

Available Placements

Here are a few of over 15 open placements we have for potential volunteers. Check out <https://ivcusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/2019-07-02-Placement-List.pdf> to see all the placements and for more information.

- Our Daily Bread: *Program Assistant*
- St. Peter's Adult Learning Center: *Program Assistant*
- Caroline Center: *Financial Planning Instructor, Math Tutor, Volunteer Coordinator* (3 positions)
- Esperanza Center: *Youth ESOL Program Assistant*
- Arc of Baltimore: *Developmental Disabilities Assistant*
- St. Elizabeth's Nursing Center: *Pastoral Assistant*
- Apostleship of the Sea: *Seafarer Assistant*
- Jesuit Volunteer Corps: *Finance Consultant*
- The Community School: *IT Maintenance/Instructor*
- The Franciscan Center: *Cook*

Ignatian Volunteer Corps Baltimore
112 E. Madison St., Ste.301
Baltimore, MD 21202



Partner Events/ Ignatian News:

- Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life Information Session: Sep 4, 7 pm at Loyola University Alumni Chapel
- The Samaritan Women: Golf Tournament, Oct 4
- Catholic Charities: Annual Celebration, Oct 22
- Ignatian Weekend Retreats: Sep-Apr at Loyola on the Potomac (<https://loyolaonthepotomac.com/>)
- GEDCO: Thanksgiving Tribute: Nov 14

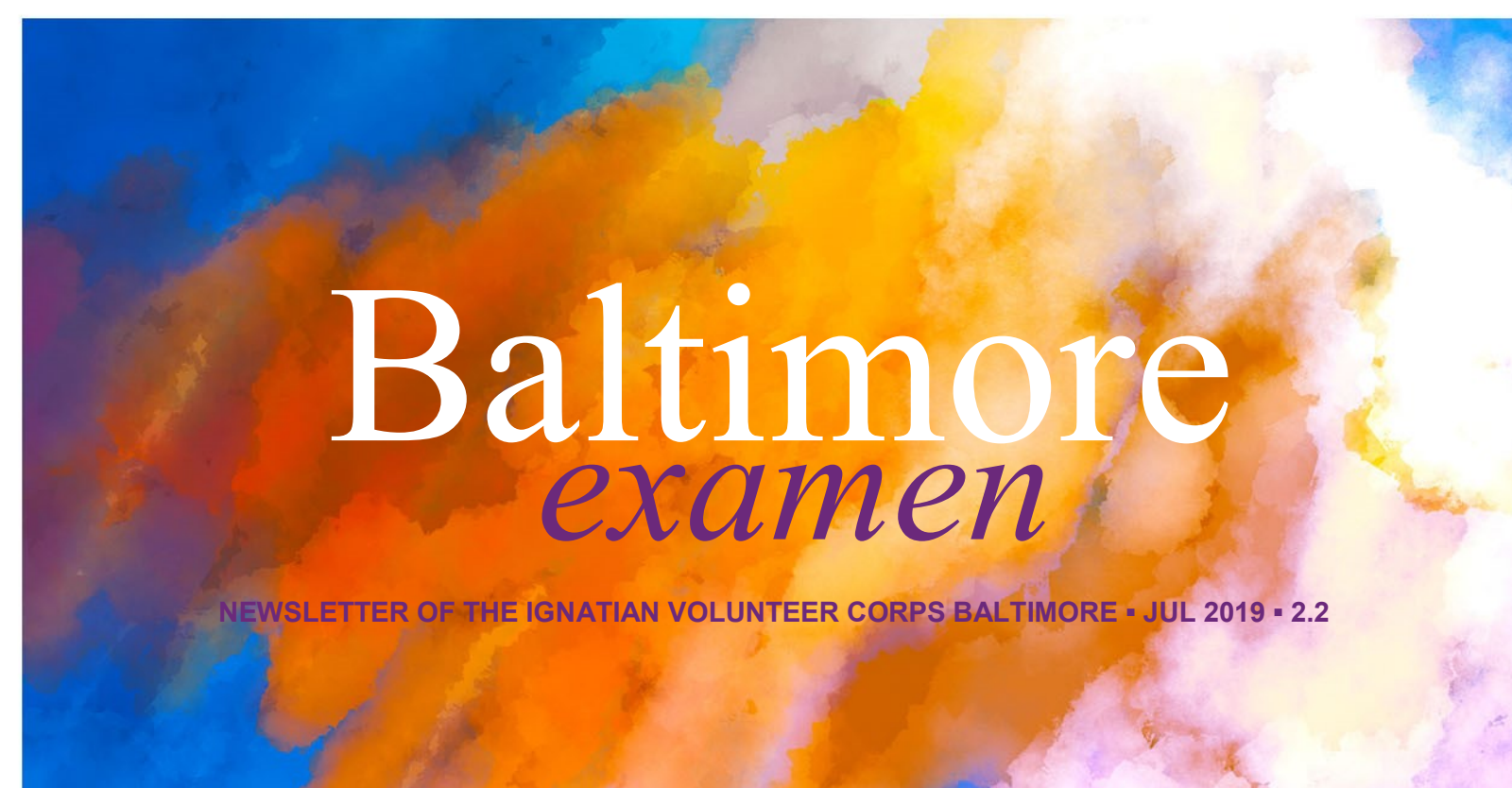
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Thank you to our 2019 newsletter sponsor:



The Case for Righteousness

"True justice comes about in people's lives when they themselves are just in their decisions; it is expressed in their pursuit of justice for the poor and the weak. As Isaiah tells us: 'Seek justice, correct oppression; defend the fatherless, plead for the widow.'" (Pope Francis)

At IVC, we invite men and women to experience making a difference in the world. But what is the best way to make a difference?

Many IVC partners work hard to provide immediate relief from the painful symptoms of poverty such as hunger, illness, and homelessness. Others demand changes to structures that inflict hunger, illness, or homelessness on our brothers and sisters. Combined, these approaches make up two distinct but complementary ways IVC partners and volunteers put the Gospel into action: through charitable works and through social justice.

Some people wonder what social justice has to do with Scripture. After all, the Bible speaks of "charity" again and again, and yet there's never any specific mention of "social justice." But "blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness." And "blessed are those who are persecuted for it." Righteousness means much more than just doing good works. It means living in the world as God wants it to be.

In John's Gospel story of the Last Supper Jesus says, "Whoever believes in me will do the works that I do and will do even greater ones than these." Ignatian Volunteers do the work. Through the power of building personal relationships with the poor, members of IVC's service corps are transformed. It is impossible to care for the wounded and not righteously demand an end to the wounding.

In this newsletter, you'll read about Martha and her journey from providing financial assistance to people struggling to pay their energy bills to a role advocating for an end to the predatory practices of third-party energy suppliers. Martha's is just one story in a Corps of amazing men and women working for righteous causes.

At IVC we hunger and thirst for righteousness. Join us as we work together for justice and peace. Go to <https://ivcusa.org/ivc-offices/welcome-to-ivc-baltimore/> for more information.

Events*

Aug 22: New Volunteer Orientation at Colombiere Retirement Community

Sep 7: Commissioning Mass at St. Alphonsus Rodriguez; Opening Pot-Luck Dinner

Sep 16-18: Opening Retreat at Loyola on the Potomac

Monthly Meeting: Oct 7 at Loyola University, Timonium Campus

Monthly Meeting: Nov 12 at Loyola University, Columbia Campus

** Active and Emeritus Volunteers Welcome*

Making a Difference in Govans

GEDCO CARES serves families and individuals in crisis by connecting residents of the Govans community with resources that enable movement towards self-sufficiency.

As part of GEDCO (the Govans Ecumenical Development Corporation), the CARES program was started in 1993 by volunteers from local faith communities. GEDCO CARES serves residents of the Govans community in north Baltimore city in three ways: a food pantry that allows clients to choose foods they prefer; emergency financial assistance to help clients avoid eviction and utility shut-offs, and with prescription needs; and CARES Career Connection which provides support for individuals seeking jobs.

CARES paid staff consists of 1.5 employees so it relies on volunteers and donations from faith communities, schools, businesses, government agencies, and community at large. In FY19, CARES responded to 3,525 requests for food and provided financial assistance to 532 households. On average, CARES supports 70 households a week with food assistance; 10 with financial assistance. The Career Connection program helped find 153 jobs for program participants.

Rachael Neill, CARES Director of Community Services, has been with GEDCO 17 years, 13 as an employee. An attorney by training, she has always cared about the problem of poverty, especially in our affluent society. She shares this story of how Ignatian Volunteer Martha Yalov went the extra mile to help a client:

Making a Difference at GEDCO

Third time's a charm!

After a career as a social worker, and more recently, as a parent homeschooling her two children, Martha Yalov joined the ranks of Baltimore's Ignatian Volunteers in the fall of 2014. She came into the experience open to any placement that could use her skills.

In the fall of 2016, after two other volunteer placements, she accepted a role at GEDCO CARES and has been there, growing to love this placement, ever since. She started working there once a week and has transitioned to twice a week, but the schedule is flexible. Her son is in the Coast Guard, so when his schedule permits, she and her husband often travel to see him. She accesses her GEDCO email when she's on the road. Recently, she took on the role of working with her agency supervisor to include lobbying for laws to fight utility scams that take advantage of the poor and elderly in the GEDCO CARES neighborhood. *"We began noticing clients being taken in by unscrupulous direct-sales agents, offering immediate gift cards & promising lower bills, but putting them on high-rate plans. I was able to use my social work advocacy training to access*

"Helen, a senior citizen working full time, came for assistance with her gas and electric bill. Her furnace was broken and she was relying on space heaters. We helped pay her bill, but also learned her roof was in bad shape. She was using large tubs to collect rainwater every time it stormed, but she had not been able to get her homeowners' insurance to pay for repairs. Martha helped her apply to the city's LIGHT program to get a new furnace, and worked with her insurance company to get them to pay for roof repairs. It took months to get it all done, and without Martha's persistent attention, it probably would not have been resolved."

IVC has been a proud partner of GEDCO for 10 years, and thank them for their great work on behalf of the citizens of our city. For more information on their outreach, go to <https://gedco.org/what-we-do/community-services/>

networks that led to a chance to testify in Annapolis with and on behalf of our clients for a bill to address this problem."

She loves being able to interact one-on-one and hear the stories of community neighbors. but also that the work has grown into an

effort to address structural problems that add to the burden and discrimination the clients' face.

Martha was attracted to IVC by the spiritual foundation and the idea of joining a community of people focused on service and social justice. She has taken full advantage of IVC's offerings to experience Ignatian Spirituality. She recently completed the nine month Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life, and will be attending the Christian Life Community National Assembly this July in Pittsburgh. *"The spiritual component of IVC has become an essential part of my life, not only as a volunteer, but as a Christian dedicated to living Christ's message of compassion and service. The community is wonderful and I treasure the relationships I have developed through IVC. I encourage anyone who is looking for a spiritual community dedicated to service to consider joining our IVC family. I tell everyone I know about it!"*

Thank you, Martha, for your commitment and dedication!

"The greatest joy we have at GEDCO CARES is the connections we make with our clients. The people we serve are our neighbors, and IVC volunteers have always gone out their way to respect the dignity of each person they serve. We are grateful for their presence and support of our ministry."

**Rachael Neill,
Director of
Community Services
for GEDCO**



Making a Difference for IVC Baltimore

April 1, 2019—June 30, 2019

\$5,000 +

The Estate of Benedict Frederick

\$1,000—\$4,999

Mary Catherine Bunting
Steve Eberle
The Knott Foundation
Joe Metz
Chris Tucker

\$500—\$999

Carroll Bodie
Paul & Kathleen Casey
Elaine Crawford & Bill Millen
Kathy Gross
Peg & Anthony Mann
John Meninger
St. Alphonsus Rodriguez

\$250—\$499

Pat Barron
Porter Bush
Rosemary Chang
Nick & Francine Civillico
Kathleen Durkin
Christine Eberle
Mark Melia
Ed & Robbie Sabein
John & Sharon Stanton
Mary Ellen Vanni

\$100—\$249

Jan Allen
Anonymous
Greg Conderacci
Beverly Cooper

Tom Cotter
Robin Cuddy
Leonard & Eileen DeStefano
Marti Eckert
Msgr. John FitzGerald
Bob and Linda Lenzen
Mary Hines
Fr. Joe Muth
Matthew & Mary Peroutka
Fred & Mary Louise Preis
Bernadette Reidy
Pat Rudolph
Edward & Kathleen Slunt
Nickie Sommerfeldt
Tom Ulrich
Fr. Bill Watters
Michael & Toni Wiest
Carol Zieba

\$1—\$99

Ann Marie Brennan Zelenka
Sandy Bryson
Mary Ann Burke
Meg Ducey
Alice Case
Paula Fargo
Erin O'Brien Garcia
Michael & Roseanne Green
Ila Jackson
Gregory Kostka
Charles & Jean Kuttruff
Brooke Lynch
John McLoughlin
John McGee
Maureen O'Brien
Kathryn Philliben
Catherine Sheridan
Diana Siemer



IVC Service Volunteers pray for our donors, our partners, each other, and those we serve.

From Steve

Thank you for taking time to read how Ignatian Volunteers like Martha are building a better world, not only by serving the poor, but by advocating for and with them. We have many partners who need help expanding their capacity in ways like this. Can you help us spread the word?

We're wrapping up our program year, and what a year! We asked for your help raising \$25,000 to overcome our budget shortfall and you came through with a whopping \$29,543! Partner placements continue to seek us out looking for skilled Corps Members to come on board to serve. And through our recruitment efforts, we're poised to have 45 service members in our Corps Community this September.

With the close of our program year comes some transition at IVC Baltimore. I recently accepted a promotion within IVC to Associate Vice President for Advancement. I'm excited to continue working with this fantastic organization and share with my colleagues across the country what I learned during six years as Baltimore Director.

When I think about IVC and our dedicated volunteers, it calls to mind Saint Ignatius and his "friends of Jesus" who stepped out into the world teaching, preaching, and performing works of mercy. Before his death on July 31, 1556, St. Ignatius had recruited over 1,000 friends to be in his Society of Jesus. Today, IVC has built a community of men and women who, inspired by St. Ignatius, step outside their comfort zones each day to live out the Holy Spirit's invitation to service.

A new director will take over later this summer, but I know that IVC Baltimore is already in good hands because of you, our devoted community of supporters. Thank you for all your prayers and your gifts that help to fund our mission!



Steve Eberle, Director, Ignatian Volunteer Corps Baltimore
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"Today our prime objective must be to form men-and-women-for-others; men and women who will live not for themselves but for God and his Christ—for the God-human who lived and died for all the world; men and women who cannot even conceive of love of God which does not include love for the least of their neighbors; men and women completely convinced that love of God which does not issue in justice for others is a farce."

(Pedro Arrupe: Essential Writings, Kevin Burke, Maryknoll, NY: Orbis Books 2004)