

Department of Youth & Young Adult Ministry

2014-15 Service Guide for Youth Ministry Programs & Young Adults



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www.dobyouth.org



Diocese of Buffalo Youth & Young Adult Ministry
Buffalo Young Adult Catholics
Twitter and Instagram @YoungFaithWNY

This compilation of service ideas 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 or young adults.

If you know of other service ideas that you would like to share with other youth ministry programs, please contact the Department of Youth & Young Adult Ministry at 716-847-8789 or youth@buffalodiocese.org.

CHILDREN/FAMILIES

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Erie County

85 River Rock Drive, Suite 107, Buffalo, NY 14207

716-873-5833; www.beafriend.org/hs

Contact: Melissa Frawley x215, mfrawley@beafriend.org

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 x112

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, GED class tutoring, household item collections, cleaning supply collections, Christmas gift collections, social media campaign management

Harvest House

716-825-0929; www.harvesthouse.ws/

1782 Seneca Street, Buffalo, NY 14210

Baby and Children's Ministry Phone 716-824-7818

Project ideas: Support the Bottles for Babies Campaign. Harvest House will provide baby bottles to collect change 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 (JRM)

716-348-3000; www.jrm-buffalo.org

184 Barton Street, Buffalo, NY 14201

Contact: Joelle Herskind x412, joelle.herskind@jrhc.org

JRM provides education and social support to refugees and otherwise in-need families all over Buffalo. Their mission is to serve families on their way to wholeness through attention to education, health, and wellness, demonstrating Jesus' unconditional love for all people. 80% of Jericho Road's patients are 200% below the Federal Poverty Line.

Project ideas: Hands-on volunteers are always needed for child-care, meal prepping and serving, and construction activities. Various ministries that always need volunteers include refugee services, prenatal care, and academic tutoring.

St. Gianna Molla Pregnancy Outreach Center (Diocese of Buffalo)**716-847-2205;**<http://www.buffalodiocese.org/Evangelization/ProLife/StGiannaMollaPregnancyOutreachCenter.aspx>

76 Church Street, Buffalo, NY 14202 (adjacent to St. Joseph's Cathedral)

Contact: Cheryl Calire, Director of the Office of Pro Life Activities for the Diocese of Buffalo

The St. Gianna Molla Pregnancy Outreach Center is the pastoral outreach of the Office of Pro-Life Activities of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Buffalo. The center follows the example of St. Gianna Molla in respecting, protecting, and cherishing all human life as a precious gift from God. The center serves life by providing material, emotional, and spiritual support to single mothers and young families in need from pregnancy through the first years of life.

Project ideas: Organize a diaper drive at your parish to support new moms in need, or collect baby items such as gently used baby clothes and toys.

DINING ROOMS**Friends of Night People****716-884-5375; <http://friendsofnightpeople.com/>**

394 Hudson St., Buffalo, NY 14201

Contact: Joseph Heary

Volunteers are needed to help serve dinner daily from 5-7 PM those in need.

Heart Love & Soul**716-282-5687; <http://heartloveandsoul.org/>****heart.soul1@juno.com**

939 Ontario Avenue, Niagara Falls, NY 14305

Contact: Sister Rosa Mystica; Wednesdays and Fridays from 9 AM - 1 PM

Work on a daily basis can be done in the kitchen, helping to prepare and serve both breakfast and lunch or working in the pantry, the food express truck, food giveaways, Bingo, household items sorting and distribution, holiday events, etc.

All volunteers undergo an intake process with our volunteer coordinator to determine availability and capabilities of the volunteer as well as acclimating with the mission at Heart & Soul. Young people under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent/guardian during volunteer work.

Loaves and Fishes Dining Room**716-882-1861**

875 Elmwood Avenue Buffalo, NY 14222

Volunteers needed to provide meals and hospitality to guests at lunchtime (11:30am to 12:30pm) Mon.-Fri.

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Response to Love Center**716-894-7030 x105; www.responsetolovecenter.org**

130 Kosciuszko St., Buffalo, NY 14212

Contact: Volunteer Coordination team at number listed above.

Provides lunch meals, food and clothing to those in need. Service hours are 9 AM - 12 PM, Mon. - Thurs. Volunteers are also needed for other events throughout the year and other ministries the center participates in.

South Buffalo Community Table**716-822-3193**

185 Southside Parkway, Buffalo, NY 14220

Contact: Sr. Celeste O'Bryan

Provides hot meals to those in need during the dinner hours.
Office hours: Mon.-Thurs., Sat., Sun 4:00-5:30 PM.

St. Susan Center**716-664-2253; www.stsusancenter.org**

31 Water Street, Jamestown, NY 14701

Contact: Woody Howland x2

Provides lunch daily for those in need.
Mon.-Fri. 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; www.svdppwny.org**

1298 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14209

Provides food and hospitality at lunch time Fri. through Tues.

The Warming House**716-372-2805; www.thewarminghouse.org**

164 North Union Street, Olean N.Y. 14760

The Warming House is a student run soup kitchen affiliated with St. Bonaventure University which serves those in need. It is run almost completely on volunteers. Minors under 16 years of age have their guardian present and those teenagers' ages 16-18 have written consent to volunteer. Volunteers assist us in our daily meal preparations/clean up and will also be expected to interact with the guests. They prepare, cook, and serve meals and visit with the guests daily – 2:15 - 6:15 PM. Meal preparations/ clean up duties include but are not limited to setting tables, rolling silverware, chopping ingredients, ingredient prep, retrieving food from the basement stock, cooking, baking, unloading the

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dishwasher, washing dishes, sweeping, mopping, and, wiping down surfaces. On occasion volunteers will also be asked to go to the basement stockroom and organize or unload boxes.

FOOD PANTRIES AND OUTREACH CENTERS

Catholic Central Helping Hands Food Pantry

716-871-4113

3021 Bailey Avenue, Buffalo NY 14215

Contact: Robert Wells; rmwells1@verizon.net

This food pantry provides emergency bags of food to those in need. Bags contain food for 3 meals a day for 3 days. It is opened on Saturdays from 10:30am to Noon.

Project ideas: Collect paper products/personal care items and non-perishable food items; Help stock shelves and pack bags; help deliver food to those who cannot access the food pantry because it is not handicap accessible.

Catholic Charities Food Pantries

716-218-1400; www.ccwny.org

5 Locations: South Buffalo, Fulton Street, Lovejoy, Lackawanna, and Wellsville

Contact: William Larsen, 716-853-4456 x11, william.larsen@ccwny.org

Serve hundreds of families with bags of food and link them to other services provided by Catholic Charities.

Project ideas: Collect paper products/personal care items and food items; Help stock shelves and pack bags.

Catholic Charities Ladies of Charity of Buffalo

716-895-4001; www.ccwny.org/Services

1122 Broadway, Buffalo, NY 14212

Mission is to help those less fortunate in the 8 counties of the Diocese of Buffalo.

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 (supplied for you); Collect school supplies and book bags; 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.

Food Bank of WNY (serves Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Niagara Counties)

716-852-1305; www.foodbankwny.org

91 Holt Street, Buffalo, NY 14206

Contact: Christina Potempa; cpotempa@foodbankwny.org

The Food Bank of WNY is one of the largest food pantries in the area, that works with member agencies across WNY to distribute food to those in need. Volunteers are needed at the warehouse to sort and package food for distribution. Saturdays are reserved for groups and must be booked in advance. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old.

Project ideas: Hold a food drive at your parish, and not just at the winter holiday times; hunger is something not specific to a season.

Network of Religious Communities Food Pantry

716-882-7705 x 220

1272 Delaware Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14209

Contact: Kelly Ann Kowalski

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

St. John the Baptist Outreach

716-433-5252; www.stjohnslockport.org/outreach

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 -3 PM. Monday evenings 6-8 PM

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

Souper Bowl of Caring

www.souperbowl.org; Search “Diocese of Buffalo”

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. The Diocese of Buffalo does have a page and is a registered user for this opportunity.

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, which is independent of the Diocese of Buffalo, 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

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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.

HOSPITALS

Catholic Health System

716-447-6188; www.chsbuffalo.org/careers/volunteer

- ◆ Kenmore Mercy - 2950 Elmwood Avenue, Kenmore, 14217
 - To Volunteer: Contact (716) 447-6189
- ◆ Sisters of Charity St. Joseph Campus, Cheektowaga - 2605 Harlem Rd, Cheektowaga, 14225
 - To Volunteer: Contact (716) 891-2545
- ◆ Sisters of Charity, Buffalo - 2157 Main Street, Buffalo, 14214
 - To Volunteer: Contact (716) 892-1106
- ◆ Mercy Hospital, Buffalo - 565 Abbott Road, Buffalo, 14220
 - To Volunteer: Contact (716) 828-2098

Note: Each hospital in the system is different as far as opportunities that are available and whether or not volunteers can be accepted, based on their needs. It is best to visit the website above, or call the phone number listed for each hospital's volunteer coordinator. The hospitals have opportunities for teens (minimum age 15), called the Volun-Teen program, as well as for adults (over 18). All volunteers must have a physical exam, be up to date on their immunizations, and also get a tuberculosis test. Specific requirements can be found online, or by calling the phone numbers listed for the specific hospital.

Opportunities to Serve: make beds; clean bedside tables; assist nurse/ patient care attendant in turning/positioning patient; transport patients in wheelchairs; hair grooming; visit patients; assist with discharge; run errands; pass/collect food trays; pass water; feed patients when assigned by nurse; & clerical work

Roswell Park Cancer Institute's Pastoral Care Department

716-845-8051; <https://www.roswellpark.org/volunteer/placement-opportunities>

Elm and Carlton Streets, Buffalo, NY 14203

Contact: Beth Lenegan PhD and Fr. Ray Corbin

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.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

Alzheimer's Association of WNY

716-626-0600

2805 Wehrle Drive Suite 6, Williamsville, NY 14211

Contact: Julia Schrader; jschrader@alz.org

Alzheimer's disease affects over 5 million Americans, and the WNY Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association is one of 70 in the nation that work to spread awareness and advocate for those afflicted with this disease. Volunteers are needed in the following areas (call to find out the needs of the specific chapter): Special events, such as galas and other fundraisers, Walk to End Alzheimer's, public education and awareness programs, office help, speaking engagements, helpline support calls, advocacy

People Inc. Seniors Unlimited Day Program

716-817-7100; www.people-inc.org

Email Contact for a Volunteer Application: volunteer@people-inc.org

At People Inc.'s Seniors Unlimited Day Program, specially trained staff provide a social, safe and stimulating environment for individuals with dementia or other memory loss illnesses caused by Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, strokes, etc. – giving primary caregivers a much needed break and the peace of mind they need.

The program is offered Mon – Fri from 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM.

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.

God's Family Program

716-847-5514

Contact: Maureen Poulin; mpoulin@buffalodiocese.org

This program is the Diocese of Buffalo's Lifelong Faith Formation Program for individuals with disabilities. Volunteers are welcome; contact Maureen Poulin for more information.

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.

IMMIGRANTS AND REFUGEES

Catholic Charities: Immigration and Refugee Assistance

716-842-0270; www.ccwny.org/Services

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; www.viveinc.org

50 Wyoming Ave., Buffalo, NY 14215

Provides shelter, medical and legal help for refugees seeking asylum/citizenship in Canada or refugee protection in the United States.

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.

TEENAGERS

Franciscan Center

716-822-8017; www.franciscancenterinc.org

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. Please call for agency wish list.

TRY House (Teaching and Restoring Youth)

716-892-2814; www.tryprogram.org

228 Brinkman, Buffalo, NY 14211

TRY house is a residential program providing counseling for homeless and runaway teenage girls.

716-847-8789; www.dobyouth.org; youth@buffalodiocese.org

Project ideas: Sponsor a collection of personal hygiene items, paper products, school supplies, girls clothing, or store gift cards (Target, Old Navy, etc.). Bring baked goods or other treats at holidays (or anytime!).

MISCELLANEOUS

Center for Joy

716-285-8224; www.hanci.com/services_center_for_joy.html

1117 Michigan Avenue, Niagara Falls, NY 14304

Provides diaper donation, tutoring, and summer programs to families in the Niagara Falls area. Please call for service opportunities available. This program is operated by Health Association of Niagara County, Inc. (HANCI).

Kevin Guest House

716-882-1818; www.kevinguesthouse.com

782 Ellicott Street, Buffalo, NY 14203

Contact: Wayne Zimmerman; generalinfo@kevinguesthouse.org

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.

Habitat for Humanity-Buffalo

716-204-0740; www.habitatbuffalo.org

volunteer@habitatbuffalo.org

995 Kensington Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14215

Habitat for Humanity Buffalo establishes partnerships among God's people in order to give a helping hand to families who otherwise would be unable to achieve their dream of ownership of a simple decent house in a safe environment. Volunteers work on site (16+), at one of our two ReStore locations (ages 14+), serve on one of our committees, and provide administrative support in our office, among other crucial tasks.

Niagara Area Habitat for Humanity

716-285-2877; www.niagarahabitat.org

service1@niagarahabitat.org

(Mailing) PO Box 932, NF 14302; (Physical) is 1824 Main Street, NF 14305

Contact Person: Claudia Folsom - service1@niagarahabitat.org

Habitat for Humanity serves Niagara Falls and surrounding area by building decent, affordable homes for God's people in need. All volunteers, 16 year and older accepted, no previous skill required, work days are Tues., Thurs. and Sat. 9 AM – 2 PM.

716-847-8789; www.dobyouth.org; youth@buffalodiocese.org

Children under 16 can do some outside work but can not be on actual construction site. All others will be supervised by NAH and chaperons from service group to complete various construction tasks. The materials are on site. Collecting pennies is always a great opportunity to become a part of our effort to build homes. Money is used to purchase materials. Group can designate funds towards a specific item such as windows, doors, paint, insulation, etc.

Peaceprints Prison Ministry

716-856-6131; www.peacprintspm.org

660 Smith Street, Buffalo, NY 14210

Contact: Elizabeth Kerrigan; info@peacprintspm.org

In a spirit of peace, Peaceprints Prison Ministries provides positive experiences for individuals in prison and former offenders transitioning back to the community that help to modify behaviors, establish new beginnings and change lives. Volunteers work to conduct and attend the prison and ex-offender groups, to send mailings, to be part of community outreach, and meet the many and varied needs of the organization.

St. Lawrence Vineyard Ministries

716-892-2471 / 716-308-6302; www.stlawrencevineyardministries.org

1520 East Delavan Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14215

This is a multi-purpose community center for children, families and the elderly that includes a clinic and food pantry; also has after school programs available. This is an ongoing project that is taking shape in the church's former school building.

Project ideas: Clean, paint and/or decorate a room. Raise money to cover costs of renovations or clinic supplies. Help with current projects or renovations.

The Teacher's Desk

716-348-3412; www.theteachersdesk.org

22 Northampton Street, Buffalo, NY 14209

Contact: volunteer@theteachersdesk.org

The Teacher's Desk is a store where teachers shop free for students in need. The store in its first year of operation distributed over \$400,000.00 in free school supplies to teachers and students in need throughout Western New York. It is a way to encourage both teachers and students that God and the community care about them. The store is always looking for donations of school supplies.

Project Ideas: Organize a school supplies drive in your parish (pencils, binders, markers, notebooks, loose leaf paper, etc.). Volunteers are always needed to help organize stock and inventory, work in the store, and assist in the warehouse. Call for details.

SERVICE IMMERSION OPPORTUNITIES

Young Christians at Work – Diocese of Buffalo

716-847-8789; www.dobyouth.org

Contact: Sarah Leahy; sleahy@buffalodiocese.org

795 Main Street, Buffalo, NY 14203

YC@W has a new look! Young Christians at Work blends service with Catholic Social Teaching, hands-on social justice lessons, and powerful prayer experiences. Beginning in June 2014, we will have a trained young adult retreat team and retreat directors ready to bring this experience to your parish/school/vicariate/group. Challenge your pre-teens and teens to change the way they see the world and discover bringing Christ to others through service. The program is extremely affordable and customizable to your needs. Thanks to grant funding from the Bagley Open Golf Tournament, major financial incentives are available for groups who book in the first year! As you make your schedule for 2014/2015, please consider hosting a Young Christians at Work Retreat for your youth group, Confirmation program, or school group.

Bethany Youth Center - Young People Who Care

814-263-4177; www.ypwcministries.org

Contact: Sr. Suzanne Thibault; bethanyyouthcenter@gmail.com

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; www.nazarethfarm.org

Contact: nazarethfarm@gmail.com

Route 2 Box 194-3, Salem, WV 26426

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.

Young Neighbors in Action & Just5Days

414-875-9866 / 253-853-5422; www.cmdnet.org or www.youngneighbors.org

Center for Ministry Development, 5713 Wollochet Drive NW, Suite A, Gig Harbor, WA 98335

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.