

OUT OF POVERTY...

Society of St. Vincent de Paul - Western Region

INFORMATION FROM VOICE OF THE POOR

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Dear Western Region Vincentians:

The March 2015 issue of *OUT OF POVERTY...* includes several articles inspired by the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering, which took place in Washington, DC on February 6-10. Among them: the reflection by Archbishop Wenski of Miami on "God Takes the Side of the Poor", followed by articles with more specific information about the Gathering by Fr. Louis Arceneaux, C.M and by Dave Barringer.

Based on the comments made by Fr. Louis Arceneaux, other articles were developed, one on the "Life and dignity of every person" and another on "Comprehensive Immigration Reform", talking about Bishop Gerald Kicanas of Tucson testifying on behalf of the USCCB, before the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Immigration and Border Security. Immigration was also the focus of three short pieces, concluding with an opportunity to take Action.

As several Councils are now planning the program called "Getting Ahead in this Just Getting by World", we felt the need to discuss how we integrate "Bridges out of Poverty" into the work of the Society. Perhaps, based on your experience, you might have much more to say about this. Please let us know.

Starting on Page 14, we analyze the significant issues that people in poverty face in Arizona, because of a very weak public education system and a state budget that exacerbates the problem, instead of resolving it. We are aware that others states face similar issues.

From Page 15, we provide information about the 2015 Western Region Meeting in Burbank, CA and the Social Action Summer Institute in Portland, OR. On May 28, in Burbank, Voice of the Poor and Bridges out of Poverty will offer a pre-conference seminar, open to all Vincentians.

The "News from the Western Region", include brief updates from Alaska, Arizona, California, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. We know

that more VOP action is happening elsewhere in the Region, and we look forward to hearing about it for the next newsletter.

To view, read and/or print the Newsletter, please click on:

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/1e2ddd5d0e3e251b8a0d8181d/files/1_Out_of_Poverty_March_2015.pdf

Giulio Grecchi

Volunteer - Society of St. Vincent de Paul

Tucson Diocesan Council

Voice of the Poor - Western Region Representative

<http://www.wrvop.org/>