



Catholic Charities Project SERVE

(Service and Education through Residential Volunteer Experience)

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Application • Part 2

Essay

Project SERVE (Service and Education through Residential Volunteer Experience) enables recent college graduates from across the U.S. to provide one year of service to people in the Baltimore metropolitan area through one of several Catholic Charities programs.

The biographical essay is an important part of the application process. It allows program staff to gain a better understanding of each candidate's background, and enables us to recommend specific service opportunities that will best fit a candidate's interests and experience.

Please return the completed essay via email no later than March 15 to:

Allison Stone

Coordinator of Project SERVE & Community Outreach

astone@cc-md.org

Please include this cover sheet as the first page of your essay.

NAME:

DATE completed:

Mission of Catholic Charities and Project SERVE

Catholic Charities mission (in brief):

1. Provide healing and care to those in need
2. Educate people to social awareness and motivate them to act
3. Advocate for public policy that ensures a just society

Project SERVE's mission involves exploring and deepening spirituality, living in an intentional community, working on ways to live more simply and sustainably and working for social justice.

Develop a biographical essay addressing the following areas. Please limit your response to three-five pages. When creating your essay, please keep in mind the above mission statements and feel free to involve any aspects of these statements into your response.

I. Family life

Describe life with your family. Who had the biggest impact on you and in what way? What was your role in your family growing up? Is this role the same today?

II. Intentional Community

What has it been like to live alone and/or with others? Have you previously lived with roommates or in an intentional community setting? What are the strengths you bring or expect to bring to an intentional community living situation?

III. Volunteer experience

Describe one of your experiences serving others. Why were you involved? How were you affected?

Is there one particular aspect of social justice about which you are passionate? Please describe.

V. Inter-Personal Skills and Characteristics

What is one of your strengths? In what situations does it become apparent? What is one of your weaknesses and how do you hope to grow?

What causes you stress? How do you respond to stressful situations?

How do you handle conflict with those with whom you work? With those with whom you live?

How have your personal values drawn you to service?

In what areas do you hope to grow through Project SERVE? How comfortable are you sharing the ways that you grow with your housemates in Project SERVE?

Submitted by:

Date:

Questions? Please call 410.261.6774 or email inquiries to astone@cc-md.org