

**St. Mary Student Parish**  
**Social Justice Ministry**

**Volunteer Opportunities**  
**&**  
**Advocacy Organizations**

## Volunteer Opportunities

“Whatever you do for one of these least brothers and sisters of mine, you do for me.”  
Mt. 25:40

“Love ought to show itself in deeds over and above words.”  
St. Ignatius of Loyola, *Spiritual Exercises*

### Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County

4925 Packard Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

**Contact Person:** Jolene Sasena, MSW, St. Mary Student Parish member  
[jsasena@csswashtenaw.org](mailto:jsasena@csswashtenaw.org) (734) 971-9781 x401

**Description:** Building on the values of Catholic social teaching, Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County responds to community needs, respects the dignity of all individuals and families in all their diversity, and works to improve their quality of life.

**Volunteer Activity:** CSS coordinates many volunteer programs. The following are recommended for St. Mary Student Parish members:

\**Retired & Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)*: RSVP volunteers assist more than 100 non-profit organizations throughout Washtenaw County. Contact Bimal Chaudhry for further information: 712-3625.

\**Respite Care*: Provide relief to caregivers. Volunteers commit to approximately two hours a week. Training is provided. No skills required. Contact Connie Hoffman for further information: 712-3625

\**Tax Assistance*: Help seniors and disabled persons with their taxes. Training is provided. Contact Joe McCadden for further information: 712-3625.

\**Faith-based Coalition Against Violence (FABCAV)*: Working in conjunction with Safe House, an agency dedicated to building communities free of domestic violence and sexual assault, FABCAV works in communities to promote peace and to create awareness of alternatives to violence. Contact Jolene Sasena for further information: (734) 971-9781 x401.

## **Delonis Community Kitchen**

312 West Huron  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

### **Contact Person(s)**

\*St. Mary Student Parish coordinator: Sheila Marcus, M.D.  
[smmarcus@umich.edu](mailto:smmarcus@umich.edu)

\*Delonis contact person: Missy Orge  
[www.foodgatherers.org](http://www.foodgatherers.org)  
(734) 761-2796

**Description:** The kitchen, located in the Robert J. Delonis Center in Downtown Ann Arbor, provides breakfast for shelter guests (7days/week), weekday lunches and dinners (for anyone in need) and weekend mid-day meals (for anyone in need). Food Gatherers volunteers help with weekday lunches (M-F 11-2), weekday dinners (3-5 cook/set up 5-7:15 serve/clean up), and the weekend mid-day meal (Sat/Sun 12:00-5). Information on the Delonis Community Kitchen can be found at the website: [www.foodgatherers.org](http://www.foodgatherers.org).

**Volunteer Activity:** Volunteers help prepare and serve meals, as well as set up and clean up. St. Mary Student Parish volunteers serve meals at the Delonis Community Kitchen on the first and fifth Fridays of every month. Volunteers serve in one or two shifts: 3-5 pm and 5-7:15pm.

**Volunteer Commitment:** Volunteers can serve with other St. Mary Student Parish volunteers on the first and/or fifth Fridays of the month by contacting Sheila Marcus and/or other days of the month by contacting Missy Orge.

## **Emmanuel House**

2 locations:

475 Evergreen Drive  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

3341 Hillside Drive  
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

**Contact Person:** Sr. Mary Zielinski at (734) 528-9031

**Description:** Emmanuel House, Home for the Elderly, is a home for older adults (three per home) who are no longer capable of living alone and have limited income and support. Sponsored by Servants of God's Love, a Catholic Religious Community in Ann Arbor. Emmanuel House is run entirely by volunteers.

**Volunteer Activity:** Resident and household care: cooking, cleaning, yard work and personal care. Volunteers work shifts of 2-4 hours per visit.

**Volunteer Commitment:** Emmanuel House seeks volunteers willing to establish a relationship with the residents. Therefore, volunteers, after an initial visit, are asked to commit to volunteering three times a month for one year (or school year for students).

**Additional:** Emmanuel House may be an ideal volunteer experience for nursing students and/or those wishing to serve the elderly.  
Emmanuel House in Ann Arbor is accessible by bus.

## **Foodgatherers Warehouse**

1 Carrot Way  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

**Contact Person:** Missy Orge: [missy@foodgatherers.org](mailto:missy@foodgatherers.org) or (734) 761-2796

**Description:** Food Gatherers exists to alleviate hunger and eliminate its causes in our community by: reducing food waste through the rescue and distribution of perishable and non-perishable food, coordinating with other hunger relief providers, educating the public about hunger, and developing new food resources. Information on the Foodgatherers warehouse can be found at the website: [www.foodgatherers.org](http://www.foodgatherers.org).

**Volunteer Activity:** Work on-site (at Food Gatherers Headquarters on Carrot Way) doing inventory, sorting produce and canned goods, packing food orders, repackaging bulk foods, salvaging products, and keeping the warehouse clean and food-safe.

**Volunteer Commitment:** Volunteers can work once a week, once a month, or once in awhile, depending on your schedule and our needs. We don't often know what type of foods we will be rescuing, so this job is different every time! Warehouse help requires light lifting, but the most important requirement of this job is that you not be afraid to get a bit dirty.

## **HERO**

3810 Packard Road, suite 240  
Ann Arbor, MI 48108

### **Contact Person:**

Marti Rodwell (734) 975-6849

[Marti\\_rodwell@yahoo.com](mailto:Marti_rodwell@yahoo.com)

**Description:** HERO stands for Homeless Empowerment Relationship Organization. HERO's mission is to help people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to recognize and claim the power within, in order to obtain their goals for personal growth and success.

**Volunteer Activity:** Volunteers are needed to help with the Food Pantry, the Reusable Clothing and Shoe Distribution and with their Employment Workshops. Individuals and groups can design a volunteer project upon request.

**Volunteer Commitment:** No volunteering commitment is required. Volunteer once, monthly, weekly.

## **Interfaith Hospitality Network-Alpha House**

4290 Jackson Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

### **Contact Person(s):**

\*St. Mary Student Parish coordinator: Lynn McLaughlin:  
L\_J\_McLaughlin@comcast.net

\*Joel Eckel: [jeckel@alphahouse-ihn.org](mailto:jeckel@alphahouse-ihn.org) (734) 822-0220 x 214

**Description:** The mission of Interfaith Hospitality Network at Alpha House is to respond to the immediate needs of homeless families by providing temporary shelter, food and support services in a caring atmosphere of dignity and safety. More than providing just a bed and a roof for families, our goal is to support them in securing and maintaining their own home. Further information on IHN-Alpha House can be found at: [www.alphahouse-ihn.org](http://www.alphahouse-ihn.org).

**Volunteer Activity:** Volunteers help with meals, visit with the children and/or their parents, and support the staff.

**Volunteer Commitment:** St. Mary Student Parish will serve IHN during the weeks of October 30-November 5 and February 19-25, 2007. Volunteers may serve at any time by contacting Joel Eckel.

## **VA Ann Arbor Health Care System**

2215 Fuller Road  
Ann Arbor, MI 48105

### **Contact Person(s):**

\*St. Mary's Student Parish coordinator: Mary Bailey: 747-8363.

\*VA Volunteer Coordinator: Beverly Leneski: Beverly\_leneski.med.va.gov.  
(734) 761-7995

**Description:** The VA Voluntary Service Program operates the largest volunteer program in the Federal Government, supplementing staff and resources in all areas of patient care and support in order to serve our nation's veterans and their families with dignity and compassion. Their motto: "Serving those who served."

**Volunteer Activity:** Volunteers are needed to help in the following areas:

\*Palliative Care (contact St. Mary Student Parish member Mary Bailey for details)

\*Programs for Homeless Veterans

\*Administrative/Clerical

\*Chapel Escort

\*Volunteer Ambassador

\*Van Drivers for Toledo and Grand Rapids

\*Guest Services

\*Patient Sitter

\*Exercise Leader

\*Volunteers are needed during the holidays for various programs

**Volunteer Commitment:** Anyone wishing to volunteer on a regular basis must participate in a VA training program.

## **Additional Student Volunteer Opportunities**

The University of Michigan Ginsberg Center coordinates many volunteer opportunities. For more information, contact SERVE at (734) 936-2437 or their website at: [www.umich.edu/~volunteer](http://www.umich.edu/~volunteer).

## Advocacy Organizations

“Action on behalf of justice and participation in the transformation of the world fully appear to us as a constitutive dimension of the preaching of the Gospel, or in other words, of the Church’s mission for the redemption of the human race and its liberation from every oppressive situation.”

*Justice in the World*, Synod of Bishops, 1971

### Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice (ICPJ)

730 Tappan  
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

**Contact Person:** Chuck Warpehoski at [info@icpj.net](mailto:info@icpj.net) and (734) 663-1870.

**Description:** The Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice is a nonprofit education/social action organization that helps members of the local religious community put their faith into action on issues of peace and justice for all people.

**Advocacy Issues:** ICPJ members participate on one of more of the following task forces:

- \*Disarmament
- \*Globalization
- \*Hunger
- \*Latin America
- \*Middle East
- \*Racial and Economic Justice

Members of St. Mary Student Parish participate in the Congregational Call Campaign, making calls once a month on social justice issues to members of the Congress and Senate. For information and to participate in this program contact Helen Simon at [Helen@goco.org](mailto:Helen@goco.org).

## **Pax Christi**

Pax Christi Michigan  
815 Sparrow Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48910

**Contact Person:** Arun D'Souza, St. Mary Student Parish member,  
[adsouza92@yahoo.com](mailto:adsouza92@yahoo.com).

**Description:** Pax Christi USA strives to create a world that reflects the Peace of Christ by exploring, articulating, and witnessing to the call of Christian nonviolence. This work begins in personal life and extends to communities of reflection and action to transform structures of society. Pax Christi USA rejects war, preparations for war, and every form of violence and domination. It advocates primacy of conscience, economic and social justice, and respect for creation.

Pax Christi USA commits itself to peace education and, with the help of its bishop members, promotes the gospel imperative of peacemaking as a priority in the Catholic Church in the United States. Through the efforts of all its members and in cooperation with other groups, Pax Christi USA works toward a more peaceful, just, and sustainable world.

Pax Christi is a section of Pax Christi International, the Catholic peace movement. Further information can be found at: [www.paxchristiusa.org](http://www.paxchristiusa.org)

**Advocacy Issues:** Pax Christi priority issues include:

- \*Spirituality of Nonviolence and Peacemaking:
- \*Disarmament, Demilitarization and Reconciliation with Justice:
- \*Economic and Interracial Justice in the United States:
- \*Human Rights and Global Restoration:

## **MOSES: Metropolitan Organizing Strategy Enabling Strength**

438 St. Antoine Detroit, MI 48226 (313) 962-5290

**Contact Person:** Greg Markus, Ph.D., [gmarkus@umich.edu](mailto:gmarkus@umich.edu)

**Description:** MOSES is a congregation-centered, faith-based community organization reflecting the religious, racial, and ethnic diversity of Metropolitan Detroit.

MOSES is a vehicle by which congregations of faith come together to develop a network of relationships, to identify common interests, and to exercise power on behalf of those interests. Through MOSES we assert our religious principles in the public realm to improve the quality of life in our communities and to create a more just and human society. For more information, see the website: [www.mosesmi.org](http://www.mosesmi.org).

**Advocacy Issues:** MOSES priority issues include:

- \*Civil Rights for Immigrants
- \*Safe Zones
- \*Transportation
- \*Fix it First and MI\*Voice Land Use Campaign
- \*Land Bank
- \*Health Care

## Washtenaw Housing Alliance

PO Box 7993 110 North Fourth, Suite 100  
Ann Arbor, MI 48109  
(734)222-6553

**Contact Person:** Diane Davidson at: [davidsond@ewashtenaw.org](mailto:davidsond@ewashtenaw.org).

**Description:** The Washtenaw Housing Alliance (WHA) is a unique coalition of ten non-profit organizations that serve the homeless or those at risk of homelessness. All ten agencies are dedicated to improving the continuum of shelter, housing, and supportive services for homeless and at-risk people in Washtenaw County. For further information, see the website at: [www.whalliance.org](http://www.whalliance.org).

**Advocacy Issue:** The Washtenaw Housing Alliance has created a “*Blueprint to End Homelessness in Washtenaw County*.” On September 21, 2004, this community launched *A Home for Everyone: A Blueprint to End Homelessness* along with an Implementation Guide for the first three years of the plan. In this guide, the community lists sixteen strategy areas, workgroup conveners, community champions and a charter outlining the group’s priorities.

Advocate with your federal and state representatives to help make housing affordable for everyone.