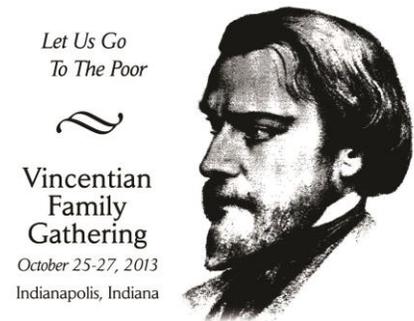


February 2015



Dear Participant in the Vincentian Family Gathering of 2013!

Over one year ago we gathered as Family. We honored Frederick Ozanam on his 200th birthday and Fr. Memo challenged us to

- ✓ Go deeper into the spirituality of systemic change
- ✓ Collaborate to end poverty through systemic change
- ✓ Make a place at the table for Vincentian young adults

We sent one another home with a flash drive of materials to teach others about the principles of systemic change. ***Were those materials useful? If so, will you let us know how?***

The Leadership of the branches of the Vincentian Family is committed to fostering collaboration for systemic change in ministry for and with persons living in poverty. They gathered in November, 2014 in Philadelphia and focused on recent studies of young adult Vincentians and their interaction with the Mission and the Family. Scott Kelley of DePaul University suggested the following strategies:

- ✓ Drop any narrative of diminishment and explore the narrative of opportunity
- ✓ Rethink the meaning of “Vincentian” in light of changing views
- ✓ Engage and partner with lay Vincentian young adults in service and formation
- ✓ Share your lived tradition and experiences as Vincentian Family

Sister Mary Ann Daly challenged Leadership to explore their responsibility to nurture the Vincentian charism into the future. How might our current systems and practices need to change in order to engage the talents of young adults? Are we listening?

The VinFam Collaborators continue to plan next steps. You have received the SAVE THE DATE for the October 2015 VinFam Gathering in Denver. The theme is: *Going Deeper: Building Community and Collaboration for Systemic change around Homelessness.*

Regional VinFam gatherings have occurred in New Orleans, Northern and Southern California, Chicago, Denver, Philadelphia, St. Louis, and Louisville. Please consider a regional gathering or a training session within your branch of the Family! Thank you!

Sister Julie Cutter DC, chair, and the Vincentian Family Collaborators of North America