

SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL, ABUJA CENTRAL COUNCIL
ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 2016

1.0 BACKGROUND

Society of St. Vincent de Paul (SSVP) is a worldwide movement fulfilling uniquely one of the principal apostolates of the church. It was founded in France by Blessed Frederick Ozanam in 1833 and extended to Nigeria in 1960.

The Society seeks before everything else the personal sanctification of its members, which bears fruit in acts of justice and charity towards the poor.

2.0 AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The aims and objectives of the Council lies squarely on charity to the needy; to seek and find those who are forgotten or neglected; to bring Christ's love to those suffering or deprived and comfort those troubled or in distress; to provide food, shelter and clothing to those in need; to render medical assistance to those who are sick; bring succor to those who are in prison and assist in the spiritual growth of those we serve.

3.0 SCHEDULE OF MEETING

The Council holds her meetings quarterly and usually on the 2nd Saturday of the month in a particular quarter slated for the meeting. The meeting rotates round all Conferences within the Council to allow for greater and active participation of Conferences and promote cordial relationship between the Council and Conferences as well as fraternity among members.

4.0 MEMBERSHIP

The Council President Bro. Chibuzor Ezeani, in 2014, appointed the following executive members in addition to the permanent and higher Council board members to assist in overseeing the Council.

S/N	Name	Phone No.	Position	E-mail
1.	Rev Fr. Sebastian Musa	07032736534	Spiritual Director	attah_u@yahoo.com
2.	G.P. Ebhojie, KSM	08033496303	National Patron and International Territorial VP for Africa 1	ebhojie@yahoo.com
3.	Augustine Inoh	08027107002	Director, Projects Africa	augustineinoh@yahoo.co.uk
4.	C.I Amajirionwu	08061159543	CC Patron	
5.	G. Omiko	08023109867	CC Patron	
6.	Pascal Ahizih	08035912112	Patron CC	pasahizih2020@yahoo.com
7.	Albert Nzekwu	08052856993	Metro Fin Sec	beluolisah@gmail.com
8.	Chibuzo Ezeani	08037031990	President	sygonprojects@yahoo.com
9.	Ohiagu Joy	08036231140	1st VP CC	adaku_j@yahoo.com
10.	Henry Enwerem	08035886995	2 nd Vice President CC	enwehenry@gmail.com
11.	Anaedobe Ugochukwu	08069058107	CC Secretary	vitalisugo@yahoo.com

12.	Jude Akubue	08064003747	CC Asst. Sec	cjokus@yahoo.com
13.	Onyinye Amulu	08035450420	Fin Sec CC	amuluonyinye@yahoo.co.uk
14.	Sis. Uzoamaka Udeogu	08062846119	Treasurer	
15.	Emma Nnaemeka	08037881653	Twining & Aggregation Officer	esko2001ng@yahoo.com
16.	James Ishom	07034772323	Training Officer	terfaishom@gmail.com
17.	Sir Emmanuel Ajewole	08065709528	Special Board Member/Chairman Ozanam House Project	eoajewole@gmail.com
18.	Egenti Margaret	08033063140	Special Board Member	kujanti@yahoo.co.uk
19.	Sir. Peter Aliu	08033492837	Special Board Member	peteraliu@yahoo.com
20.	Nwachukwu Charles	08036082939	Special Board Member	nwachukwumeka14@yahoo.com
21.	Sylvester Odogwu	08038804804	Special Board Member	silveodogwu@gmail.com
22.	Nneka Muoghalu	08161579858	Special Board Member	
23.	Fidelis Akomaye	08069258134	Youth Coordinator	fidelis.akomaye@yahoo.com
24.	Collins Uformba	08060065145	Asst. Youth Coordinator	collinsgstn@gmail.com

The Council is also made up of the following active conferences:

Conferences in Abuja Central Council

S/No	NAME OF CONFERENCE	MEMBERSHIP	DATE OF AGGREGATION	DATE OF FOUNDATION	CGI REG NUMBER
1	Our Lady Queen of Nigeria, Garki	70	03-06-96	1984/02/00	
2	Holy Trinity, Maitama	56	20-04-98	1995/07/00	
3	Holy Family, Life Camp	27	03-07-01		
4	Holy Rosary, Wuse	20	03-06-96	1989	
5	Church of Assumption, Asokoro	36	17-06-12	2000	59977
6	Christ the King, Kubwa	41	20-04-98	20-07-97	
7	Holy Cross, Gwarimpa	40	17-06-12	14-08-05	59983
8	St. Luke, Kubwa	28	17-06-12	20-03-00	59981
9	Cathedral of 12 Apostles	11	17-06-12	2004	59978
10	St. Mary, Karu	43	30-06-04	01-03-98	54425
11	St. Martins Lugbe	41	23-12-14		60948
12	SS Peter & Paul, Nyanya	35	03-07-01	16-09-94	
13	St. Kevin Jikwoyi	19	30-06-04	2002/01/00	54426
14	St. Donald Karu	28	30-06-04	08-02-02	54427
15	Guardian Angel Police Chaplaincy Lugbe	30	Applied		
16	St. JohnMary Vianney, Kubwa	15	Applied		
17	St. Agnes Wuye	22	Applied		
18	Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Galadimma	17	Applied		
19	St. Charles Lwanga, Apo	32	Applied		
20	St. Christopher Games Village	23	Applied		
21	Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Sabon Lugbe	30	17-06-12	14-09-03	59975
22	Sacred Heart Gwagwalada	15	03-07-01	04-05-97	
23	St. Kizito Kuje	20	17-06-12	1998	59974

24	St. Monica Byazhin	17	Applied		
25	St. Theresa, Bwari	22	17-06-12	2009/09	59984
26	St. Jude, Zuba	25	17-06-12	11-10-09	59979
27	St. Patrick, Karshi	5	Applied		
28	St. Joseph Gwagwga/Jiwa	10	20-04-98	21-01-96	
29	All Saints Dutse	33	17-06-12	2008	59976
30	St. John Paul, Kubwa	13	Applied		
31	Holy Ghost, Saburi	26	17-06-12	07-08-11	59982
32	St. Linus Chika	12	Applied		
33	St. Anthony Kabusa	13	Applied		
34	St. Mathew Karmo	16	03-06-96	19-07-92	
35	Church of Archangel Gaduwa/Durunmi	18	Applied		
36	Arch Angel Raphael Garki	14	Applied		
37	St. John De Baptist Mpape	12	Applied		
38	CKC Kurudu	15	Applied		
39	St. Paul Gwagwalada	20	11-07-94	29-01-87	
40	St. John Tugan Maji	13	Applied		
41	St. Benedict Efab Estate Lokogoma	25	Applied		
42	St. Augustine Dutse Sagbayi	15			
43	St. Rita Dakwo	38	Applied		
44	Church of Annunciation Arab Road Kubwa	15	Applied		
45	St Joseph Zone 7, Lugbe	15	Applied		
		1103			

In addition to the Conferences listed above, the Council also has some Conferences undergoing tutelage and awaiting inauguration once confirmed ripe for such by their parent conference. These conferences include:

Conferences Under Tutelage

S/NO.	CONFERENCE NAME	MEMBERSHIP
1	St Pius X Gbagalape	20
2	St. Augustine Angwandadi	8
3	Archangel Raphael Mopol Nayanya	8
4	St. Peter Claver Mini Campus	25
5	St. Catherine, Giri	9
6	St. Peter Abaji	14
7	St. Francis Galadimawa	4
8	St. Monica, Sauka	6
9	St. Mary Conference Tudun Wada Lugbe	20
10	Our Lady Queen of Peace, Utako	19
11	St Edwin, Kubwa	4
12	St Donatus, Sokale	13
13	St. James, Dawaki	8
14	St. Ignatius of Antioch, Karu	12
	Total Membership	170

5.0 GROWTH

During the period under review, the Council inaugurated five (5) conferences in addition to the conferences established newly and undergoing tutelage. The inaugurated conferences are as follows:

S/No.	Conference Name	Date of Inauguration
1	St. Benedict Conference, Efab Estate, Lokogoma	7 th February, 2016
2	St. Augustine Sangbadi, Dutse	28 th February, 2016
3	St. Joseph Conference, Zone 7, Lugbe	29 th May, 2016
4	St. Rita Conference, Ndakwo	19 th June, 2016
5	Church of Annunciation, Bazango, Kubwa	3 rd August, 2016

6.0 MAJOR PROJECTS

The Councils Ozanam House project is still on course. Council is looking at every means to overcome the challenges being faced in the project. Presently the Council is trying as much as possible to shore up the project account to a meaningful level that will enable a tangible activity on the site. Building a bridge across the valley for access to the site is also being considered.

7.0 PROGRAMMES FOR THE YEAR:

The Council as usual continued carrying out its primary duties and activities by coordinating and supervising the activities and performances of Conferences. During the year under review, many conferences under tutelage were inaugurated and brought into the Council.

Some conferences that were inactive were reactivated through visits and discussions, awareness campaign and membership drive in the respective conferences. Food sharing during the Easter and Christmas periods was organized to happen simultaneously across all conferences on the same day and at the same time.

During the course of the year, the Central Council carried out and also participated in lots of activities as detailed hereunder:

7.1 Participation of the Central Council in SSVP Activities:

- **The Joint feast celebration of the Vincentian family:** All the various arms of the family were present at SS Simon & Jude Minor Seminary, Kuje on 23rd October 2016. A committee to plan the 400th anniversary celebration of St. Vincent de Paul was constituted. The committee which is made up of members drawn from the various arms of the family is headed by Sir. Patrick Ebhojie, the National Patron and International Territorial Vice President for Africa 1
- Hosting of the National Council Annual General Meeting (AGM) from 29th April to 1st May, 2016 at DRAAC, Sabon Lugbe, Abuja.
- The Metro Council meeting held at Lokoja on 12th -14th March, 2016.
- The 44th meeting of Abuja Metropolitan Council which took place on 12th – 14th August, 2016 at Lafia.

- **Collaboration with the Leprosy Foundation of Nigeria:** The Council collaborated with the foundation in disseminating information concerning the disease and enlightening the public on the misconceptions attached to the disease. This was achieved through marketing a home video which encapsulated in a DVD format the information and message being passed in a movie.

7.2 Activities Organized by the Central Council:

1. Training:

The Abuja Central Council of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, Nigeria in its bid to equip members with the wherewithal to face challenges encountered in the course of carrying out its duties to their masters (the poor and the needy) and also to understand the rules and regulations of the Society in order to take the Society to greater heights organizes training for its member's bi annually.

A. First Training of the Year

The first training for the year held as scheduled at Christ the King Church Conference Kubwa on the 14th of May, 2016.

The training topics include:

- "In Giving, We Receive":** Presented by Bro James Ishom, JP (Council Training Officer)
- Twining Procedures:** Presented by Bro. Emma Nnaemeka (Council's Twining and Aggregation Officer)
- Counseling:** Presented by Mrs. P.C Nwokenna (Counselor in PACA OLQN)

B. Second Training of the Year:

The 2nd biannual training for the year held as scheduled on the 22nd October, 2016 at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, Maitama

The Council introduced a Uniform Account Record Book for Conferences which will require officers of the conferences especially Secretaries, Financial Secretaries and Treasurers to keep their records in such a way that reports can be compiled when required, weekly, monthly, quarterly and annually both for Society's own purposes and for the general public.

It will also afford the Central Council the opportunity not only to maintain uniformity in record keeping without deviating from the format generally used by the International Confederation of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul but also to maintain strict accountability in the management of funds in the Council.

The training centered largely on the proper book keeping and effective utilization of Uniform Account Record Booklet.

2. Youth Activities:

A. Participation in SSVP Activities:

The youth wing of the Council also participated in various activities being organized both at Metro and National levels. Some of these activities include:

- i. The National youth rally with the theme “Vincentian Apostolate and the Year of Mercy” held on the 25th through 28th August, 2016 at St. Louis Girls College, Jos.
- ii. The National Youth Coordinators workshop with the theme: “Combating Poverty: The Role of Vincentian Youths” held on the 24th through 26th of June, 2016 at St. Peters Catholic Church, Ediba Calabar, Cross River State.
- iii. The 7th Abuja Metropolitan Youth Rally held at Redeemer Secondary School, Ankpa, Kogi State

B. Central Council Youth Training:

The Youth of the Council also organized a training on the 12th July, 2016 at Our Lady Queen of Nigeria Pro Cathedral Garki.

Papers presented include:

- i. “Spirituality of St. Vincent de Paul Society” by Rev. Fr. Paul Oziabor Salami
- ii. “Basic Requirements of Christian Leadership (The Four Cs of Christian Leadership)” by Sis. Joy Ohiagu

C. Youth Visitation to Shenegu Community:

The youth also embarked on a visit to Shenegu community, a remote area in the suburb of Abuja taking food, clothes and other items to them.

8.0 MAJOR CHALLENGES:

One of the greatest challenges being faced by Abuja Central Council is the development of the Ozanam House. Council is looking for ways and means to sort out the challenge of access to the site and equally raising fund to kick start the project.

Furthermore, the need to maintain accurate record keeping by conferences is a challenge the Council has decided to tackle headlong. Council believes that maintaining good and accurate book keeping will uplift the image of the Society and as well build the confidence of the benefactors, priests and lay faithful on the Society, who contribute financially to the work of the Society in catering for the poor and needy.

9.0 INSTITUTION, AGGREGATION AND TWINNING

Abuja Central Council was instituted on 3rd July, 2001. In pursuit of meeting with the stipulated criteria and operating strictly in consonance with the set objectives of the Society, Conferences had been encouraged to fill and submit aggregation forms to the Council for further transmission to International head office. However, twenty-five (25) conferences in the Council had been aggregated while twenty conferences (20) have applied for aggregation and awaiting their certificates.

The Council has been making serious efforts in training conferences to understand the meaning, modalities and benefits of twinning. It is hoped that very soon, Conferences will take advantage of it.

In furtherance of the above, the Council in its bid to improve the knowledge of conferences on the twinning procedures introduced internal twinning programme within the Council. In this

internal arrangement, conferences are twinned to each other for cross fertilization of ideas, financial assistance and mutual collaboration in resource sharing.

10.0 WAYS OF COOPERATION

There is the need for greater cooperation between the Conferences and the Council. This was achieved through rotational meetings of the Council between the Conferences and regular visits of the Council to the Conferences. Since all Conferences are working towards achieving the same goals of the Society, many conferences with more resources had been of great support to those with less resources to enable them take care of the needy in their environments.

11.0 WAYS HIGHER COUNCIL CAN ASSIST LOWER COUNCIL

While lower Councils perform their financial obligations to higher Council, higher Council should in turn give moral support to the lower councils; advising them in the face of challenges and open up constant channel of communications for smooth flow of information.

12.0 SOURCES OF FUNDS:

The Council derives fund from the following sources:

1. Levies
2. Alms Box Collection
3. Secret Bag Collection
4. Donations from Benefactors
5. Annual Dues
6. Publications

13.0 PUBLICATIONS:

The Council constantly made publications in the Society's Annual Magazine produced by the National Council. Equally of note is the Uniform Annual Report for Conferences which was newly published and introduced for use in the Council.

14.0 FINANCIAL & STATISTICAL REPORT

INCOME

S/No.	INCOME	AMOUNT(₦) 2015	AMOUNT(₦) 2016
1	Amount B/F	10,739,064.71	14,995,667.74
2	Alms Box Collection	28,839,954.00	40,168,655.98
3	SBC	2,435,302.00	3,079,311.00
4	Grants from Higher Council	195,000.00	1,304,925.00
5	Church Collections	24,333,896.80	28,779,575.00
6	Donation from Benefactors	14,766,010.00	14,353,682.50
7	Annual Dues	125,360.00	217,900.00
8	Fund Raising	16,542,671.48	17,159,901.84
9	Endowment Fund		
	OTHERS		
10	Projects	21,712,312.00	1,537,390.00
11	Publications		2,355,015.00

12	Refunds		3,534,212.00
13	Bank Interest		49,220.79
		<u>119,689,570.99</u>	<u>127,535,456.85</u>

EXPENDITURE

S/No.	EXPENDITURE	AMOUNT(₦) (2015)	AMOUNT(₦) (2016)
1	Cash Spent on Adoptees Including Food	35,926,005.20	51,555,048.16
2	Clothes, Renting and Repairs of Houses	3,694,674.63	5,572,610.00
3	Payment of School Fees and Training	6,107,986.00	5,794,060.00
4	Subscriptions to Higher Council and Annual Dues	2,579,960.00	4,305,785.00
5	Stipends for Masses	521,252.00	390,460.00
6	Drugs If Different from A & B	34,707,915.60	34,514,855.00
7	Endowment Fund	6,000.00	
8	Working Expenses	8,108,305.00	5,076,156.00
	OTHERS:		
9	Way Sides		1,700,488.00
10	Projects		6,472,330.00
11	Bank Charges	15,565.30	39,486.89
12	Publications		1,135,040.00
13	Institutions		467,900.00
		<u>100,609,893.71</u>	<u>117,024,219.05</u>

<u>SUMMARY</u>		
	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>₦119,689,570.99</u>	<u>127,535,456.85</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>₦100,609,893.71</u>	<u>117,024,219.05</u>
BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD	<u>₦19,079,677.28</u>	<u>₦10,511,237.80</u>

15.0 NON-FINANCIAL STATISTICS

Description	2015	2016
Number of Councils	1	1
Number of Conferences	41	45
Number of Benefactors	220	401
Number of Active Members	801	1273
Number of Meetings held in a year	1363	2242
Average Weekly Attendance	692.5	673.49
Average Weekly Absence with permission	159.5	225.25
Average Weekly Absence without permission	129.6	232.36
Total Number Adoptees	1138	5220
Total Number Adoptees visited at Home	549	1840

Total Number Adoptees visited at Institutions	269	2113
Total Number Clients attended to by the wayside	328	1387
Total Number of Visits to Various Families and Groups		3184

16.0 OBITUARIES:

The Council lost seventeen (17) clients, three (3) members and five (5) benefactors during the period under review. Resurrection prayer was said for the members and masses equally had been booked for all the faithful departed.

17.0 GENERAL:

During the year under review, preparation to set up a monitoring team for conferences in the Abuja Central Council has reached advanced stage and will hopefully take off within the first quarter of 2017. The Monitoring team will be visiting conferences on their meeting days with the view to inspect and monitor their operations and conduct of meetings.

18.0 APPRECIATION:

The Council remains extremely grateful to the Archbishop John Cardinal Olorunfemi Onaiyekan, our Spiritual Director, Rev. Fr. Sebastian Musa, Parish Priests and Spiritual Directors of Conferences as well as Benefactors for their support and cooperation during the year. We pray for God's guidance and blessings to them all.

The Council equally appreciates the president and members of the conferences for their wonderful support, cooperation and service towards the progress of the Council.

The Council indeed remains grateful also to the Poor for giving us the opportunity to serve Christ in them.

Finally, we give God the glory for given us this wonderful opportunity to perform actions towards our own salvation through the activities of the Society in caring for the poor, the needy and the less privileged ones in our environment.

Bro. Chibuzor Ezeani
President

Bro. Ugochukwu Anaedobe
Secretary