



DC SERVICE CORPS

"Clients not only found something that fit; they liked the coat they ended up with. She has the ability to see Christ in each man who walks through the door."

Kim Cox, PhD, Executive Director of The Father McKenna Center, about DC Service Corps participant **Ali Sentmanat**'s ministry with men experiencing homelessness.

OFFERING MORE THAN A COAT

Having completed its second year, the DC Service Corps has established robust relationships with multiple site partners. During the past year, three young adults served at Catholic Charities Refugee Center, Don Bosco Cristo Rey High School, and The Father McKenna Center, while two young adults worked for peace and justice as Communications and Program Associates in the FMS office. All of these remarkable individuals simultaneously embraced a life of simplicity, spirituality, and living in intentional community. Previously divided into distinct sections of the Nonprofit Servant Leadership Program (Office Associates and DC Service Corps), our domestic program has merged into one program: DC Service Corps.

Madonna Enwe, herself an asylee from Cameroon, West Africa, taught English as a second language to recent asylees at Catholic Charities. *"Working at this center has given me the opportunity to share my story with the people I serve and also be a source of encouragement to them during their transition period."*



Ministry of Presence...

TAKING A STAND

Allison Dethlefs, a missionary in Cochabamba, Bolivia, stands in solidarity with people seeking health care where medical resources are scarce. In addition to providing self-esteem classes for girls who have survived abuse, she sometimes arrives early in the morning, waiting for hours in line on behalf of families bringing their children from remote, Quecha-speaking areas of Bolivia to the under-resourced pediatric hospital.

"I stand at the patients' sides. I experience the same confusion, frustration, and helplessness that they do... In bearing witness, I have seen that in the darkness, no one should have to stand alone."



ACCOMPANYING EVERYDAY HEROES

Janice Smullen, serving in Kingston, Jamaica, teaches children with learning difficulties and prepares food for a soup kitchen. Jamaica's people struggle with inequality, unemployment, and violence, but Janice's ministries focus on individual strength:

"I see heroism, courage, and will to move forward in the 37-year-old woman I know who has just signed up for classes toward job certification. Dignity and patience radiate through the line of people waiting for food as they sing and join in prayers."

FINDING A PLAYGROUND IN PRISON

Catherine Sullivan's ministry in Cochabamba, Bolivia, includes providing occupational and educational opportunities to women currently in prison and those who have recently been released.

Being comfortable on the margins means the borders begin to disappear. Catherine shared the joy at a birthday party for one woman's daughter: *"It is a beautiful thing when a space can go from restrictive and oppressive to free and limitless... For that afternoon, it felt like we could have been anywhere—a playground, a jungle, a zoo, a picnic in the park."*



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TRANSITION

In September 2016, Kim Smolik departed FMS after nearly eight years of service for which we are extremely grateful. In April, we welcomed **Liz Hughes** as our new Executive Director. Liz was welcomed to the FMS community at the 2017 World Care Benefit and Celebration at which FMS honored Sr. Damon Nolan, MFIC, co-founder of the Unidad Académica Campesina in Carmen Pampa, Bolivia, along with Sr. Jean Morissey, MFIC, and Sr. Chris Cullen, MFIC.



GROWING LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIPS THROUGH SHORT-TERM TRIPS

DC Service Corps Program Associate **Amanda Saunders** played an important role in nurturing a new relationship between FMS and her alma mater, Neumann University.

A group joined FMS on a Short-Term Mission and Global Awareness Trip to Carmen Pampa, Bolivia, where they journeyed with FMS missionaries and students from the local university, the Unidad Académica Campesina, for service immersion, prayer, and cultural exchange.



Alvernia University first joined FMS in Washington, DC, for a short-term trip in 2016. A group visited again last year to meet people living and serving on the margins in the District of Columbia. Participants visited a social service and literacy center, promoted wellness by working in an urban community garden, and met families transitioning from homelessness at a shelter.

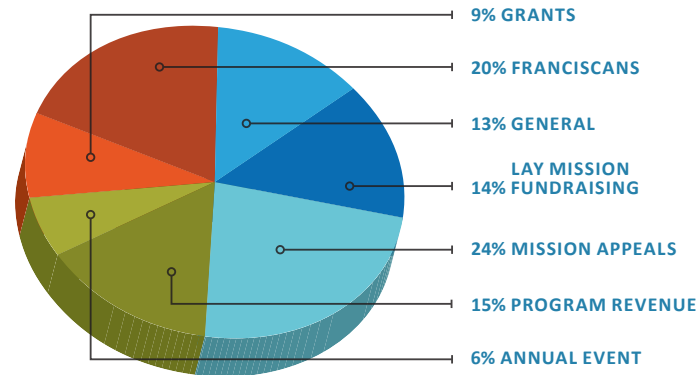
One student reflected: *"The trip taught me how you can come to see and appreciate God's light through our work and the people we meet."*

Walking together in mutuality...

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

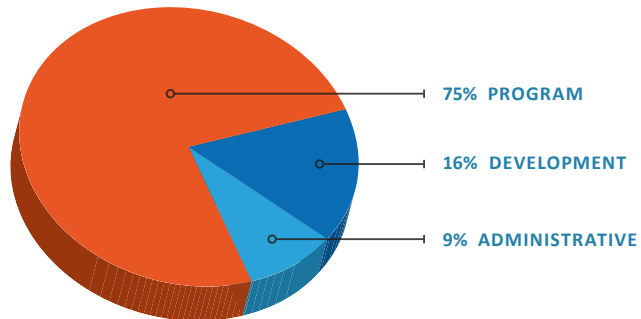
While 2017 was a challenging year financially due to the Executive Director transition, we were able to draw on reserves and have positioned ourselves for a more positive financial year in 2018.

Revenue Total: \$540,594



Expense Total: * \$669,925

*Program costs include recruitment, training, and support of participants in the DC Service Corps as well as the Long-Term Overseas Mission Program.



IN THE 2016-2017 FISCAL YEAR...

545 INDIVIDUALS	3 GROUPS OF FRANCISCAN SISTERS
37 PARISHES	19 SECULAR FRANCISCANS & FRATERNITIES
12 GROUPS OF FRIARS	3 OTHER FRANCISCAN INSTITUTIONS

...donated to Franciscan Mission Service, along with countless others that supported us through prayer.

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UP CLOSE WITH FRANCISCAN MISSION SERVICE

When lay missionaries join Franciscan Mission Service, they spend three months in our formation program, grounded in the Franciscan charism and Catholic social teaching, preparing to embrace the ministry of presence and walk in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in marginalized communities overseas.

Over the past year, FMS prepared and supported 15 people as they entered into relationship with local communities in Bolivia, Guatemala, Jamaica, and Washington, DC. Following the model of St. Francis and St. Clare, they cared for children, coaxed plants from the soil, broke bread, reached across language and cultural differences, visited the sick, listened to the lonely, and prayed together. By virtue of transformative relationships, our missionaries and DC Service Corps participants become lifelong witnesses to the beauty and gifts that marginalized communities already possess while advocating for a more just society.

Erin McHugh, serving at the Valle de los Angeles School in Guatemala, said, *"I have been humbled so many times during my time here in Guatemala, but these beautiful people are teaching me what it means to be a true servant, and they are examples of what it looks like to open the door to welcome the stranger."*

Read more stories of encounter on our blog:
franciscanmissionservice.org/blog

It is thanks to the generosity of hundreds of individuals that FMS is able to thrive in its mission. As Pope Francis says, "A single individual is enough for hope to exist, and that individual can be you." Thank you for the contributions you make to FMS' mission.

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"When we live out a
spirituality
 of drawing nearer to others
 and seeking their welfare,
 our hearts are opened wide
 to the Lord's greatest and most
beautiful gifts!"

—POPE FRANCIS


 franciscan mission service
2017 ANNUAL REPORT