



**Interview with Shawn and Ann Ballard, along with others,
are very active with SVDP's Home Visit Ministry.**

You may call Ann and Shawn to learn more at 865-675-0264.

Ann and Shawn, what drew you to want to do home visits with people we serve as members of SVDP?

A family member became homeless and needed our help to navigate her way back to independence. We felt called to learn more about what services are available to help those in need like her. We realized that folks who reach out to SVdP are everyday people who need our help. They need to know they are not alone, abandoned or worthless, but that they are beloved Children of God who are valuable in His sight.

What would you tell someone considering joining you in this ministry?

Don't put off responding to God's call. Call us. Reach out to a member of SVdP to find out more. Saint Teresa of Calcutta said, "Do small things with great love." Start with something small today, and see where the Holy Spirit leads you to serve. We always felt called by Christ to do more. It just never seemed to be the right time to get involved, but when God reached out for us to learn more about this ministry, we realized we all need to make time while we still can do something good for God. Saint James says, "Be doers of the Word and not hearers only." (James 1:21).

What have we been able to do for someone through home visits which was most valuable?

Visiting people at home in teams of two allows us to get to know them in person and build relationships. It allows us to look into their eyes, to see Jesus, and to show God's love first hand. Visiting those in need allows us to see more things we can do to help and to understand their deeper needs. And people never seem to turn down an opportunity to pray. We pray with them, sometimes with tears. You really feel close to the power of God in moments like these.