

OVERSEAS LAY MISSION

Believing the world is a grace placed, seven FMS missioners walked in solidarity with individuals in Bolivia, Guatemala, and Jamaica over the past year. FMS' Formation Program, grounded in 14-weeks of pre-departure formation and a 2-week Reentry Program, continues to deepen; this year, each mission site received a staff site visit and facilitated retreat. Leaning into the wisdom of economically poor communities, missioners ministered at schools, orphanages, homes for those who have survived abuse, and homes for the elderly and hospice patients, among other ministry sites.



FMS continues to prioritize bringing the transformative experience of mission to North American societies and churches. In January, nearly 20 alumni and 3 recently-returned missioners renewed their commitment to lifelong mission at the ReCommissioning Mass. The FMS Board of Director's Committee on Lifelong Mission, comprised of returned missioners and DC program alumni, facilitated a June retreat for 17 program alumni. The first ever joint-program retreat brought together alumni spanning all of FMS history, including returned missioners from Class 1 thru Class 32 and DC program alumni. Together our alumni reflected on their common call to lifelong mission and the joys and challenges of living it in the United States. Save the date for the next retreat: January 18-19, 2020.



OUR FRANCISCAN IDENTITY EMBODIED BY MISSIONERS, VOLUNTEERS, AND ALUMNI!

"When I actively choose to let love motivate little actions, they can inspire other little actions rooted in love, and soon enough this ripple effect of a collective family striving for sanctity will make waves that will tackle seemingly untouchable injustices.

DC Service Corps Volunteer, Amy Brandt

"No church steeple in sight. God's wondrous Presence is revealed to us in the peach trees we pick, and the corn stalks we run our hands through, and the hands of the friends that we hold. And, quite honestly, in all of the natural world. It is all sacred because it is the breath and gift and manifestation of God's love for us."

Current Missioner, SarahJane Cauzillo

"[The Casa] has shaped my faith to be a faith of empathy, of diversity, of being uncomfortable, and of loving unconditionally. I am nowhere near the same scared, lost, and optimistic recent college grad that I was when I moved in. I have been shaped by every person who has come into this house and I have learned to love and live in a radical way."

DC Service Corps Alumnus and House Manager, Amanda Saunders

DC SERVICE CORPS

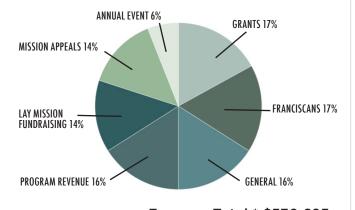
Believing in the transforming power of Christ's love in the world, four young adults from both coasts of the U.S. came to FMS trusting that a year of service would also transform their own hearts. Volunteers served at the Fr. McKenna Center, the FMS office, and, for the first time, with the U.S. Catholic Mission Association. At one retreat, the volunteers drafted a prayer reflecting the depth of their spiritual growth. One part reads: "Teach us to embrace a wild love in our hearts, that alongside each other we may walk always in the path of your unconditional love and to your presence."

SHORT-TERM MISSION & GLOBAL AWARENESS TRIPS

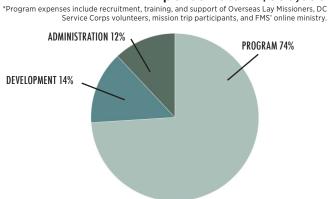
Acknowledging that Secular Franciscans experience their own unique call to a mission of presence and advocacy, FMS invited members of fraternities across the U.S. to participate in a special mission and global awareness trip to Cochabamba, Bolivia. Led by Jeff Sved, a returned missioner and member of the FMS Board who served in Bolivia, this unique trip included opportunities to meet current missioners and discover points of connection between the Franciscan charism and life in Bolivia. Later in the year, FMS was excited to return to Valley of the Angels for its second inter-collegiate trip attended by 13 students and staff from Neumann University and St. Bonaventure University.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

Revenue Total: \$580,685



Expense Total:* \$530,695



With FMS' 7 core statements enfolding the icon of St. Francis, the staff and board of Franciscan Mission Service are pleased to present our 2019 annual report. As lay people striving for **peace**, **justice**, **and hope**, we invite you to pray with us on the core statements that define the "soul" of FMS and inspire the work that we do. We are grateful for your continued prayers and support that allow the FMS overseas lay missioners and DC Service Corps volunteers to thrive in their ministries. Your support allows us to welcome 20 percent more program participants in August 2019.

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WHERE ARE FMS ALUMNI NOW?

L'ARCHE COMMUNITY, RED CLOUD, SOJOURNERS, SHRINE OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION, FRANCISCAN SISTERS OF THE RENEWAL, BISHOP MCNAMARA HIGH SCHOOL, DON BOSCO CRISTO REY HIGH SCHOOL, THE FATHER MCKENNA CENTER, AND BEYOND







WHERE LAY PEOPLE WORK FOR

peace, justice, E hope

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