

Campus Ministry Community Service Options

Email campusministryvolunteers@marist.edu with questions or with a completed form

****All volunteers will begin the week of September 21st, unless otherwise noted in the site information below**

For placements in **red**, you must be able to provide your own transportation (i.e., by walking, carpooling, or driving oneself).

Astor Head-Start Program:

Mandatory Orientation: Wednesday, September 16th at 11am;

Monday through Thursday: 9am-11am, 11am-1pm

This site works with children ages 3-5 in a classroom setting. Volunteers help in the classrooms and on the playground with individual students or group. Spanish speakers needed.

Mid-Hudson Children's Museum:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 2pm-4pm

MHCM is a non-profit museum in need of volunteers to help with preparing and cleaning exhibits and with office work.

Harriet Tubman Academic Skills Program:

Monday through Thursday: 3:30pm-5:30pm

This program, a great after school tutoring program for at risk inner-city children in grades 1-5, takes place inside a housing complex in the city of Poughkeepsie. Volunteers teach or assist with lessons, read with groups or individuals, work on projects, or play games with the kids.

Nubian Directions II:

Monday through Thursday: 3:30pm-5:30pm

This is a tutoring program for junior and senior high school students who pay to attend the program. The program has an emphasis on teaching computer skills and the internet.

Vassar Warner Nursing Home:

Monday through Thursday: 2pm-4pm

At Vassar Warner, volunteers work with senior citizens and people who are impaired in a residential setting by becoming a regular visitor to individuals and/or by working in the activities room during events.

Lunch Box Soup Kitchen:

Wednesday: 9am-11am, 11am-1pm; Friday: 11am-1pm (Friday volunteers will begin on Sept. 18th)

At this soup kitchen, volunteers help to meet immediate community needs by serving daily meals, setting up for guests, and cleaning up following the meal.

Protect the Dream Foundation:

Monday through Thursday: 3pm-5pm (transportation provided); Monday: 6:30-8:00pm (CARS ONLY for this particular time)

This is an after-school tutoring program volunteers help with homework, organize games, arts and crafts, and library time.

Catharine Street Community Center:

Monday through Thursday: 3pm-5pm

Catharine Street Community Center is a prominent community outreach center for youth. Volunteers will be helping children in grades K-7 with schoolwork and other activities.

Dutchess County SPCA:

Mandatory Orientation, Tuesday, September 15th at 6:30pm

Time and Day of the Week TBA

The SPCA rescues and provides temporary shelter for abandoned, neglected, and abused companion animals with the goal of providing permanent housing for them. Volunteers will have the opportunity to walk dogs, play with the cats, maintain the facilities, and help in other ways as needed by the staff.

School Classroom:

Monday through Thursday: 9am-11am, 10am-12pm, 11am-1pm, 12pm-2pm, 12:30pm-2:30pm

Volunteers may work in a public or catholic school (on placement form, please indicate if you prefer to volunteer in a private/catholic or public school). You may request a particular class or grade to help in but the principals at the schools place our volunteers in the classrooms. Volunteers work with large groups and individual students, put together bulletin boards, organize art projects for the classroom, grade tests, and/or help the teacher with other assigned tasks.

ESL Tutoring on campus:

Time and Day of the Week TBA

This is an opportunity to work with employees on campus who are learning English as a second language. This is a student run program that operates out of the library.

Literacy Connections – CARS ONLY:

Time and Day of the Week TBA

This is an opportunity to work with people who are learning English as a second language in either an individual or group setting. Volunteers will come to a better understanding of the issues of literacy in our community.

Religious Education Program – CARS ONLY:

Time and Day of the Week TBA

Volunteers teach a religious education class at Catholic parishes in Poughkeepsie.

Mid-Hudson Psychiatric Center- CARS ONLY:

Evenings; Day of Week TBA

Volunteers interact with patients who are in this residential facility for evaluation and short-term treatment by working with individuals and groups during the activity period, which can include listening to their stories and/or playing Bingo. There is also an opportunity to create your own one-hour workshop to facilitate with patients and a co-leader from the hospital staff. Any proposals can be presented to the volunteer coordinator.

Big Brothers Big Sisters – CARS ONLY:

Time and Day of the Week TBA

School Based & Community Based programs – these are one-on-one mentoring programs either taking place in a school setting or after school hours for at risk youth that require a year-long commitment. There is a long interview and placement process to make sure they find the best matches.

Poughkeepsie Children's Home – CARS ONLY:

Monday through Thursday: 6:30pm-8:30pm (Study Hall and Reading Time)

This is a residential home for children and adolescents from all over New York who have been sent here as the result of a court-mandate or as a result of their parents' or guardians' decision. At the home you may assist the child-care workers by running the kids through routines, playing games, and/or helping the kids with their schoolwork. This is a very emotional, demanding placement that will test your limits and is excellent for anyone interested in working with troubled children or families. Many social work, education, and psychology majors have done their internships or placements here.

Girl Scout Troop Leader – CARS ONLY:

Afternoons/ Day of Week TBA

Students act as the leader for a local Girl Scout troop, planning meetings, and coordinating all activities for the troop.

Marist Meals – CARS ONLY

Monday through Friday: 6pm-7pm

A student created program, Marist Meals is an opportunity for volunteers to help with the distribution of excess food from Marist to a local homeless shelter. Those who participate in Marist Meals for the semester receive one priority point instead of two because the time commitment is less than at other sites.

Van Driver:

Mature and responsible drivers are needed for the Community Service Shuttle.

Requirements: 18 years of age, Valid Drivers License, pass the community service van tests.