

Global Organizations that Coordinate Mission Trips/Experiences for [youth] groups

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Short Term Mission Trips:

- Common Hope: www.commonhope.org
Common Hope is an educational and social development organization working in Guatemala. In addition to short term delegations, Common Hope also provides an opportunity to be involved by sponsoring a child.
- Project MN/Leon: www.mn-leon.org
Project Minnesota/Leon is a sister-state partnership joining the people of Minnesota and León, Nicaragua.
- GATE (Global Awareness Through Experience): www.gate-travel.org (608) 791-5283**
GATE's immersion programs take place in Latin America and Eastern Europe, and offer the opportunity to learn from people-to-people connecting with the poor, as well as from social analysts, teachers, theologians and economists.
- Global Volunteers: www.globalvolunteers.org
Global Volunteers offers experiences in over 100 communities in 21 countries, both within the US and abroad. These experiences of living and working with local people on life-affirming service programs can take place for one, two or three weeks. This can be done as an individual, family or group.
- Center for Global Education, Augsburg College, MN: www.augsburg.edu/global
The Center for Global Education provides both student learning/traveling programs, and experiences for adult travelers to Latin America and Southern Africa.
- San Lucas Toliman Mission in Guatemala: www.dnu.org/service/sanlucas.html **
San Lucas, Guatemala has a connection with the Diocese of New Ulm, Minnesota. The Mission promotes programs that empower the people of San Lucas economically and socially.
- Christian Foundation for Children and Aging (CFCA): www.cfcausa.org/mats **
CFCA focuses on sponsorships of children and elderly in our world who are struggling with poverty. On CFCA mission trips, participants can see firsthand how their sponsorship helps children and aging persons, as well as increase their own awareness of culture and global realities. Trips include destinations such as Latin America, Caribbean, Africa, India and the Philippines.
- Community Links International: www.commlinks.org (408) 723-5366 **
Community Links sends people to Mexico, California, Peru, Bolivia and Nicaragua, and trips include educational sessions with invited presenters, work on projects, cultural encounters, and discussion/reflection time individually and as a group. Some trips may also include a home-stay; themes of the trips vary.
- BorderLinks: www.borderlinks.org (520) 628-8263
BorderLinks is a bi-national non-profit organization that offers experiential educational seminars along the border of the US and Mexico, focusing on issues, culture, economics and lives of people living in the borderlands. They offer unique trips for unique groups, each experience fitted to the needs and interests of its participants.
- SHARE (Salvadoran Humanitarian Aid, Research and Education) Foundation: www.share-elsalvador.org/delegations
SHARE's delegations focus on various themes – such as youth, El Salvador elections, commemoration of the martyred US churchwomen – and occur at varying times, but all the trips revolve around awareness-raising and strengthening justice for Salvadorans.
- Catholic Heart Work Camp (Mexico or Jamaica internationally): www.heartworkcamp.com
CHWC strives to empower youth groups and their adult leaders to live as disciples through serving others, and to foster the spiritual growth of each participant through Catholic faith sharing and prayer. They provide work sites throughout the week, and reflection sessions in the evenings for hundreds of youth from around the country (your youth group will be there with many others in a large camp-like atmosphere). Internationally, CHWC offers sites and dates in Mexico and Jamaica, in addition to their many sites within the US.

Organizations that offer Mission/Service experiences *Domestically*

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Domestic Mission Experience Options:

- A Call to Service (A.C.T.S.): www.stcdio.org/cem (320) 251-0111
ACTS is a St. Cloud Diocesan Sponsored week-long event that takes place the end of June each year. Youth and youth leaders from throughout the diocese spend a week in the Twin Cities living, eating and praying together in the mornings and evenings, and going out to a variety of direct service sites during the days.
- Glenmary Home Missions: www.glenmary.org (513) 874-8900 **
Glenmary Home Missioners is a Catholic society of priests and brothers who, along with coworkers of Glenmary Home Mission Sisters and lay volunteers, is dedicated to serving the spiritual and material needs of people throughout Appalachia, the South and Southwest of the United States.
- Young Neighbors in Action: www.YoungNeighbors.org (203) 723-1622 **
Young Neighbors in Action organizes week-long trips for youth groups, which include service worksite experiences, prayer, reflection and Liturgies, community living, and daily challenges to live out their faith and the Gospel, centered on the principles of Catholic Social Teaching.
- Christian Appalachia Project: www.christianapp.org
The Christian Appalachia Project is an inter-denominational Christian organization that serves people in need in Appalachia through physical, emotional and spiritual support that strives to "help people help themselves." They provide long-term, short-term, group or summer camp volunteer opportunities.
- Humane Borders: www.humaneborders.org
Humane Borders, motivated by faith, offers humanitarian assistance to those in need through more than 100 emergency water stations on and near the U.S.-Mexico border. Hundreds of volunteers bring their mission to life, servicing our water stations, staffing their offices in Tucson, performing maintenance on their equipment and other tasks; they accept volunteers, volunteer groups and interns.
- Catholic Heart Work Camp (numerous domestic options): www.heartworkcamp.com **
CHWC strives to empower youth groups and their adult leaders to live as disciples through serving others, and to foster the spiritual growth of each participant through Catholic faith sharing and prayer. They provide work sites throughout the week, and reflection sessions in the evenings for hundreds of youth from around the country (your youth group will be there with many others in a large camp-like atmosphere).
- Pine Ridge Reservation, SD: www.friendsofpineridgereservation.org
Pine Ridge Indian Reservation is located in south-western South Dakota. The reservation is large, and its needs immense. Re-Member is a nonprofit organization on Pine Ridge Reservation whose volunteers participate in week-long service learning trip with an emphasis on cultural exchange.
- Red Lake Reservation, MN:
Red Lake Reservation is located in northern Minnesota, approximately 30 miles north of Bemidji. Youth groups from the Archdiocese of St. Paul/Minneapolis have traveled to Red Lake during the summer months to engage in service and reflection. Contact can be made to ask about making similar arrangements for your group.
- White Earth Reservation, MN:
White Earth Reservation is located in northwestern Minnesota, and is the largest reservation in the state. No group from our diocese has previously volunteered there; however, our Mission Office does make donations of mission group made items to the Priest of White Earth, and contact can be made to ask about the possibility of groups visiting.