

Driving our Mission: Our Journey to an Expanded Volunteer Program



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Cleveland, Ohio
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Olancho Aid Foundation

The [Olancho Aid Foundation](#) is a Catholic, 501(c)(3) that focuses on creating a sustainable community where families stay well, stay together and have the choice to stay at home in Olancho, Honduras.

- Founded in 1991
- Bilingual educational offering Pre-K-12, special needs school, college preparatory high school
- 68 water purification projects
- Expanding ecological mission: Reforesting our Common Home

The Call to Go Forth

“How much progress has been made in this area in so many parts of the world! How much has been done in these first years of the third millennium to raise people out of extreme poverty! I know that you share my conviction that much more still needs to be done, and that in times of crisis and economic hardship a spirit of global solidarity must not be lost. At the same time I would encourage you to keep in mind all those people around us who are trapped in a cycle of poverty. They too need to be given hope. The fight against poverty and hunger must be fought constantly and on many fronts, especially in its causes.” -Pope Francis

Address to the Congress of the United States of America

September 24, 2015

Our Field Hospital

Juticalpa, Honduras



Challenges

- Poverty
- Climate instability
- Lack of potable water/privatization of water
- Lack of economic opportunities
- Inconsistent electrical power

Our Model

U.S. Board of Directors with Volunteers

Honduran Employees (125+)



Fall 2019 Volunteers

Our Traditional Mission Trip Model

U.S. Participants



Results

- Long term relationships with faith communities
- Annual mission trips
- Youth groups
- Source of traditional volunteers
- Financial contributions

Family mission experiences often led to individuals returning as volunteers.



Our Traditional Volunteer Model- Individual Recruiting in U.S.



- Catholic Volunteer Network
- Colleges and Universities
- Word-of mouth

Factors influencing drop in volunteers

Harvard Business Review

Labor | What the Job Market Looks Like for Today's College Graduates

LABOR

What the Job Market Looks Like for Today's College Graduates

by Jed Kolko
MAY 09, 2019

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Executive Summary

For new graduates, the state of the labor market has notable career implications beyond getting a first job. People who graduate into a strong labor market will earn more throughout their careers than those who graduate during a recession. And when recession eventually does hit, people with college degrees are more protected. So how does today's entry-level labor market compare with the past? It looks solid, but there remain some causes for concern. Still, confidence among recent grads is high; they're increasingly interested in pursuing fulfilling careers – not just financially lucrative ones. And they're set up to succeed as automation and other technologies continue to disrupt the labor market.

Fewer Americans Are Volunteering and Giving Than Any Time in the Last Two Decades

NOVEMBER 15, 2018 SHARE EMAIL PRINT Recommend 5 Tweet

Contacts: Kaitlin Ahmad, 301-405-6360

COLLEGE PARK, Md. – While nonprofits have benefitted from record highs in volunteer hours and charitable fundraising totals, it's a case of fewer people doing more, as the percentage of Americans who contribute time and money has fallen to its lowest point in two decades, according to a report released this week by the University of Maryland's Do Good Institute.

Honduras Travel Advisory

Travel Advisory
June 24, 2019

Honduras - Level 3: Reconsider Travel

C

Reconsider travel to Honduras due to **crime**. Some areas have increased risk. Read the entire Travel Advisory.

Do not travel to:

- Gracias a Dios Department due to **crime**.

Violent crime, such as homicide and armed robbery, is common. Violent gang activity, such as extortion, violent street crime, rape, and narcotics and human trafficking, is widespread. Local police and emergency services lack sufficient resources to respond effectively to serious crime.

Read the Safety and Security section on the [country information page](#).

If you decide to travel to Honduras:

- Avoid demonstrations
- Be aware of your surroundings.
- Avoid walking or driving at night.
- Do not physically resist any robbery attempt.
- Be extra vigilant when visiting banks or ATMs.
- Do not display signs of wealth, such as wearing expensive watches or jewelry.
- Exercise caution using cell phones in public, including inside of cars while stopped in traffic.
- Visit our website for [Travel to High-Risk Areas](#).
- Enroll in the [Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) to receive Alerts and make it easier to locate you in an emergency.

Evolution of the Traditional Volunteer Program



- From year-long service to 5 months with an option to extend
- Emphasis on communal living
- Teaching in the schools to specialized projects linked to strategic needs
- Increased presence on social media
- Joint management between the U.S. Director of Operations and a volunteer coordinator in Honduras

SERVE AS VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR & SOCIAL MEDIA LEAD

Posted on: June 13, 2019

Program Timing: Ongoing / Location: Honduras

Program: [Olancho Aid Foundation](#)

Olancho Aid Foundation is seeking a candidate to serve in Honduras for at least a one year commitment. Become part of the community in rural Olancho, Honduras and take on a leadership role by recruiting new volunteers and organizing the community of volunteers currently in service.

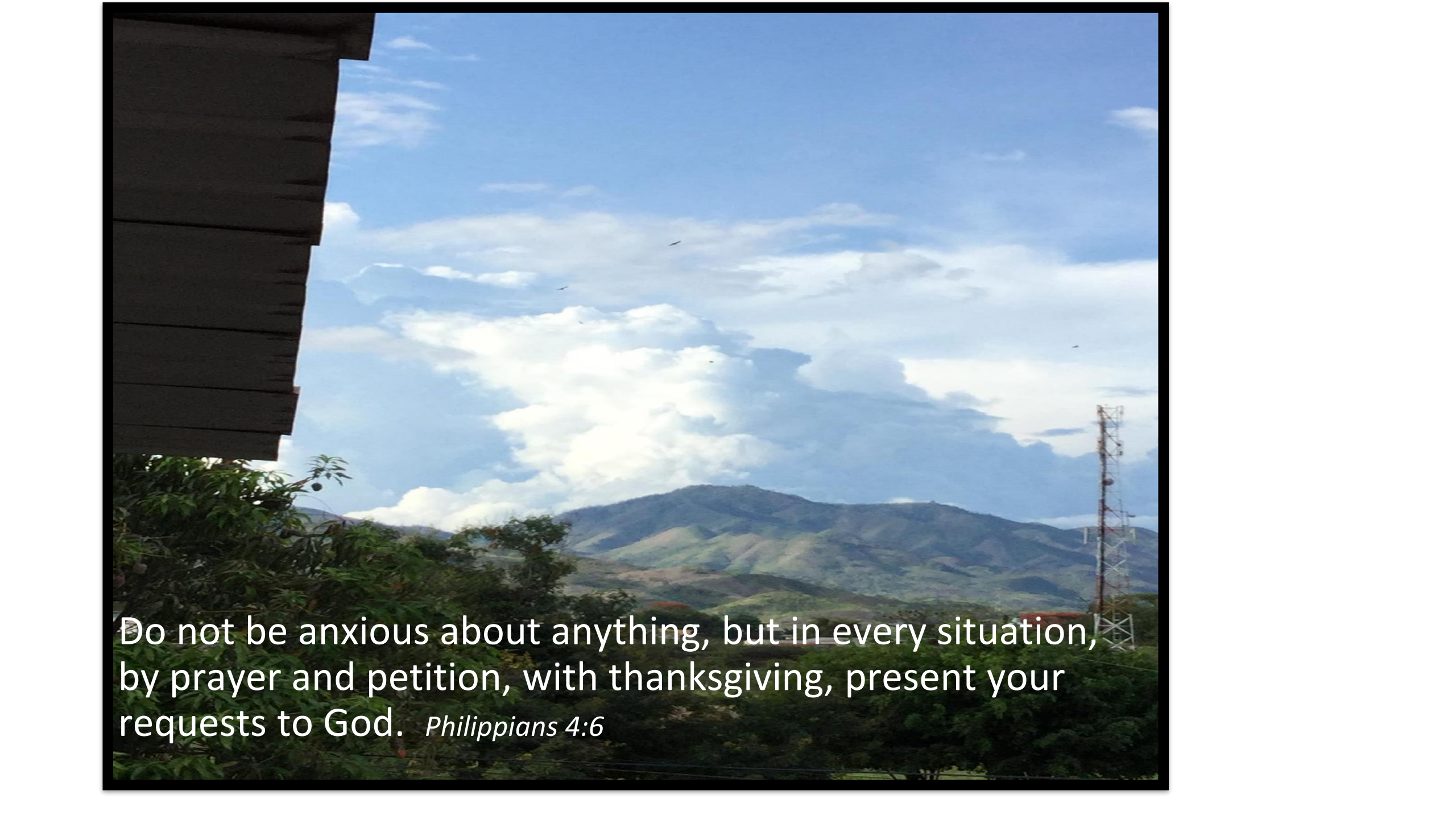
The Olancho Aid Foundation is a Catholic non-profit organization that seeks to provide a quality education and clean drinking water to our community in Honduras. The Foundation operates schools serving over 800 students and employing over 120 staff members. Two distinct volunteer programs help the Foundation accomplish these goals: the traditional volunteer program and the specialist volunteer program.

The Management Challenge

As the organization grew, it became apparent that the Executive Director needed additional support staff in finance, human resources, facility management, and education. But they needed to:

- Be Catholic
- Be Bilingual
- Be willing to live in Juticalpa

This combined with the difficulty of managing from a distance meant that board members often became involved in the day-to-day operations of the organization.



Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation,
by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your
requests to God. *Philippians 4:6*

The Birth of the *Formal* Special Project Advisor Program*

2011

- Construction volunteers

2016

- Retired teacher encouraged to apply through word of mouth (mission teams)

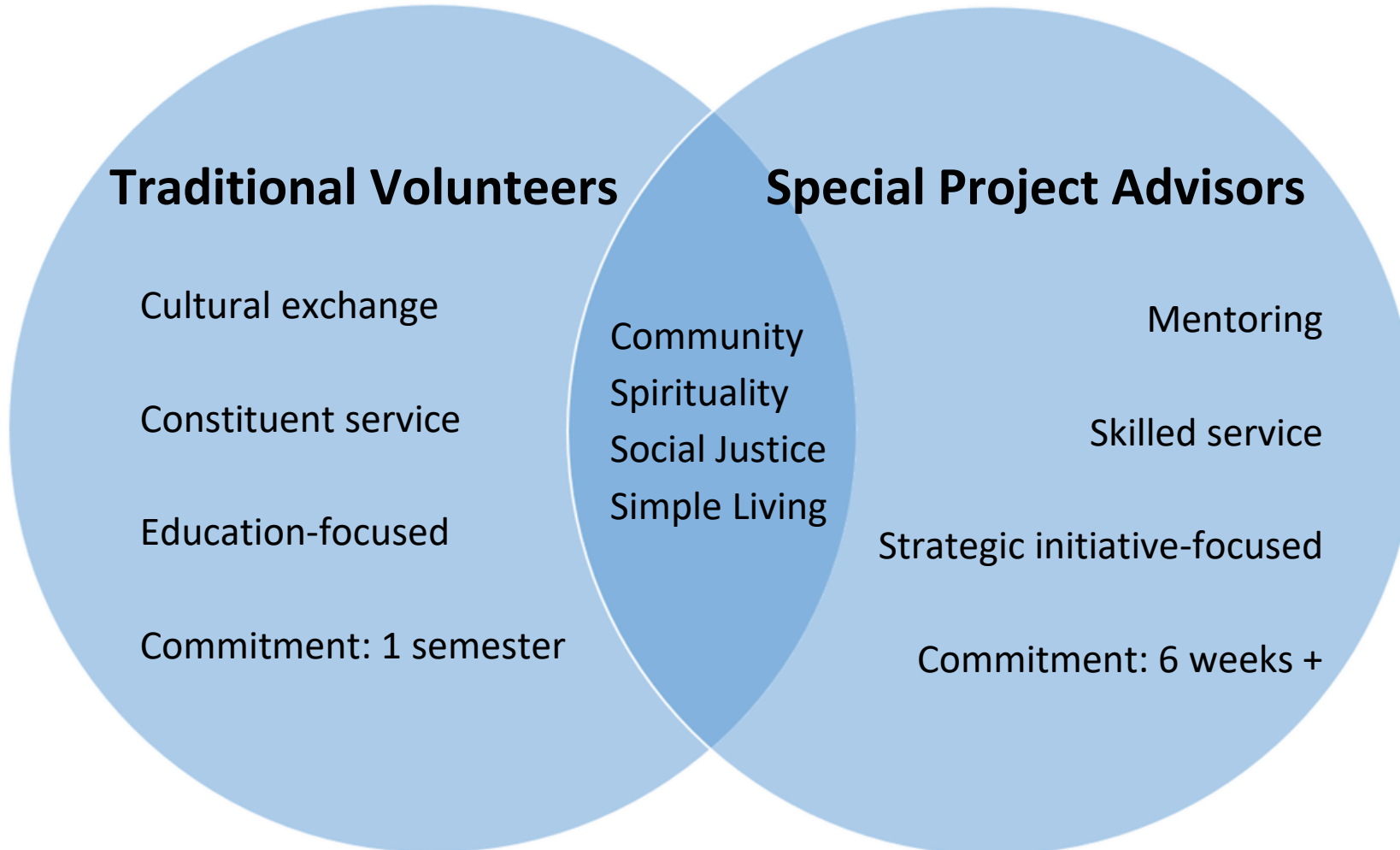
2018

- Finance professional
- Retired teacher
- Building/energy efficiency professional

2019

- Academic assessor and former principal from Spain
- Former dean of a U.S. university

The Program



Thank You to our Volunteers



Next Evolution

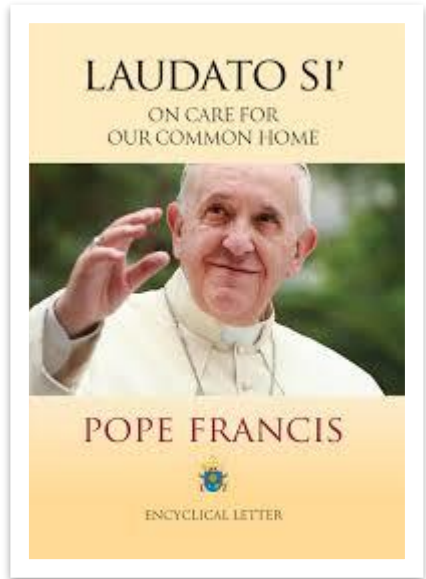
University Service- Learning Projects



Business on the Front Lines Mendoza School of Business Notre Dame



Acknowledgements



Exercises

Thank you!

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