From The Manual – Conference Activities

A. Poverty Services
   · Limited material or financial assistance for short-term or continuing needs.
   · Emergency aid, combined with referral to an appropriate public agency when eligible for continuing assistance.
   · Referral to an appropriate counseling agency when recurrent financial problems indicate a need for professional guidance.
   · “Filling the gaps” in services provided by the local community, such as help with finding employment or housing.
   · Self-help programs such as food and repair co-ops, credit unions, home services for the aged and infirm, housing rehabilitation, legal services, and adult education. These can alleviate the need for recurrent handouts, which can undermine human dignity.
   · Development of inexpensive recreational programs for the economically disadvantaged, such as arranging for the use of local facilities, for a nominal fee, by low-income families, senior citizens, and other special groups.
   · Development of low-cost professional and household services for needy families. Volunteers are recruited from such professions as plumbing, carpentry, nursing, law, medicine, etc.
   · Domestic twinning: sharing of the membership and material resources of a more fortunate Conference with a needier one locally.

B. Information and Referral Services
   · Providing information about services related to poverty, medical-emotional needs, family and personal problems, youth counseling and youth activity programs, senior citizens programs and facilities, etc.
   · Advocacy on behalf of persons being denied services to which they appear to be entitled.
   · Conducting or sponsoring educational programs to acquaint parishioners with community welfare and counseling programs.

C. Services for Emergencies and Special Needs
   · Temporary homemaker service. All families face a crisis occasionally -- through illness, hospitalization, death, etc. -- and can use help with child care, meal preparation, and basic housekeeping until the crisis subsides. If the need exceeds parish capabilities, referral should be made to appropriate community homemaker agencies.
   · Transportation. Because the elderly are often dependent upon others for shopping, attending church, and visiting doctors’ offices and clinics, escort services and transportation are necessary components of any reasonably adequate program of home care.
   · Person-to-person sharing of expertise -- in budgeting, nutrition, housekeeping, application for employment, child care, home maintenance, etc. Such service may also be offered as special parish educational programs or group classes.
   · Youth services. Addressing the cultural, social, spiritual, and recreational interests of young people, these services rely heavily upon youth initiative and decision-making but also offer opportunity, counsel, and support.

D. Services to the Lonely and Alienated
   · Conference members visit lonely or alienated individuals in institutional and medical facilities. Sickness, drug addiction, and mental illness may underlie their problems and special needs. As lay volunteers, Conference members become involved only after consulting with the appropriate facility staff.
   · Conference members visit crime victims, and men and women who are incarcerated or on probation or parole. Continuing contact with the families of inmates may be helpful. Intelligent involvement requires consultation and collaboration with criminal justice officials.
   · Regular visits to patients in hospitals, nursing homes, and homes for the aged help keep them alert and engaged.
   · Regular visits to the homebound sick or aged reassure them that someone cares and is nearby in time of need.
   · Home care services, which enable persons to keep living at home, may include the following:
     1. Preparation and delivery of meals
     2. Providing opportunities for leisure by “relieving” family members caring for an aged relative
3. Home maintenance (e.g., chores and minor repairs)
4. Tele-care (checking in by phone to converse and make sure needs are met)
5. Transportation to stores, doctors’ offices, church, etc.
6. Recreational services (activity and companionship in the home, or at a center to which the older person is transported)
7. Special personal services provided by volunteers (barbers, beauticians, etc.)
   - Recruitment of seniors to help provide social services to various agencies. Many retired persons have abilities and experience ideal for helping our brothers and sisters in need. Volunteering can give them a renewed sense of personal wellbeing and worth.

E. Services to Promote Social Justice
   - Every Vincentian needs to understand the Society’s priorities and motivation in advocating for the poor. Voice of the Poor, the National Committee of the Society, upholds Catholic Social teaching by researching, validating, documenting, advocating, and promulgating issues related to the condition of the poor and disenfranchised.
   - At the parish level, social justice can be promoted by publicizing the problems of the poor, providing a forum to discuss poverty issues and society’s proper response to them, and seeking to inform and influence public opinion.
   - At the local, state, and federal levels, promotion of social justice requires advocacy, and the establishment and operation of programs, benefits, and services that address the root causes of want and encourage respect for human life and dignity.

Special Works From National
Auto Program
Distribution Center
Homeless Services
Manufacturing/Recycling
Pantry/Food Distribution Ctr
Senior Services
Dental Service
Funeral Services
Housing
Medical Equipment
Pharmacy
Shelter
Transient Aid
Youth Services
Training Center

Another list from Somewhere
Special works include:
thrift stores
dining rooms
food pantries
meals on wheels
free pharmacies
homeless shelters
transitional housing
summer camps for kids
indigent burial
budget and tax counseling
employment services
job training
assistance for the disabled
crime victim support
jail/prison ministry and post-release services
medical and dental clinics
eldercare, and family resource centers.
Back-to-School programs
Christmas Adopt-A-Family programs
meal programs
special homeless services
thrift stores
winter shelter programs
water collection/distribution during summer heat
blanket/coat collection/distribution during the winter cold

Queen of All Saints 2022 Accomplishments
Home Visitation Teams
Criminal Justice Dress Out
Holy Bakers
Holy Couponers
Holy Haulers
Hygiene Packet Team
Rag Ladies
Sandwich Brigade
Welcome Committee (Recruiting?)
St Peter and Paul Meals
School Backpacks and Supplies
Hancock Weekend Bags (Food)
Birthday Bags for DePaul USA Residents
St. Patrick Center Meals
Sluggers
Coats Drive
Thanksgiving
Christmas Program Adopt-a-Family
Christmas Program-Giving Tree
Walk for The Poor

From the Standards of Excellence Questionnaire
  · What does the Conference do to go beyond just meeting immediate needs (such as rent, utilities, food, clothing) and helping individuals move out of poverty? (check all that apply):
  · Special works or Systemic Change programs of our Council
  · Referring friends in need to community programs that build skills
  · Follow-up home visits / mentoring to deepen our relationships with our neighbors in need (describe briefly):
  · Advocating for change in local, state, or federal policies (cite examples)