



Catholic  
Network of  
Volunteer Service

*Connecting People, Transforming Lives*

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### FAITH-BASED VOLUNTEERING ON THE RISE, NEW REPORT FINDS

TAKOMA PARK, Md. – Volunteering with faith-based programs has seen an increase in the last year, according to a new report released today by Catholic Network of Volunteer Service (CNVS).

The 2005-2006 Membership Report finds that over 10,000 volunteers served in more than 200 CNVS member programs.

Among the findings:

- 68.8% of long-term volunteers (defined as nine months or longer) were between the ages of 21-25. This is an increase of 13.7% from last year.
- The number of married couples serving in CNVS programs was nearly 33% higher than last year. Last year there was a 22% increase.
- Nearly 50% of short-term volunteers (defined less than 9 months) served in social service fields while 40% of long-term volunteers served in education fields.
- 80.7% of volunteers were Catholic.
- For participating programs, over \$4.8M was made available to CNVS volunteers in Segal AmeriCorps Education Awards.
- Over 30 of CNVS' members were founded prior to 1980, including Gould Farm, Catholic Medical Mission Board, Mennonite Mission Network, Jesuit Volunteer Corps, Christian Appalachian Project and Lutheran Volunteer Corps.

“We are encouraged that this report indicates an increase in the number of young adults volunteering in faith-based programs. In addition, the report reveals that more married couples are serving than in the past. Faith-based volunteers, young and old, married and single are helping their communities by meeting the needs of the poor and those who live on society’s margins, said Jim Lindsay, CNVS

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Executive Director. "CNVS is committed to extending the invitation to faith-based service to an even broader audience in the future."  
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Established in 1963, Catholic Network of Volunteer Service (CNVS) is the premier non-profit association for domestic and international volunteer and lay mission programs. Currently, more than 10,000 volunteers and lay missionaries serve in its member programs throughout the U.S. and in 108 countries worldwide. Volunteers serve in a variety of placements, including AIDS ministry, farming, construction, social services, parish ministry and education.

CNVS publishes an annual directory of its members, RESPONSE 2007. Copies of both the 2005-2006 Membership Report and RESPONSE 2007 are now available and can be requested through CNVS' toll-free number at 800-543-5046 or by email at [cnvsinfo@cnvs.org](mailto:cnvsinfo@cnvs.org). An online version of the directory may also be found on the web at [www.cnvs.org](http://www.cnvs.org).

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