



Catholic Volunteers in Florida

Transforming Lives Through Faith and Service

**Are you ready for a life-changing experience?
Application Deadline: May 31**



**Take the leap!
Join us for an amazing year of service here in Florida**

We are currently accepting applications for the 2017-18 volunteer class. If you, or someone you know, is interested please contact us or check out our [application process by visiting us online](#) before the May 31 deadline.

Placement Options

CVIF offers volunteers opportunities in public health and advocacy work, teaching and tutoring, community outreach, farmworker and immigrant services, youth leadership, criminal justice reform and more. Our partners are so varied that we are able to work one-on-one with applicants to find an organization that matches their skills and interests.

Through impactful service years, CVs are able to make a positive change in local communities while moving forward in their field of study. Sixty-five percent of our volunteers are even offered employment after their service year.

Immediate Placements Available

Two of our partners are in immediate need and are looking for volunteers to start right away. If you are looking for an opportunity to serve for a year or know someone who fits the descriptions below, please give us a call or apply online today!

**Social Media Coordinator
Miami, Florida**

This position is right for you if you are interested in combining creativity and compassion to provide ongoing support to the organization's goals and to contribute to providing young women with the assistance they need in a moment of crisis. Applicants should be proficient in social media outreach techniques and must be able to assist in office duties including database maintenance, presentations, and research.

**Resident Assistant
Jacksonville, Florida**

This role is perfect for someone who is truly looking for intentional community living. Volunteers in this role assist adults with mental and physical disabilities with daily living activities, which include cooking, community integration, housework, etc. This person will have the opportunity to live in a family atmosphere as an active member of the

Benefits

- * Free Furnished Housing
- * Health Insurance
- * Monthly Stipend
- * Professional Development Opportunities
- * Leadership Training
- * AmeriCorps Education Award (for qualifying positions)

Click [here](#) to apply for the 2017-18 service year

Spring Retreat

A time of reflection, meditation, and encouragement



We had an amazing time during Spring retreat at Saint Leo Abbey. Our week-long retreat was focused on connecting with one another and providing encouragement to our volunteers as they enter their final months of service with CVIF. The Benedictine community welcomed us with open arms and provided a wonderful space for reflection and meditation.

CV alumna and current CVIF board member, Dominique Griffin, shared her thoughts on life after service and enjoyed some time getting to know our volunteers and encouraging them to move forward with the lessons and experiences they collected during their volunteer year.



During our stay, we were able to complete two service projects including working with Habitat for Humanity and working in the grotto at St. Leo's. Volunteers enjoyed some beautiful Florida weather along with a day of silence and a fun evening talent show during which we learned about the many hidden talents of our volunteer family.

CVs participated in a variety of activities including resume writing, visual journaling, and guided meditation. We had the pleasure of guest speakers including Jeff Johnson, State Director of

community taking part in activities including formation and spiritual meetings.

APPLY TODAY

Alumni Spotlight

Written by Bill Demshok

Back in 1984, I was talking to a priest friend of mine about wanting some more spiritual meaning in my life. I worked at an HMO as a physician assistant, and I wondered why some people had health insurance and some did not. It was a naive question. My priest friend had received a brochure in the mail from the CVs and handed it to me. I joined thinking I was doing God a favor.

Thus began an incredibly difficult, rewarding, and fulfilling 1 1/2 years as a volunteer. I worked as a physician assistant in a low income community health clinic in Homestead, Florida. Along the way I experienced centering prayer, the papal encyclicals, theologians, my first spiritual director and counselor, wonderful/ difficult/ hilarious community members, incredible stories, a crash course on consumerism and advertising, meaningful, alive liturgies, and many gratifying and frustrating patient interactions.

I learned simple living, and have kept most of those values even as my income increased.

The Catholic Volunteers set me on a new path, as if I had played the telephone game and finally heard the original Christian message. "Oh, that's what they were saying." ("Blessed are the peacemakers", not "blessed are the cheesemakers"). The CVs I have kept in touch with are "family" in a way my blood family will probably never be.

I am indebted to the CV family and all the gifts I was bestowed which saved my spiritual and emotional life.

Let's Be Friends

education. We had the pleasure of guest speakers including Ben Canham, State Director of AARP, who led a Healthy Living workshop and Liz Gutierrez, of Enterprising Latinas, who hosted a workshop on Community Engagement.

We are so thankful for Father Kyle Smith's spirituality talk as well as the shared expertise provided by Bennett Steigerwald of Notre Dame Mission Volunteers AmeriCorps.

As our CVs embark on their final two months, we invite you to join us in prayers of peace and patience. We know this is a time of stress as they begin contemplating their next moves making decisions between the possibility of joining us for another term, moving on to grad school or accepting an employment opportunity in their field of study.

Service Site Spotlight

This year CVIF has had the opportunity to place two full-time Catholic Volunteers in Wimauma, Florida, a rural, multicultural community located about 30 miles southeast of Tampa in Hillsborough County. The role of the volunteers has been to add much-needed capacity in the health clinic and other community outreach efforts in Wimauma.



CV Nuri Navarro serves in La Esperanza Clinic. Through her role with Catholic Charities, she has increased promotion efforts of the clinic including attending community meetings, conducting community outreach, and speaking at a variety of events about the clinic and its services. With her communications background, Nuri has become an effective "ambassador" of the clinic, building relationships with both clients and the larger community.

CV Marya Noriega has been focused on adding capacity through Enterprising Latinas to the ListenUP Project, which seeks to gather stories through one-to-one interviews with approximately 50 of Wimauma's female youth, and identify their concerns and priorities. This opportunity has allowed Marya to focus on connecting to the young people in the local church and community.



We are very happy to share that Allegany Franciscan Ministries Common Good Initiative, Catholic Volunteers is expanding our volunteer program next fall with added leadership training and community engagement activities to increase community capacity and enhance collaboration.

Let's Be Friends



Follow us on [Facebook](#) for all the latest photos, stories, and inspirational messages from the team.

Our Mission

Catholic Volunteers in Florida is dedicated to providing people of all faiths the opportunity to volunteer for a year and live out their faith by serving the diverse needs of the people of Florida and the Dominican Republic.

Catholic Volunteers work towards justice and peace, transforming the community they serve as well as themselves. We live out our mission statement through our five core values:

Doing Justice
Active Spirituality
Creating Community
Living Simply
Personal Growth

[DONATE NOW](#)