

Mercy Volunteer Corps

Mercy Volunteer Corps (MVC) is a full-time lay volunteer program offering placements in the continental U.S. and Guyana, South America for a one or two year commitment. Mercy Volunteers serve in Education, Healthcare & Social Services. Volunteers commit equally to service, a simple lifestyle in community, and personal and communal spiritual growth. <http://www.mercyvolunteers.org/>

**Click below to learn about the
U.S. Program
International Program**

Mission Statement:

In partnership with the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, lay women and men of Mercy Volunteer Corps (MVC), enter into relationship with people who are economically poor and marginalized. In a spirit of mutuality, volunteers cultivate mercy and justice in the world by embracing compassionate service, social justice, spirituality and a simple lifestyle in community.

Vision Statement:

Rooted in the spirit of the Scriptures and Catherine McAuley and challenged by the needs of a world in a new millennium, Mercy Volunteer Corps, committed to achieving a more merciful and just world, invites women and men to join with the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas to:

- expand the boundaries of service to poor, sick, and uneducated persons within and beyond the U.S.;
- encourage multicultural diversity within the Mercy Volunteer Corps community and among the people served;
- participate in building community with poor persons and the other ministers of service at the service sites;
- embrace the growth inherent in the conversion process of acting in solidarity with economically poor or marginalized people;
- integrate the learned values of service, community, and prayer into their life experience; and
- develop new relationships with the Mercy community throughout and beyond their service year(s).

Theology of Mission:

Called and missioned by God, the Mercy Volunteer Corps staff, board members, and volunteers commit to the values of compassionate service, a simple lifestyle in community, and spiritual growth. The mission of Mercy Volunteer Corps is rooted in the Christian tradition and inspired by Catherine McAuley's commitment to following Jesus through compassionate service. In partnership with the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Mercy Volunteer Corps is dedicated to connecting lay women and men with people who are economically poor or marginalized. Committed to this mission of mercy, we seek to respond as a community to the tremendous disparities of wealth and power in our world.

We seek to model service that is characterized by accompaniment, mutuality, and respect. We strive to respect the life and dignity of each person with whom we live, serve, and pray, ever conscious of God's presence in all of creation. In our service, community, and prayer, we reach out in love and mercy and learn to receive love and mercy from others. Opening ourselves to God's transforming grace, we hope to be instruments of peace and agents of change in the world.

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"To connect the rich to the poor, the healthy to the sick, the educated and the skilled to the uneducated, the influential to those forgotten, and the powerful to the weak...to do the work of God on Earth."

~Catherine McAuley

Catholic Network of Volunteer Service

Catholic Network of Volunteer Service (CNVS), established in 1963, is a non-profit membership organization of 200 domestic and international volunteer and lay mission programs. Currently, more than 10,000 volunteers and lay missionaries serve in these programs throughout the U.S. and in 108 other countries.

CNVS publishes and distributes [RESPONSE](#), the most comprehensive handbook of lay mission volunteer opportunities. RESPONSE is distributed free of charge to persons interested in faith-based service and those who promote such service. To request hard copies of RESPONSE, you may call toll-free 1-800-543-5046 or e-mail cnvsinfo@cnvs.org

We also provide our member programs with recruitment services, training and technical assistance resources including our [National Conference](#), [Formation Workshops](#), [Renewal Workshops](#), and our web based [Resource Library](#).

CNVS also administers the [AmeriCorps Education Awards program](#) for our member programs.

For more information on Catholic Network of Volunteer Services go to www.cnvs.org/aboutus/index.php.

Copies of RESPONSE magazine is available at GMC Career Services.

Others to consider:

Teach for America www.teachforamerica.org

City Year www.cityyear.org

Peace Corps www.peacecorps.gov

AmeriCorps www.americorps.gov