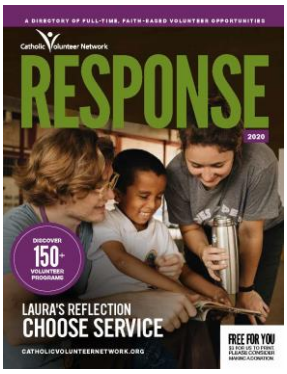
Catholic Volunteer Network
Where faith and service meet

Annual Volunteer Story Contest



Last year's contest cover and story contest winner! Could you be next?

At Catholic Volunteer Network, we have the honor and privilege of witnessing lives being changed through service every day. Now we seek to spread the word about the impact of this work on volunteers serving with faith-based programs in diverse, global communities – volunteers like you. We know there is no better way to do that than to have you share your stories and pictures of life as a volunteer!

*This contest is **your opportunity** to share your experience with thousands of people discerning their own call to service.*

Share Your Story!

Contest & Prizes: We love hearing stories about the impact of service and look forward to reading yours. The winning story and picture will be published in our annual *RESPONSE* directory and monthly newsletter, as well as on our website, Facebook page, and blog. Winners will also receive a $50 gift card for the merchant of their choice, along with some Catholic Volunteer Network gear!

This year, we are seeking entries based on the following themes. Please select one that inspires you! Further descriptions of each theme available at our Volunteer Story Contest webpage.

- ☐ **Volunteering during COVID-19**
- ☐ **Reflections on *Experience***
- ☐ **Reflections on *Community***
- ☐ **Reflections on *Ministry***
- ☐ **Reflections on *Belonging***
- ☐ **Write a letter to a future volunteer**

Submission Checklist

Your entry should include the following:

- ☐ Your story, based on one of the above themes. Entries should be between 700-900 words. Please send as a Word document.
- ☐ 2-4 high quality photographs from your service experience. Please send these as separate attachments, not embedded in the Word document.
- ☐ Signed Release Form (see next page).

Send your story, photos, and signed release form to Mike McCormick at mmccormick@catholicvolunteernetwork.org. You will receive an email confirmation of your entry.

Deadline for the Catholic Volunteer Network Annual Photo and Story contest is April 30, 2020.

STORY CONTEST SUBMISSION AND RELEASE FORM

Release Form:

I hereby grant permission to Catholic Volunteer Network to use and reproduce the story and/or photograph(s) I am supplying on its website, Response Directory, social media pages, blog, or in other promotional materials and publications.

I hereby irrevocably authorize Catholic Volunteer Network to edit, alter, copy exhibit, publish, or distribute this photo and/or story for purposes of publicizing Catholic Volunteer Network for any other related, lawful purpose. I also acknowledge that Catholic Volunteer Network may choose not to use my photograph and/or story at this time, but may do so at its own discretion at a later date. I acknowledge that since my participation with Catholic Volunteer Network is voluntary, I will not receive any financial compensation.

I have read this release before signing below and I fully understand the contents, meaning, and impact of this release.

Signature _____

Date _____

Name: _____

Volunteer Program: _____

Year(s) Served: _____ Location Served:_____

Permanent Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

If we share your story on our social media channels, we would like to tag you! Share how we might find you on social media (optional): _____

Who should we tag if this story is shared on the CVN blog/social media? (service placement, college or university, etc.) (optional): _____

How did you hear about Catholic Volunteer Network? _____

Would you be interested in speaking on behalf of CVN at a church or campus? _____