

Did you ever

... feel sad when you saw refugees' faces?

... Feel like you owned too much compared to starving people?

... Wish you could do more than just give money in a collection basket?

... Feel called to go the extra mile and didn't know where to start?

... Want to serve Christ present in those who suffer?

VIDES might be a way for you to do something about it.



What Is Vides?

It's the Young Helping the Young!

Thousands of young adults worldwide (ages 18-35) are opting to make a difference.

VIDES-USA (a member of the VIDES International) is providing service opportunities for young adults to be **God-bearers** by promoting social justice, solidarity, generosity in sharing and giving of themselves as they incorporate Christian spirituality into the rhythm of everyday living.

In a few words, Vides is:

"Experiencing and Sharing Life in Christ"

VIDES

Volunteers International for Development Education Service

- Dedicated at the national and international level to young people and women.
- Promoted by the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians, Salesian Sisters
- VIDES volunteers serve together with members of the worldwide Salesian family, joining efforts to be transformational leaders in society by living a simple Christ-centered community life while serving the poor.

VIDES USA Requirements

- Catholic or non-Catholic - open to community living within a religious family
- Female or male
- Single, 18-35 years of age
- US citizen or resident
- Knowledge of language spoken in the mission
- Attendance at annual formation/service camp
- Experience in the desired area of service

Financial Arrangements

- VIDES provides the volunteer with room and board
- VIDES-USA provides the volunteer with basic health and health insurance.
- Volunteers are responsible for transportation costs to and from the Formation/Service Camp and actual service site and all personal expenses.
- AmeriCorps education awards are possible for those doing non-religious national service.
- Student loan deferment or forbearance is usually possible.

Application Process

Allow about six months before initiation of service to accommodate completion of:

1. Temporary Brief Profile form
2. Full Application
3. Interview
4. Two or three week formation/service period
5. Jan & Jun in Texas, July in New Jersey
6. Commissioning
7. Placement procedures

VIDES Volunteers...

... Love youth and are eager to serve

... Are open to cultural differences

... Are flexible & ready to meet unexpected challenges

... Have a spirit of free giving of self and a great desire to bring Jesus Christ to others, especially by making his love and compassion visible in the world

Grow Spiritually by living Salesian Youth Spirituality

A Spirituality

... of daily, ordinary life—God-is-with us every moment of our day—faith and life are one

... of joy and optimism—cheerful outlook and good sense of humor

... of friendship with Jesus

... of mutual respect and communion with others

... of responsible service

Live in Community & Gain Work Experience

In a variety of educational and outreach services including:

- Teaching
- Youth Ministry
- Recreational activities
- Community outreach
- Evangelization

- Religious education
- Hunger relief
- Healthcare
- Migrant ministry, literacy, English classes
- Clerical, secretarial office work
- Fundraising, grant writing
- Webpage and/or audiovisual communication
- Other youth oriented services

Area of Service – worldwide:

Africa
 The Americas
 Asia
 Europe

This wonderful project cannot be only ours! You can be part of it. You can help make it happen!

Levels of Involvement

1. VOLUNTEER — Service

Volunteers are young people ages 18 through 35 who share of their time and talent serving in a mission nationally or internationally. (short term is 1-3 mo., and long term is 4 mo. to 2 yrs.)

2. MEMBERSHIP — Service & Support

Members volunteers are/or collaborators who share their experience, time, talent, and resources to support and carry on the Vides Vision of helping other young volunteers serve those in need.

3. SPONSOR — Support

Sponsors “adopt at a distance” a needy child, a volunteer, or a project for the development of the young or of women.

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