

Vincentian Solidarity Office

Annual Report for 2017

“To serve the poor is to go to God!”

St. Vincent de Paul

Dear friends,

This short quote from St. Vincent may be his most radical. Is not “going to God” the very purpose and end of the Christian faith? Yet, Vincent de Paul claims that a path to God also puts one on the path to the poor. It was with this vision, that he helped to reform and refocus the Catholic Church during his time.

At the Vincentian Solidarity Office, we struggle to keep up with requests for help with projects from our priests and brothers in developing regions. Many of our missionaries face seemingly immeasurable needs and impossible challenges in serving the poor. At times, what our missionaries accomplish, and the untiring and loving spirit with which they do so, strike me as almost miraculous. Taking St. Vincent’s vision to heart, this should be no surprise. Vincent’s path to God through the poor is a deeply moving and powerful one!

Please know, then, how important your support has been to our missionaries, and that in giving it, you accompany them along the path to God. In this report, we present the projects of our missionaries you assisted in 2017.

Thank you!

In St. Vincent,

Fr. Gregory Semeniuk, C.M.
Executive Director



INDIA

- Installing mosquito mesh on the boys' and girls' hostels in the Bapulapada Mandal in Andhra Pradesh State
- Constructing a parish church with a Miraculous Medal Shrine in Keralapuram in Kerala State (*see picture*)
- Constructing and furnishing a convalescent home for aged and infirm priests and brothers at Ernakulam in Kerala State (*see picture*)
- Constructing a primary school for the children in the Bapulapadu Mandal in Andhra Pradesh State (*see picture*)
- Implementing a school evaluation and improvement program in 25 Vincentian schools in numerous states
- Constructing a three-floored toilet block at De Paul School at Kethapally in Telangana State (*see picture*)
- Purchasing a jeep for the Christnagar Mission in Odisha State (*see picture*)
- Purchasing a vehicle for the provincial central administration house at Mysore in Karantaka State (*see picture*)
- Purchasing motorbikes for the Jellipalayam and Mariyapura parishes in Karnataka State
- Purchasing a jeep for the Vincentian OASIS social service agency in Andhra Pradesh State
- Replacing a presbytery roof at the Gunupur Mission in Odisha State
- Enhancing the capacity of the Vincentian OASIS Social Service organization in Andhra Pradesh State



UKRAINE

Installing geothermal and solar heating at the Vincentian parish center in Kharkiv



SOLOMON ISLANDS

Purchasing a truck for the Good Shepherd Parish in Red Beach



SYRIA

Providing care to refugee students and their families at the Alfajer Ecole in Damas





LATIN AMERICA

Brazil: Purchasing a vehicle for the Paróquia de São Francisco in Novo Oriente (*see picture*)

Central America (regional project): Purchasing equipment and food for workshops for formation of parish leaders in Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Panama

Chile: Purchasing a jeep for the mission in Punta Arenas (*see picture*)

Colombia: Purchase furnishings, equipment and food for a program assisting destitute Venezuelan immigrants

Cuba: Remodeling a kitchen and dining area for the elderly served in the Casa de Abuelos in the Parroquia San Joaquín in Santiago

Ecuador: Constructing the 2nd floor onto the Centro de Formación S. Vicente de Paúl, Parroquia N. S. de la Medalla Milagrosa (*see picture*)

Honduras: Conducting a three-year, Catholic formation program for indigenous groups that helps sustain their culture (*see picture*)

Honduras: Funding in support of the general needs of Slovakian Mission

Panama: Organizing and preparing the 2019 World Indigenous Youth gathering in Panama (*see picture*)

2017 FINANCES

In 2017, the Vincentian Solidarity Office (VSO) distributed **\$1,310,415** USD in support of 49 projects. The cash operational expenses of the VSO in 2017 amounted to \$.08 per dollar distributed. The projects supported were located in 22 different countries. The table below organizes the projects supported by the VSO in 2017, by type and activity.

		Project Type					
		Administration	Religious Formation	Pastoral Projects	Socioeconomic Projects	Total	
Project Activity	Construction	114,000	144,077	261,239	272,751	792,067	60%
	Equipment	5,000	20,349	10,000	39,501	74,850	6%
	Programs	37,835		44,200	179,865	261,899	20%
	Scholarships	10,000	14,991			24,991	2%
	Vehicles	33,000	47,808	75,800		156,608	12%
Total		199,835	227,225	391,239	492,116	1,310,415	100%
		15%	17%	30%	38%	100%	

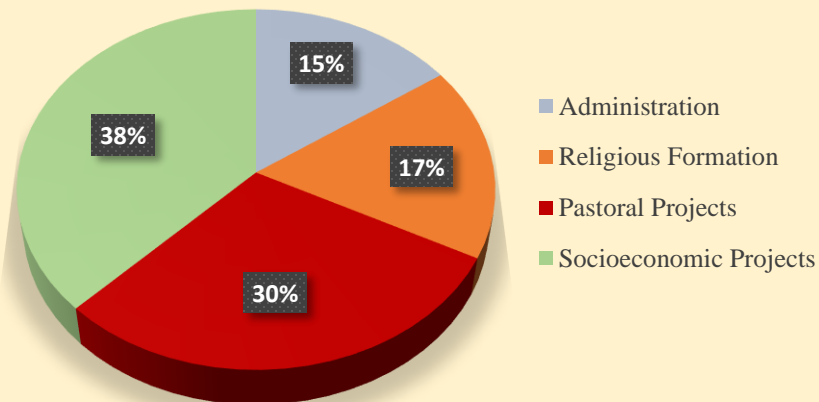
Administration: projects directly supporting the Vincentian priests and brothers in the missions

Religious Formation: projects for the initial or ongoing training of priests and/or brothers

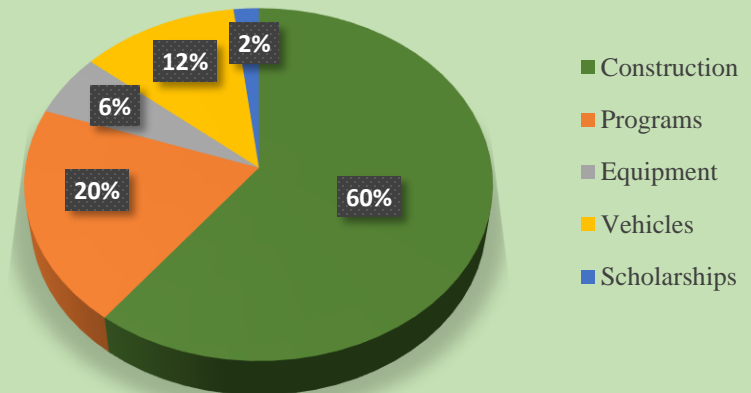
Pastoral Projects: projects supporting the laity's religious instruction, spiritual growth and worship

Socioeconomic Projects: projects supporting the material needs and development of people and communities

Monies Distributed by Project Type



Monies Distributed by Project Activity



We thank our collaborators in 2017:

Archdiocese of Cologne
Eastern U.S.A. Province of the C.M.
Estate of Fr. Jaap Zwarthoed, C.M.
Estate of Fr. Thomas Hynes, C.M.
Fr. Sy Peterka's African Appeal for Hope
Franz Foundation
International Association of the Miraculous Medal, Spain
Kirche in Not
Loyola Foundation
Maternity of Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Philadelphia, PA
Merion Memorial Park, Inc.
Mildred McDonald Trust
Missio Aachen
New England U.S.A. Province of the C.M.
Our Lady of Peace Parish, Providence, NJ
Papal Foundation
Province of Central America of the C.M.
Province of Colombia of the C.M.
Province of Indonesia of the C.M.
Province of Ireland of the C.M.
Province of Peru of the C.M.
Province of Poland of the C.M.
Province of St. Vincent de Paul (Spain) of the C.M.
Province of Zaragoza (Spain) of the C.M.
St. Adalbert Parish, Philadelphia, PA
St. Joseph Parish, Emmitsburg, MD
St. Mary Parish, Schwenksville, PA
St. Therese of Lisieux Parish, Cresskill, NJ
Seton Heritage Ministries
Tara Di Cesari Memorial Charitable Fund
U.S.C.C.B. Office for Central and Eastern Europe
Vincentian House in Belfast, Ireland
Vincentian House in Panningen, the Netherlands
Western U.S.A. Province of the C.M.

-and many individual contributors (confreres, family
and friends of our Congregation)



Children served by De Paul Hope Social Center in Nigeria

Vincentian Solidarity Office
500 East Cheltenham Avenue
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19144
United States of America

Telephone: +1 215-713-2432

Email: cmvso@yahoo.com

Website: www.cmglobal.org/vso

A 501 (c) (3) organization in the U.S.A.



Students from De Paul Secondary School in Tanzania