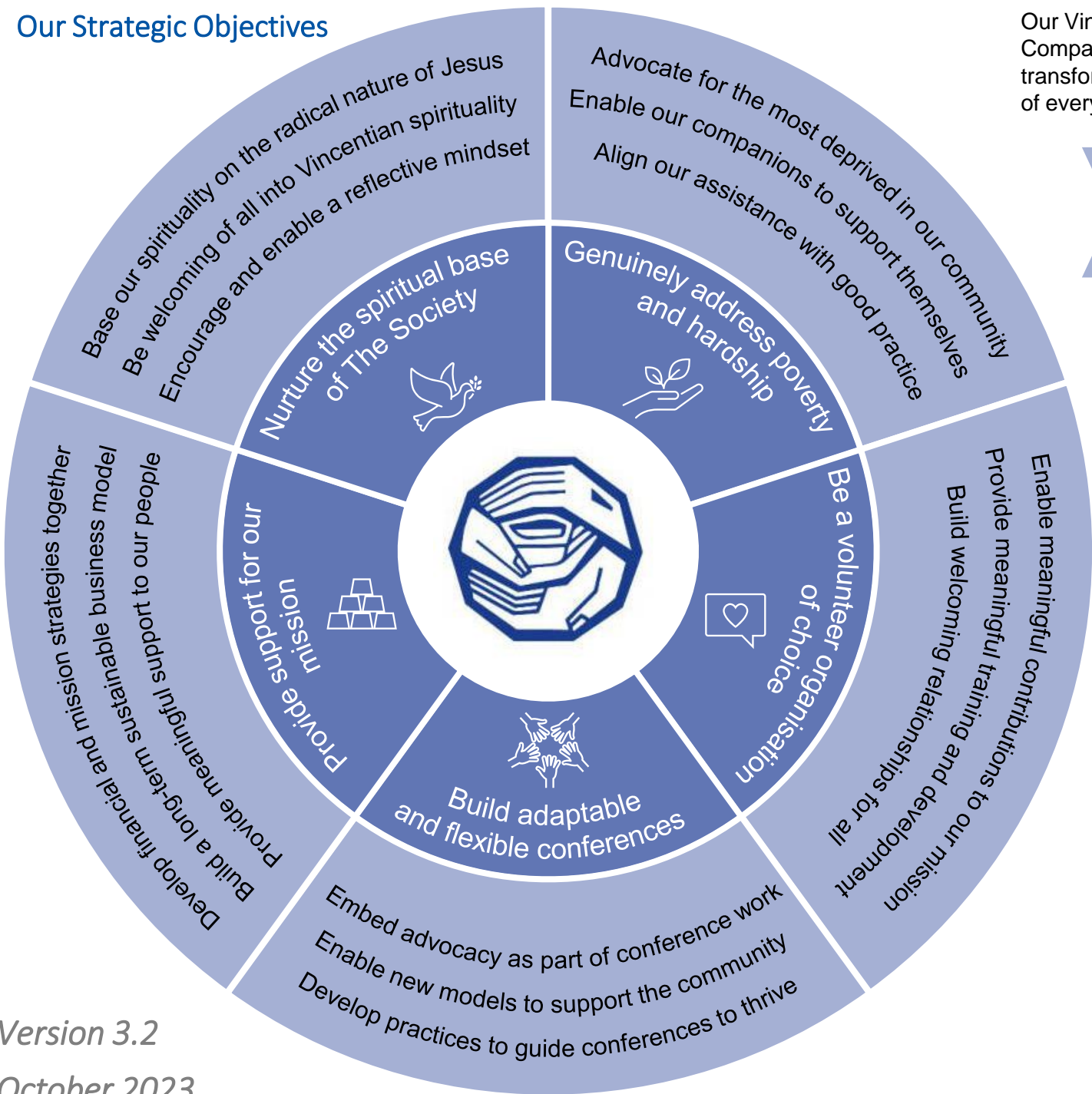
Strategic Plan 2021-2025

St Vincent de Paul Society - South Australia

Our Mission

The St Vincent de Paul Society is a lay Catholic organisation that aspires 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 Strategic Objectives



Our Spirituality of Companionship

It is the furthering of human dignity that drives our encounters with the people we assist, who we call our Companions. We use the term companion as it recognises that we journey with them, share our experiences, and learn and grow together.

“Vincentians strive to seek out and find those in need and the forgotten, the victims of exclusion or adversity” (The Rule 1.5).

All members, volunteers and staff are encouraged to explore, listen to and enjoy the varied and multileveled stories of people’s lives. When companions seek assistance, the actual question of “how can we help you?” is asked after a preamble of shared stories, almost as an afterthought in the joy of the encounter.

Our Vincentian spirituality emphasises encountering and forming relationships with our Companions. The encounter, based on a shared humanity, can lead to personal and societal transformation. Our capacity to reduce injustices and to reveal more fully the beauty and dignity of every person starts with a see-choose-act reflection.



Working Together as One Society

As a member-based organisation, we recognise that all of our people need to work together to achieve our mission. This includes our Members, Staff and Volunteers. We recognise that collaboration between members, staff, and volunteers is key to making a meaningful impact in the community. Together, we foster an environment of mutual respect, open communication, and appreciation for one another’s contributions, recognising that every individual’s efforts play an essential role in driving positive change and making a difference in the lives of our Companions.

Working together is how we reach our potential and how we advance the mission of The Society. Working together can include how we communicate with each other (listening and responding), how we achieve consensus, how we manage change and, how we meet the needs of individuals when meeting the needs of the group.

It is with this mindset that we have developed our major initiatives. We follow a See-Choose-Act process with all initiatives, and recognise that they are only possible through the combined contributions of Members, Staff and Volunteers. Each initiative has one staff member and one State Council Member responsible, with advisory committees in support.

Our working together starts by having a ‘One Society’ mindset and assuming positive intent in our interactions with others within The Society. We all have different paths that have led us here, but we have a common mission, that can only be realised through love and respect of each other and our Companions.

Strategic Plan 2021-2025

St Vincent de Paul Society - South Australia

Our Spirituality of Companionship - *The foundation of all our initiatives and operations*

Our Major Initiatives - *The ways we are seeing, choosing and acting in a changing world*

Advocacy



We will explore ways of increasing support to survivors of domestic & family violence



We will create a culture of social needs analysis and action in all areas of South Australia



We will explore initiatives to support action on climate change



We will continue to offer advocacy training to our people



We will continue to advocate for better housing outcomes



We will increase our advocacy for asylum seekers and refugees



Spirituality



We will deepen the spirituality of The Society with a Spiritual Formation Team that focuses on Companionship

Our People



We will implement a system of meaningful engagement and recognition of our people



We will grow & develop our people and leaders



We will implement 4 key programs designed to better engage youth



We will implement consistent inductions and training for our people



Conferences



We will pilot and evaluate new ways of being Conference



We will ensure our sites provide a welcome environment for Companions



We will review conference boundaries and services



We will enable conference members to thrive and enhance the dignity of Companions



We will streamline conference administration through supported digital transformation



We will review the model for distribution of ERF

Reconciliation



We will publish and implement our Reconciliation Action Plan



We will actively advocate for positive outcomes for First Nations people

Commercial



We will explore ways to ensure greater financial transparency



We will implement 4 income diversification strategies to support our mission



Housing and Supporting Programs



We will explore the establishment of a Community Centre in the Fleurieu Region



We will explore implementing the HomeShare program in SA



We will explore the provision of distributed transitional housing



We will explore the provision of a new centralised supported housing program

Our Core Operations – *Continuity of support to our Companions and communities*

Conferences

Local groups of members providing material, financial and emotional assistance and companionship, supported by our call centre.

Vinnies Centres

Providing a place for our community to receive assistance and purchase affordable goods that contributes to funding our mission.

Fred's Van

Providing a meal, blankets, toiletries, snacks, hot beverages and most importantly, companionship

Vinnies Crisis Centres and Open Door Program

Providing accommodation through our 2 crisis centres, and supported pathways to independence.

Vinnies Refugee and Asylum Seeker Service

Supporting asylum seekers and refugees with material assistance, rental support and more.

Supporting Services

Providing support to our people through, administration, advocacy, financial management, asset and facilities maintenance coordination, training, marketing and fundraising, WHS, people leadership, digital capability, overseas partnership facilitation and more.