Frédéric's E-Gazette Q&A 4-30-2020

Q: During this Coronavirus pandemic we are not doing any Home Visits with our clients, how do we keep track of our phone interviews? Where should we enter the hours we spend and the number of people we help over the phone, sometimes it is a referral, counseling or sometimes we are paying a bill?

A: Phone interviews in place of Home Visits are now being done across the country due to the Coronavirus and should be reported in the same manner as you would a Home Visit, except phone interviews should be entered under Other In-Person Visits on the Conference annual report.

Q: We have a Conference that has been devoted solely to a food pantry for many years. Are we required to hold meetings like regular Conferences? We have tried to get members to do Home Visits without much success. What are some ways we can introduce spirituality to our food pantry Conference members so that they might feel the same spiritual growth that occurs on Home Visits. Do you have any recommendations for us to enhance our personal spiritual growth as we interact with those we serve in the pantry?

A: The Conference should be meeting regularly as any other Conference and fulfilling the spiritual requirement of the meetings. In addition, before opening the pantry, members should pray together using the Conference meeting opening prayer and when the pantry closes, members should gather to share in the closing prayer. To those we serve members can distribute holy cards, rosaries or other sacramental with groceries given away.