



## LADIES OF CHARITY

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ®

*Providing Vincentian Leadership to Women Acting Together Against All Forms of Poverty*

LCUSA NATIONAL SERVICE CENTER

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### REPORTING HOURS FOR VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES

In the 21st century, as Ladies of Charity we seek ways to continue the mission of St. Vincent de Paul and St. Louise de Marillac by partnering with the poor and marginalized, especially women and children, and others in works of charity and justice. This means not only meeting corporal and spiritual needs but also advocating to change systems that have contributed to someone's personal situation. [Reference: LCUSA website <http://aic.ladiesofcharity.us> Who We Are; Advocacy].

Volunteer activities may be undertaken directly through hands-on care and support, e.g., providing food, clothing, shelter, emergency financial assistance, emotional support or counseling, etc.; or indirectly through activities which help to sustain the overall LCUSA mission, e.g., stocking pantry shelves, sorting donated clothing, fund-raising, seeking education commensurate with LCUSA's mission, advocating for those less fortunate by writing to your legislators, serving as an officer of your association or on a diocesan or national board, etc. Fundamental to our responsibilities as Catholic women, activities which support the mission of our faith through our parishes and the diocese may be counted.

Activities may be undertaken with other association members or independently; with those being served; in collaboration with other Vincentian Family members or Catholic organizations; or in collaboration with individuals or organizations who share a similar mission. Volunteer activities may also be undertaken on a local, national or international basis.

Preparation for volunteer activities, i.e., phone calls, emails, etc. and travel time to and from the activities should also be tallied.

A guide for your review follows. Should you be uncertain if an activity qualifies, the LCUSA National Office or your regional vice president is available to answer any questions. This list not meant to be comprehensive but rather a guide to help you review your volunteer hours spent in service and whether they qualify as Ladies of Charity activities.

## **GUIDE FOR LCUSA VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES**

### **Advocacy and Systemic Change**

Advocating publicly for the poor to achieve basic social, economic and political rights, i.e., writing legislators, serving on policy-making committees, attending town hall meetings

Educating association members and others to learn more about challenges facing the poor and vulnerable, i.e. domestic violence, human trafficking, etc.

Gathering data to be used by policy makers

Signing up to receive email updates on current issues, i.e., CapWiz, justiceformigrants.com, Voice of the Poor, etc.

Supporting systemic change projects through leadership and education, job placement, funding, creative activities, etc.

### **Collaboration with the Vincentian Family and Other Organizations, i.e., Catholic Charities, Daughters of Charity, Vincentian priests, St. Vincent de Paul Society**

Attending local and national meetings and conferences

Serving as an officer of a conference, council, or committee

Serving on a diocesan or national board

Supporting fund-raising activities

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

Bingo

Caregiving, i.e. laundry, bathing, socializing, meal preparation, respite care

Clothes closet

Community health & awareness, i.e., low-income clinics, health fairs, home visits

Crisis ministry

Emergency assistance, i.e. for shelter, utilities, other

Food box deliveries

Food preparation, i.e. soup kitchens, AIDS hospice

Holiday gift baskets

Jobs Search

Managing food pantry

Meals-on-Wheels

Mentoring

Preparing layettes

Prison ministry

Reading enrichment

Restorative justice programs

Resume writing

Sewing/knitting/crocheting clothing or gift items

Shelters, i.e., for women and children; the homeless

Shopping for special needs items

Shopping, i.e., for seniors, the disabled

Supporting veteran's needs

Thrift shops

Transportation

Tutoring and literacy programs, i.e., Project Graduation

Visiting the sick or infirmed, i.e., hospitals, hospice, retirement/nursing homes, day care centers

## **GUIDE FOR LCUSA VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES (cont.)**

### **Fundraising Activities**

Auctions  
Bake or bake-less sales  
Bingo  
Boutique/Holiday Mart  
Calendar Sale  
Card Party  
Consignment Sale  
Cookbook Sale  
Designer Show House  
Donations outreach, i.e., local/national businesses  
Garage sale  
Grant-writing  
Memorials  
Raffles  
Style show  
Thrift store  
Walking Events

### **Local Activities**

Attending the national assembly  
Attending general or executive board meetings  
Donating grants and scholarships  
locally/nationally  
Installation ceremony of new board members or  
general members  
Learning about our Vincentian Heritage, i.e.,  
LCUSA & FamVin websites, etc.  
Learning about the first Ladies of Charity, i.e.,  
LCUSA & FamVin websites, etc.  
Participating in association volunteer projects  
Phone calling and emailing  
Preparing agendas, reports, minutes,  
presentations, newsletters, mailings, etc.  
Serving as an officer  
Serving on the diocesan or LCUSA national or  
AIC board  
Signing-up on the LCUSA Facebook page  
Signing-up to receive announcements from the  
LCUSA website  
Twinning with underprivileged countries  
Using the LCUSA website as a resource

### **Parish/Diocesan Activities**

Church care, altar society, sacristan  
Eucharistic minister, lector, choir member, parish  
office volunteer  
Marriage/baptism preparation; CCD program  
Parish fund-raising, i.e., church fairs, boutiques,  
rummage sales  
Parish home visits  
Prayer groups  
Receptions, i.e., memorial/funeral reception, First  
Holy Communion, Confirmation  
Serving on parish or diocesan council or committees  
Special parish committee member

### **Spiritual Activities**

Association Mass  
Celebrating Vincentian feast days  
Collaborating with the spiritual moderator/advisor  
Eucharistic Adoration  
Pilgrimages  
Prayer at meetings  
Praying Novenas  
Prayer services  
Praying the rosary  
Preparing spiritual reflections  
Retreats/Days of Reflection  
Spiritual book reading and reflection  
Spiritual meditation