

### MERCY VOLUNTEER CORPS

## EDUCATION POSITIONS frequently asked questions

#### WHAT IS MERCY VOLUNTEER CORPS?

Mercy Volunteer Corps promotes social change by placing and supporting volunteers for one year of service with people who are poor and marginalized in the U.S. and South America. Volunteers work in education, healthcare, and social services while living together in a community and growing spiritually.

#### WHERE DO MERCY VOLUNTEERS SERVE?

Mercy Volunteers serve a one year term in one of ten different service cities in the U.S. and in Georgetown, Guyana, South America. U.S. cities include Baltimore, MD; Cincinnati, Ohio; Detroit, MI; Philadelphia, PA; Pittsburgh, PA; Sacramento, CA; San Francisco, CA; Savannah, GA; New York, NY; and St. Michaels, AZ.

#### WHAT SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES ARE AVAILABLE FOR EDUCATORS THROUGH MERCY VOLUNTEER CORPS?

MVC provides multiple volunteer opportunities in the education field from working in a school as a certified teacher to assisting with an afterschool program. In recent years, Mercy Volunteers have worked in positions like high school history teacher in Detroit, elementary teacher in Guyana, South America, special education teacher in St. Michaels (AZ), and assistant pre-school teacher in Philadelphia.

#### WHAT ARE THE CERIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR EDUCATORS?

Most Mercy Volunteers serving as full-time teachers must be certified to practice in the state where they will volunteer. Our service sites guide volunteers in the process of obtaining these licenses.

#### WHY SHOULD MY STUDENTS SPEND A YEAR VOLUNTEERING BEFORE COMMITTING TO A FULL-TIME POSITION?

Mercy Volunteers serving in the education field gain professional experience at reputable schools across the U.S. and South America. Each of these positions is supported by a site supervisor who ensures that our volunteer is gaining professional experience and is fully immersed in their service site. After their year of service, a significant number of our volunteers are offered full-time positions at their service sites!

#### HOW WILL I SUPPORT MYSELF AS A VOLUNTEER?

Mercy Volunteers receive housing, transportation, food and personal stipends, health insurance, and school loan deferment (if approved by lender).

#### WHAT ARE THE APPLICATION DEADLINES? HOW DO I APPLY?

All applications are accepted on a rolling basis. Priority is given to applications received by January 20. The final deadline for international placement applications is March 2 and for U.S placement is early July. Visit www.mercyvolunteers.org to request an application online or call our office at 215.641.5535.

# mercy volunteer corps YEAR OF SERVICE

\*Live with 3-6 volunteers in the US or South America

\*Serve in a professional placement with a site supervisor

\*Expenses like housing and transportation are covered

\*Volunteers receive a monthly stipend & attend 4 retreats

\*MVC provides health insurance & student loan deferment

\*Discounts for graduate school are available

Applications are accepted on a rolling basis www.mercyvolunteers.org/apply