

Voice of the Poor

November, 2006

Voice of the Poor Survey Form for Conferences

Diocese of Phoenix, Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Every year Voice of the Poor presents a Legislative Agenda to the SVdP Phoenix Diocesan Board for discussion and action. This agenda is the guide for advocacy in local Arizona communities and at the State Legislature. Voice of the Poor is asking Vincentians to help us prioritize areas for advocacy based on direct service to the poor.

Please have your Conference members discuss, reach a consensus, and select what they consider to be the **top three priority issues** or needs of the poor they serve. Rank your top Conference priorities as one, two or three. Thank you!

Which issues or needs of the poor listed below should the SVdP Diocesan Board Voice of the Poor Committee advocate to improve?

- _____ 1 **Affordable Housing**
- _____ 2 **Utility subsidies**
- _____ 3 **Shelter and services for the homeless**
- _____ 4 **TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families)** – Cash assistance to help clients move from welfare to self sufficiency
- _____ 5 **Elimination of KidCap in Arizona** (prohibits any child born or conceived while the mother receives TANF from receiving aid until they are adults)
- _____ 6 **KidsCare & KidsCare Parent** (health care coverage for working poor families with incomes between \$20 and 40 K)
- _____ 7 **Childcare subsidies for low income working parents**
- _____ 8 **Job training programs to increase earning power**
- _____ 7 **Payday loans and other predatory lending practices**
- _____ 8 **A comprehensive, fair and just approach to immigration policy**
- _____ 9 **Fair Wages**
- _____ 10 **Increased educational opportunities for low income families**
- _____ 11 **Any other issue or concern which conference members have determined affect those they serve.** Please specify

Conference: _____
Contact Person: _____ Phone : _____