

Adult Ministry, takes place during Holy Week at Harvest House. Youth spend the morning serving at local agencies and the afternoon and evening learning about Catholic Social teaching and celebrating the liturgies of Holy Week together.

Bethany Youth Center - Young People Who Care

Bethanyyouth@pennswoods.net **814-263-4177**
PO Box 126, Frenchville, PA 16836
This Catholic organization offers week-long service opportunities and simple living accommodations in the summer to serve the rural poor in Pennsylvania.

Nazareth Farm

304-782-2742

Route 2 Box 194-3, Salem, WV 26426
www.nazarethfarm.org
Nazareth Farm is a Catholic Community of volunteers that hosts teen work groups throughout the summer doing minor home repairs for the rural poor in West Virginia. Call to be put on their mailing list. Registrations are accepted in September.

The Micah Experience

1-800-385-4545

Organized by Group Workcamps

www.groupworkcamps.com/catholic
The Micah Experience is a uniquely Catholic workcamp sponsored by Group Workcamps—a non-denominational organization that offers week-long immersion trips to do home repairs and maintenance across the U.S. Participants have opportunities for service, reflection, prayer and exploring Catholic social teaching. Two camps are available for Summer 2010—call or check the website for further information.

Young Neighbors in Action & Just5Days

414-875-9866

2146 North 55th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53208
www.cmdnet.org or www.youngneighbors.org
To register or request information please contact Nancy Flint 253-853-5422
Young Neighbors (for senior high youth) and Just5Days (junior high youth) are sponsored by the Center for Ministry Development and offers Catholic Work Camps in various cities in the U.S. Work groups are assigned to various local agencies such as soup kitchens, food pantries, or homeless shelters. Catholic social teaching is an integral part of the program.

Service Ideas for Youth Ministry Programs



Fall 2009

This booklet is designed as a helpful guide to service opportunities for young people in the Diocese of Buffalo. It is not an exhaustive list of service opportunities for adolescents.

If you know of other service ideas that you would like to share with other youth ministry programs, please contact Heather Wolcott at 716-847-8789 or hwolcott@buffalodiocese.org.

DINING ROOMS

Friends of Night People

716-884-5375

394 Hudson St., Buffalo, NY 14201
www.friendsofnightpeople.org
Dinners served daily (5-7 PM) to homeless and those in need.

Loaves and Fishes Dining Room

716-882-1861

286 Lafayette Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14222
Provides food and hospitality to guests at lunch time Mon.-Fri.

Response to Love Center

716-894-7030

130 Kosciuszko St., Buffalo, NY 14212
Provides lunch meals, food and clothing to those in need. Service hours are 9 am—12 pm, Monday—Thursday. Summer and school break opportunities available.

South Buffalo Community Table 716-822-3193
185 Southside Parkway, Buffalo, NY 14220
Provides hot meals to those in need. Office hours: Monday-Thursday,
Saturday, Sunday 4:00-5:30 PM.

St. Susan Center 716-664-2253
31 Water Street, Jamestown, NY 14701
Provides lunch daily for those in need. Monday-Friday 11:00 AM-4:00
PM. Weekends 1:30-3:30 PM.
Project ideas: Volunteer to prepare, serve, and clean-up meals, stock shelves
or sponsor a collection.

St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room 716-882-3360
1298 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14209
Provides food and hospitality at lunch time Friday through Tuesday.

The Warming House 716-375-2601
110 West State Street, Olean, NY 14760
Contact: Trevor Thompson: tthomps@sbu.edu
Volunteers prepare, cook, and serve meals and visit with the guests
daily – 2:15 PM to 6:15 PM.

TEENAGERS

Franciscan Center 716-822-8017
1910 Seneca St., Buffalo, NY 14210
Provides shelter and counseling for runaway or homeless young men.
Project ideas: Collect clothes and personal hygiene items for young men. Call
for agency wish list.

TRY House (Teaching and Restoring Youth) 716-892-2814
228 Brinkman, Buffalo, NY 14211
TRY house is a residential program providing counseling for homeless
and runaway teenage girls.
Project ideas: Sponsor a collection of personal hygiene items, paper products,
school supplies, girls clothing, or store gift cards (Target, Old Navy, etc.).

CHILDREN/FAMILIES

Big Brothers Big Sisters 716-873-5833
www.beafriend.org/hs
Contact: Alisha Barnes

Falls area. Call for service opportunities available.

Kevin Guest House 716-882-1818
782 Ellicott Street, Buffalo, NY 14203
Contact: Wayne Zimmerman
Kevin Guest House provides temporary lodging for patients and
outpatients while they receive treatment in area hospitals.
Project ideas: Collect non-perishable food items, household items, postage
stamps, or gift cards for groceries, gasoline, long distance calls. Prepare a
dinner for guests, paint or repair wall paper in guest rooms, work in the garden.

Roswell Park Cancer Institute 716-845-8051
Elm and Carlton Streets, Buffalo, NY 14203
Contact: Beth Lenegan PhD
You and your youth group can make a life-saving difference for cancer patients
in our community by supporting the pastoral Care Department at Roswell Park
Cancer Institute. Host a Yteam Cure fundraising event for the annual patient/
caregiver retreat, or for the pediatric remembrance service or other programs
sponsored by the pastoral care department. From family picnics to dress down
days to car washes, coffee houses, dessert sales, basket raffles – no event is too
big or too small. Bibles and rosaries are always needed. Consider sponsoring a
family at Christmas. Also, log on to www.Yroswell.com to see how your
organization can help create a world without cancer.

St. Lawrence Vineyard Ministries 716-892-2471 or 716-308-6302
1520 East Delavan Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14215
www.stlawrencevineyardministries.org
Building a multi-purpose community center for children, families and
the elderly. Includes a clinic and food pantry. Planning after school
programs.
Project ideas: Clean, paint and/or decorate a room. Raise money to cover costs
of renovations or clinic supplies. Help with current projects.

SERVICE IMMERSION TRIPS

Most of these organizations take reservations in the fall for the following
summer. Call or go online to get specific registration and cost
information.

Young Christians at Work 716-847-8789
795 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14203
www.dobyouth.org
This 5 day program, sponsored by the Department of Youth and Young

Project ideas: Collect non-perishable food, clothes, and other items (call for a complete list). Help pack the containers that are sent to Nicaragua. Fundraise to buy a pig or cow for a family.

St. John the Baptist Outreach **716-433-5252**

160 Chestnut St., Lockport, NY 14064

Contact: Jim Haid

Provides clothing, food, household items and furniture to those in need in the Niagara County area. Hours Mon., Wed., Fri., 12 PM-3 PM.

Monday evenings 6-8 PM

Project ideas: Help to sort clothes, stock shelves. Sponsor collections for food, clothing, household items, baby items.

St. Luke's Mission of Mercy **716-894-4471**

325 Walden Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14215

St. Luke's provides lunch and dinner daily to those in need. Clothing, food and furniture are also distributed. The Mission also provides housing for homeless people and two residences with structured programs for men with addictions and high-school aged young men.

Project ideas: Prepare, serve and clean up meals; do repair work at the Mission or houses owned by the Mission; tutor students; help at monthly and holiday food giveaways. Collect food for the kitchen or canned goods, new or used clothes, toiletries or paper goods. Sponsor an individual or a family for gifts at Christmas. Join the Mission for prayer at daily Mass, Sunday Mass or Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.

Souper Bowl of Caring

www.souperbowl.org

Unlike other listings above, the Souper Bowl of Caring is not a place—it is an event. Each year, on Super Bowl Sunday, youth across the country take up a collection, asking members of their churches for donations of one dollar or one non-perishable food item. 100% of the donations are given to a local charity/food pantry chosen by each group (can choose one of the above agencies!). Results are reported nationally. Some groups also choose to participate in the Service Blitz, doing volunteer work at their chosen charity on the Saturday before the big game. Visit the web site for complete details.

MISCELLANEOUS

Center for Joy

716-282-7588

1117 Michigan Avenue, Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Provides education, referrals and support for households in the Niagara

As a Big Brother or Big Sister you will have an opportunity to mentor a child who is dealing with issues at home and school. Educational and recreational activities are provided. Commitment: 1.5 hours on one day per week (Mon.-Thurs.) for twelve months. Must be at least 16 years old and in 11th grade.

Gerard Place

716-897-9948

2515 Bailey Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14215

Contact: Karen Kasperek x112

This program provides transitional housing and supportive services for single parent families.

Project ideas: Childcare volunteers, household item collections, cleaning supply collections, Christmas gift collections.

Harvest House

716-825-0929

1782 Seneca Street, Buffalo, NY 14210

www.harvesthouse.ws/

Baby and Children's Ministry Phone 824-7818

Project ideas: Support the Bottles for Babies Campaign. Harvest House will provide baby bottles to collect change for the for the Baby Ministry. Small groups are occasionally needed for hanging up clothes or preparing the newsletter for mailing. Sponsor a baby items collection.

Jericho Road Ministries

716-348-3000

184 Barton Street, Buffalo, NY 14201

Contact: Stephanie Lipnicki ext. 405

JRM provides education and social support to refugee and otherwise in-need families all over Buffalo. Our mission is to serve families on their way to wholeness through attention to education, health, and wellness.

Project ideas: Hands-on volunteers are always needed for child-care, meal prepping and serving, and construction activities. We are also always in need of baby supplies and cleaning kits. Why not assemble kits as a family or group? Please call for ideas custom-created for your group.

REFUGEES

Immigration and Refugee Assistance

716-842-0270

394 Franklin Street, Buffalo, NY 14202

This Catholic Charities program provides refugees with housing assistance, household items, job placement and English Classes.

Project ideas: Collect paper products, personal hygiene items, school supplies, sports equipment or winter clothing. Create welcome baskets for newly arrived families. Host a Basketball or Soccer Day with refugee youth to connect with youth and get to know them.

Vive la Casa

716-892-4354

50 Wyoming Ave., Buffalo, NY 14215

www.vivelacasa.org

Provides shelter, medical and legal help for refugees seeking asylum in Canada.

Project ideas: Collect paper goods, non-perishable food, clothing, personal hygiene items. Prepare and serve a meal. Supervise a craft project with children.

See also **Jericho Road Ministries** listed under Children/Families.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Deaconess Center Pediatric Unit

716-887-4900

1001 Humboldt Pkwy., Buffalo, NY 14208

The pediatric unit is a home for 21 medically fragile children, most use wheel chairs and some are ventilator dependent.

Project ideas: Collect DVD's, videos, markers, construction paper, books, glue sticks, decorations for the Pediatric Unit. Assist Activity Department with parties/socials/entertainment, visit the children, assist on field trips, assist with Girl Scout Meetings and Projects.

Diocesan Disabilities Action Team

Computer Assistant

716-847-5514

From the comfort of your home, receive information from us about an event and design on your computer flyers for the various events sponsored by agencies serving people with disabilities within our Catholic Church for easy distribution via e-mail.

God's Family Faith Formation Program

716-847-5514

for People with disabilities and their families

Baker Hall School; 777 Ridge Road, Lackawanna, NY 14218

Program meets monthly on the third Saturday. Help is needed from 12-4 PM to move furniture to recreate a dining hall into the program areas, help serve food and assist volunteers and participants with activities during the program.

Faith and Sharing Retreat

716-847-5514

Stella Niagara Center of Renewal-Retreat and Conference Center

4421 Lower River Road, Stella Niagara, NY 14144

This yearly retreat offers spiritual enrichment for all age adults with disabilities. It is held from Friday evening to Sunday afternoon the second weekend in March. Assistance is needed helping individuals with daily living skills-dressing, mobility (pushing wheelchairs, walking next to someone using a walker), carrying trays of food at meal time and assisting in writing activities.

Special Needs Religious Education Aide

If you enjoy helping others, consider helping a child with special needs as an aide in your parish religious education program. Contact your local parish religious education coordinator.

Victorious Missionaries

716-639-7542

Fourteen Holy Helpers Parish Hall; 1345 Indian Church Rd., Gardenville

This program offers adults with a disability or a chronic illness an opportunity for prayer and socialization in a Christian atmosphere. The group meets on the first Saturday of the month from 11:30 AM-2 PM and welcomes youth to assist by socializing, making favors for their special events and helping set up.

FOOD PANTRIES AND OUTREACH CENTERS

Catholic Charities Food Pantries

716-218-1408 ext. 204

4 Locations: South Buffalo, Lackawanna, Fulton Street, Lovejoy

Contact Eileen Nowak, Director

Serve several hundreds of families with bags of food and linkage to other services in Catholic Charities.

Project ideas: Collect paper products/personal care items and food items;

Come to one of the Pantries to help stock shelves and pack bags.

Catholic Charities Ladies of Charity of Buffalo

1122 Broadway, Buffalo, NY 14212

716-895-4001

Mission is to help those less fortunate in the 8 counties of WNY

Project ideas: Come to the Center or do projects from your location. Work in Thrift Store; Help pack Christmas gifts for over 4000 children; Fill care packages of household items for fire and abuse victims; Cut lap robes from fleece (we supply); Collect school supplies and bookbags; Collect personal care items for Dignity Bags; Collect household items for fire and abuse victims; Write/create cards to shut-ins to be put in Holiday bags or at another time of year; Collect new toys for ages infant-19yrs; Collect small gifts for shut-ins.

Network of Religious Communities Food Pantry

Kelly Ann Kowalski

716-882-7705 x220

1272 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209

Project ideas: Sort food, stock pantry shelves, assist with mailings, or sponsor a parish food drive.

Nicaragua Project

716-688-0010

10100 Transit Road, East Amherst, NY 14051

Ann Marie Zon is a missionary in Nicaragua providing food, clothing and other items for those in need.