

# Transforming Lives Through Faith and Service

# **Double Your Impact Today**

Greetings of peace this Advent Season! We at Catholic Volunteers in Florida are grateful for the movement of the Holy Spirit and the work of this past year. Thank you for your incredible support!

17 amazing volunteers are serving people on the margins all across the state and building a community that is authentic and inclusive. We are truly honored to accompany people who reflect the beautiful diversity of God's family, across boundaries of race, religion, gender, age, economic background, and life experience, on the journey to discover their passion and purpose.

Thanks to the generosity of the Raskob Foundation for Catholic Activities, your donation in support of our work for racial equity will be matched dollar for dollar. **Double your donation and impact today!** 

#### Donate Online Now

Wishing you and your loved ones the peace and joy of Christ this holy season! From the CVIF Team, Liz, Valarie, and the Class of 2019-20



### **CVIF Serves Agape Mission Market**

#### **Merry Christmas!**

and Happy Holidays from all of us at Catholic Volunteers in Florida!



# **Apply Now!**

There are still a few positions available starting January 2020!



LIFE CHANGING SERVICE YEAR!

Volunteers serve for one-year while CVIF provides their housing, health insurance, a monthly stipend, and quarterly retreats, which includes faith formation, social action, leadership training, and professional development.

Catholic Volunteers in Florida is accepting applications on a rolling basis, so email us your resume TODAY to get started!



Catholic Volunteer Maria Aguilar (second from right) with Fr. Ralph DeWell, Catholic Charities President Gary Tester (far right), and fellow volunteer at dedication of Agape Mission Market.

On November 6th, Catholic Charities of Central Florida dedicated and opened its third Agape Mission Market, located in the Rosemont area. Agape Mission Market is a "choice food pantry" set up like a farmer's market with rustic wood-clad walls, and crates and bins of fresh fruits, vegetables, and other staples for families in need. Designed to honor the dignity of the human person, Agape Mission Market offers a warm and hospitable atmosphere, along with bilingual staff to help guests with financial counseling, budgeting, and family stability.

Catholic Volunteer Maria Aguilar began her service year with Catholic Charities in August, with a focus on supporting the opening of the Agape Mission Market in Rosemont. "For me it has been a blessing to be part of this new project of Catholic Charities of Central Florida and I thank God and Catholic Volunteers of Florida for giving me this opportunity," shares Maria. "It has been a month with many challenges, where I have had the opportunity to humble myself to show Jesus or to find him around me, sanctify the name of God, extend his Kingdom and fulfill his will"

The Agape Mission Market is open Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 1 pm and is located at 4300 Clarcona Ocoee Rd, Suite 401 in Orlando. Check out the article in the Florida Catholic <u>here</u>.



#### **Volunteers Refresh at October Retreat**

#### **EMAIL CVIF**

# **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

#### Thank You!

This work is possible thanks to CVIF's generous sponsors:

Archdiocese of Miami Diocese of Orlando Diocese of St. Augustine Diocese of Palm Beach Diocese of St. Petersburg Diocese of Pensacola-Tallahassee Diocese of Venice

Sisters of St. Joseph of St. Augustine Franciscan Sisters of Allegany Allegany Franciscan Ministries





Each year, CVIF gathers in October at Warren Willis United Methodist Camp to reflect and recharge through fellowship with one another. Highlights of our time were spending time on beautiful Lake Griffin, the high ropes course (including the zip line!), and karaoke. The focus of this retreat was emotional wellness, so we spent time sharing in the circle, learning about practices to sustain and nourish ourselves as we serve, connecting with God and one another. CVIF Board member, Heidi Peckham, also conducted a workshop for us on this important topic. The next CVIF retreat will take place in January in St. Augustine at the Sisters of St. Joseph Renewal Center.





