



Catholic Volunteers in Florida

Transforming Lives Through Faith and Service

Message from the Director



We are very excited to welcome our next incredible team of Catholic Volunteers in Florida! God is on the move! CVIF has 18 amazing volunteers who are called to serving others, living simply, building community, doing justice, and growing in faith. It is truly a blessing and privilege to accompany this community of powerful people who reflect the diversity of God's beautiful kingdom.

Thank you to our family of alum, donors, Board members, sponsors, site partners, and friends who support this work and make it possible. Please keep CVIF in your prayers! May the peace of Christ be with you always! Liz

Some give by serving,
while others serve by giving.

Thank you to CVIF's Board of Directors and family of individual donors who contributed over \$19,000 since April!

Donate Online Now

or
donate by check made payable to:

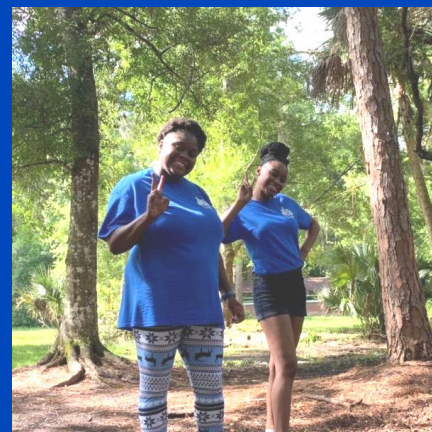
Catholic Volunteers in Florida
P.O. Box 536476
Orlando, Florida 32853-6476

Meet the Class of 2019-2020



Maria Aguilar

Volunteer Orientation



Volunteers and CVIF staff gathered for orientation on August 5-10 at San Pedro Retreat Center near Orlando. It was a wonderful opportunity to get to know each other, share our gifts and sense of calling, and build our team.

We are thankful to our guest presenters **Fr. Leo Hodges, Heidi Peckham, and Dr. Donnie Hale,**

Director of the FLM Education



Orlando resident Maria Aguilar joins Catholic Volunteers in Florida for this 2019-2020 service year. Maria has a degree in Business Administration from Santiago of Cali University in Colombia, and is a specialist in financial management. She has a deep passion to share her talents, the love of Christ, and to give back to the community. Recently, Maria has been assisting with faith formation in Spanish at St. Charles Catholic Church. This year, Maria will be serving at Catholic Charities in Orlando.

Marquis Bell

Marquis Bell, from Orlando, FL, is excited to join Catholic Volunteers in Florida this year! A recent grad from Valencia College, Marquis will be working as a success coach and mentor with the FIU Education Effect in Miami. Marquis is passionate about theater and audio production, and has earned over 500 community service hours. As a CV, he will assist high school students with mentorship, motivation, and college and career readiness.



Shari Benjamin



Shari joined CVIF from Greensboro, North Carolina, and served last year with CVIF at the Overtown Children and Youth Coalition. She received a BS in Therapeutic Recreation from Winston-Salem State University, and has previously volunteered with the College Summit Organization. She enjoys travelling and has visited South Korea, Japan, and the UK. Shari is currently serving as a Career Pathways Program Specialist with the FIU Education Effect in Miami.

Kelsie Brown

Kelsie Brown joins Catholic Volunteers in Florida for our 2019-2020 service year! She is currently pursuing a degree at Eastern Florida State College, where she also served as the secretary of the Cru Club. Kelsie has volunteered with Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, and Keep Winter Park Beautiful. She enjoys outdoor activities, spending time with friends, and cooking. Kelsie will be volunteering with CVIF at L'Arche Jacksonville.



Angela Crawford



Angela Crawford joins us from Palmetto, Florida. With a Masters in Social Work, Angela has a history of working in case management and coaching. Angela is an educator at heart, and she is also the proud mother of three children. This year, Angela will be serving with CVIF at the Children's Campaign as an Advocate Organizer, working in community engagement and communications. Her personal goal for the year is to "learn everything that I can to make a difference in the lives of those who have no voice."

Delesiya Davis

Delesiya Davis joins us from Lansing, Michigan, and is excited



Director of the FIU Education Effect, who offered sessions on prayer, personality types and communication, Catholic Social Teaching, and cultural competency.

Volunteers also enjoyed the beautiful grounds at San Pedro, had the opportunity to do a group service project, and celebrated Ms. V's birthday at a roller rink! On our last day together, we went to Mass as a CVIF family and commissioned the volunteers into their year of service.

We are excited to welcome this amazing volunteer team! Please keep them in your prayers as they start their service year.



to have the opportunity to do justice and peace work in our communities. A recent graduate from the University of Michigan, Delesiya has a degree in Women's studies and history. Delesiya has traveled to 10 countries in 4 continents. Her goal for the service year is to "learn and grow from every experience I have". She will be serving with CVIF at Girl Power in Miami, FL.



Jasmine Fields



Jasmine Fields will be joining Catholic Volunteers in Florida for a second year. She has a degree in Elementary Education from Kentucky State University in Frankfort, KY. As she looks to this second year, Jasmine is excited to continue serving God through service, and looks forward to continual personal and spiritual growth. Jasmine will continue to work as a teacher's aide at St. Andrews Catholic School in Orlando, FL.

Edson Jean

Edson Jean, a South Florida native, studied Psychology at Miami Dade College and served as a mentor with South Florida CARES before coming to CVIF. He has previously served with us as at Overtown Children & Youth Coalition in Miami, and then as our recruitment intern! Edson is called to serve the youth in our communities and to promote wellness. Edson will spend the next year serving with the Children's Campaign in Wimauma.



Dixie Major



Dixie Major joins CVIF from Hickman, Kentucky, where she received a degree in Agriculture and Spanish at Western Kentucky University (WKU). She has studied in Spain and Ecuador, and was the president of WKU's Horticultural Club. Dixie has a passion for volunteerism, and previous experience with the local Boys and Girls Club Learning Garden. She will be serving with Enterprising Latinas in Wimauma as an Employment Services Coordinator.

Mazulie Mompremier

Mazulie Mompremier will be joining CVIF for our 2019-2020 service year. Mazulie has a degree in Development Science from the University Polyvalent of Haiti. She previously worked in community leadership and project development as the Project Coordinator for the Archdiocese of Santiago, and with Catholic Relief Services in Haiti. She is fluent in Creole and Spanish. This year, Mazulie will be serving the community of St. Andrew Catholic Church in Orlando, FL. Welcome, Mazulie!



Yully Nieves



"Catholic Volunteers really helped me focus and realize what my purpose was..."

-Lara Orsini

Check out the article about Catholic Volunteers in Florida from the Florida Catholic! You'll read more reflections on service from previous volunteer, Amorandah Ferris, as well as current volunteers: Lara Orsini and Edson Jean!

[Read Here!](#)





Yully Nieves, a local Orlando resident, joins Catholic Volunteers in Florida for our 2019-2020 service year. She has a B.S. in Sociology and an M.A. in Latin American and Iberian Studies from the University of California at Santa Barbara. Yully served as an international delegate with Caritas Caracas in Venezuela, and has prior experience in teaching, translation, multicultural ministry, and community health. Yully will be serving this year in Orlando, FL.

Annamaria Nori



Annamaria "Ria" Nori is originally from New London, Connecticut where she worked with Allied Community Resources as a Respite Care Provider. She graduated Cum Laude with Bachelor of Science in Health Science degree from Mitchell College. Annamaria has a long history of volunteer service, including service relief to Hurricane victims in Houston, TX. Ria will be serving with CVIF at L'Arche Jacksonville this year.

Lara Orsini

Lara Orsini joins us from Hollywood, Florida and started her service year in January 2019. She has an M.B.A from Sul Ross State University in Alpine, TX, and a Bachelors in Psychology from Florida State Univeristy. Lara has previously volunteered with the Epilepsy Foundation. Her travels outside of the U.S. have included Mexico and the Dominican Republic. This year, Lara is serving as a Job Coach at Bishop Grady Villas with Project Search.



Amanda Osorio



Amanda Osorio joins CVIF from Weston, FL. She has a degree in Latin American Studies and Humanities and Cultural Studies from the University of Central Florida. Amanda has traveled to Italy and Switzerland. Her personal goals for her service year are to "improve my leadership skills, issues facing the Latin American community, and my overall relationship with God." Amanda now serves as the Economic Opportunity Assistant with Enterprising Latinas, Inc. in Wimauma, FL.

Stephanie Parker

Local Orlando resident, Stephanie Parker, will be joining Catholic Volunteers in Florida this year. Stephanie is currently pursuing a degree in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Central Florida. She has a history of service, volunteering with Circle K International, Second Harvest Food Bank, and the UCF Remembers Blood Drive. This year, Stephanie will be serving with the FIU Education Effect in Miami, FL.



Volunteers Not Pictured



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

Positions Still Available!

There are still a few positions available for the 2019-2020 service year!



Volunteers Not Pictured

(the following volunteers joined CVIF after August orientation)

Corbin Hanson joins Catholic Volunteers in Florida from Atlanta, Georgia. She is in the process of earning a degree in Biology from Tuskegee University. Corbin has a long history of community service, volunteering with organizations like Girl Power, the World Literacy Crusade, and the National Black Arts Festival. Corbin will be serving with the FIU Education Effect in Miami, FL.

Auria Creary is from Port St. Lucie and is a graduate of Indian River State College and Temple University in Philadelphia where she received her Bachelors degree in Africology & American-American Studies. She was an English tutor for middle and high school students, and was a resident counselor at the Summer Discovery Program at John Hopkins Univeristy. Auria will be serving as a student success coach with the FIU Education Effect in Miami.

Kayla Jean-Baptiste is a graduate of Miami Dade College and Florida Atlantic University, where she earned a Bachelors in Criminal Justice. Kayla previously served the Little Haiti community in Miami through Public Allies. One of her goals is to "educate youth about their rights, conflict resolution, and communication" and to obtain a Masters degree in Public Administration. Kaya will be serving with FIU Education Effect in Miami this coming year.



APPLY FOR A
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!

[EMAIL CVIF](#)

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**



