



San Roque Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Inc. Introduction-Summary

Mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, San Roque Conference

As a Christian society, the purpose of the San Roque Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul is to follow Christ through any form of service that helps to alleviate suffering and deprivation, while promoting the dignity and personal integrity of our needy Santa Barbara area friends. The San Roque Conference of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul offers spiritual and material assistance to *every needy person* who resides in the Santa Barbara Area, (#101 freeway, Olive Mill exit/Montecito North to Turnpike exit) Our spiritual support and service is offered to all the suffering and deprived; regardless of faith, nationality, or gender, including those considered homeless.

Confidentiality

All information gathered in the interview process and from other sources is confidential. However, when necessary to gain additional aid, additional social services, additional medical services, or spiritual support; the information provided may be shared with the appropriate service. Unless ordered by the court system, information is never shared with any law enforcement agency.

Interview process and Documentation

The Friend-In-Need will complete the interview questionnaire, and provide confirmation of I.D., and also provide copies of appropriate invoices or bills relative to the request. No help can be provided without proper documentation. The Friend-In-Need will sign the outline of services, the confidentiality statement, and the interview questionnaire that we are all in agreement.

Categories of Assistance

The San Roque Conference of St. Vincent de Paul offers spiritual comfort, or financial assistance to any poor, needy or disadvantaged Santa Barbara area resident, who contacts us directly and voluntarily. Our goal is to provide short term aid which will help our Friend-In-Need recover from a temporary setback or moment of need. **We also strongly encourage our friend in need for a self-help strategic “plan” to help break the cycle of poverty, and provide long term solutions to current challenges and needs.**

Spiritual Aid

Our primary goal is to share the love of God with our Friends-In-Need, who are always welcome to join with us in prayer, and to join us at Daily and Sunday Masses. At the beginning and end of every interview, the members of the Society pray with every Friend who comes to us for assistance. When the needs of the Friend indicate additional spiritual support will be helpful, we guide the Friend to the appropriate spiritual counselor or social service.

Financial Aid

We never give cash for any reason. When our Friends-In-Need require financial assistance, limited assistance is available. Rarely is financial aid available on an immediate basis, rather all requests for any type of aid are reviewed and voted upon by the Society members at our twice a month meetings. When the Society votes to assist a Friend financially, the amount of aid is limited. Once, a Friend receives financial aid from the Society, they are not eligible for financial assistance again for one full calendar year.

Shelter

We usually do not provide financial aid for motel stays, or similar requests which will not make a significant impact or improvement on the Friend’s situation. Temporary shelter is immediately available for anyone at Santa Barbara Rescue Mission, Santa Barbara Salvation Army, and Santa Barbara Transition House.

CONFIDENTIALITY WORKS BOTH WAYS: The two people who visit you today are volunteers and have no power to make a decision, or promise an outcome on the spot, but they will make every effort to represent your story fairly and without judgement. They cannot assist you on their own if the Society votes that this is not a case in which they can help. If you have their personal email, address or phone number, we ask the you do not contact them directly. Always use the following number and email to contact Society volunteers: 805-315-3771 and sanroquesvdp@gmail.com.

This outline was presented to me on _____ . I understand and agree to the terms and conditions.

Date

Friend-In-Need

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