



# Experience Making a Difference

Ignatian Volunteer Corps



At the Ignatian Volunteer Corps<sup>®</sup> (IVC) we believe that the life experience, wisdom, and skills of senior men and women can transform the world through justice rooted in Gospel values.

IVC provides mature men and women the opportunity to serve the needs of people who are poor, work for a more just society, and to grow deeper in Christian faith by reflecting and praying in the Ignatian Tradition.

Members of IVC's service corps commit 1 or 2 days per week to work directly with organizations that address the issues of poverty and marginalization. Corps members gather monthly to prayerfully reflect on their apostolic work and discover the deeper meaning within their service.

Founded in 1995 by two Jesuit priests, IVC matches the talents, skills, and life experiences of corps members with the greatest social needs of our time. As a Jesuit-founded organization, our corps members transform from ordinary volunteers to contemplatives in action. Seeking the presence of God in each person, they bring their stories back to one another in community to reflect, enrich, teach, and learn.

IVC is a national non-profit service organization that provides men and women with opportunities to serve the needs of the poor, address social injustice, and change lives.

Albany, NY Milwaukee, WI Northeastern Pennsylvania Syracuse, NY Twin Cities, MN Chicago, IL Omaha, NE IVC VIRTUAL PROGRAM Serve from anywhere Denver, CO in the world! St. Louis, MO San Diego, CA New Orleans, LA SERVICE COMMUNITY







### ADVENTURE



## **MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP**



The only downside to the momentous year that IVC experienced in 2023 is how difficult it is to summarize in such a short space! In 2023, over 160 new individuals joined the Ignatian Volunteer Corps, expanding our community by an impressive 15%. This growth is a testament to the importance of our mission and the people who carry it out in their communities. It is also worth noting that 65% of our current Corps joined us after pandemic precautions subsided, demonstrating the resilience and drive to change the world of those over 50.

The success we celebrate today is a direct outcome of our donors' generous gifts to the Ignite! Campaign. This initiative significantly strengthened IVC's recruitment, marketing, and fundraising infrastructure. And those donors felt so confident giving to IVC in part because the work our IVC members do has a positive, measurable impact on the organizations and people with whom they serve. According to the Independent Sector's 2023 valuation of volunteer time, each IVC member annually provides approximately \$22,896 in skilled services to their partner agency.

Beyond financial measures, the reliable dedication, expertise, and compassion our corps members bring to the communities they serve are immeasurable. IVC's spiritual support program, rooted in Ignatian Spirituality, sustains each corps member, and transforms ordinary volunteer work into service in mission. Our Corps comprises people who have lived full lives and know there is more to do -- more ways to serve. Instead of accepting that life ends at retirement, they have countered that a new life begins when we engage with our communities, give of ourselves, and reflect spiritually on what our work means.

2023 was a tremendous year for IVC, and I do not doubt that with a corps dedicated to never resting on its laurels -- a corps of people that continues to respond to God's call to love and service -- 2024 will be even greater.

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Mary McGinnity President & CEO



On behalf of my fellow IVC board members, I want to thank our friends and donors for their unwavering support. Investing in IVC touches the lives of so many people throughout this country, in every community our members serve, and beyond. Through our shared belief that service and spirituality go hand in hand, IVC provides a compassionate presence that uplifts, supports, and empowers those they serve.

Our members offer their partner organizations something invaluable: experience. These dedicated and mature women and men work side by side with our nonprofit partners in the fight against poverty and injustice. I know these organizations are as grateful to you all as I am.

Thank you also to the leaders who serve nationwide in IVC's regional advisory councils. We on the Board of Directors strive always to match vour devotion to IVC.

If you're hearing about IVC for the first time, I ask that you take a moment and think if your life could be enriched by engaging in service and spiritual reflection. If so, visit our website and take a moment to read the inspirational stories of our community partners and corps members.

If you haven't already done so, follow us on Facebook, LinkedIn, YouTube, and Instagram. Please spread the word! To get involved in your local IVC community, either as a corps member, a regional advisory council member or as a social service partner, you will find links on the website for that as well.

Thank you again for all you do.

Richard Kelly, Jr. Chair, IVC National Board of Directors

# **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

In 2023, IVC welcomed 166 new members into the corps. They volunteered their time to serve at organizations that leverage their skills to augment programming that benefits the poorest members of our communities.

IVC members are changing lives all over the country: "The talent, commitment, and flexibility of the IVC members serving at Casa have greatly expanded the supports we are able to offer asylum seekers. They are trusted confidants of those living at Casa."

Dave Haley, Executive Director of Casa Guadalupana in St. Paul, MN

"WE LOVE our IVC members! They bring needed skills and passion to make our organization stronger!" Amanda Brewer, Chief Executive Officer at Habitat for Humanity of Omaha. NE

"Men and women for others? That's put into full action with the IVC members at Thrive for Life. Their generosity and talents build the mission daily through their dedication to all our brothers and sisters behind and beyond the prison walls."

Fr. Zach Presutti, S.J., Founder and Executive Director of Thrive for Life in New York, NY and Milwaukee, WI

"Having an IVC member as part of our team has been so successful, economical and life-giving for our community that we were pleased to add another member to our team this year. Knowing that these men and women will be loyal and effective adds a serious piece of mind and infuses energy into our ministries."

Laci Ann Michaelson, Executive Director of Augustinian Defenders of the Rights of the Poor in Philadelphia PA

According to the Independent Sector's 2023 valuation of volunteer time, each IVC member provides approximately \$22,896 in skilled services to their partner agency each year. Our corps saves the social service industry an estimated \$11,448,000 in salary costs! That's money each nonprofit social service partner can put toward programs and direct services like healthcare, education, aid for survivors of domestic violence, emergency services for people trying to escape poverty, and so on, all while relying on the compassionate commitment of their IVC member.

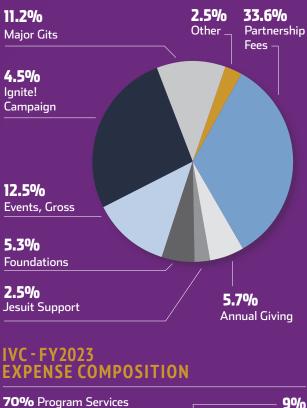


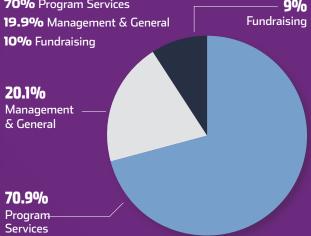
To make a gift to IVC visit www.ivcusa.org/donate or scan here.

Scan here to make a secure gift to IVC, or visit us at ivcusa.org/donate.

# **IVC - FY2023** REVENUE COMPOSITION

- **33.6%** Partnership Fees **12.5%** Events, Gross 5.7% Annual Giving 2.5% Jesuit Support 5.3% Foundations
- 4.5% Ignite! Campaign 11.2% Major Gifts 1.5% Other





Full audited financials are available on IVC's website at ivcusa.org/financial

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# What's it like to be an IVC member?

The impact of IVC starts with one person answering the call to serve others and flows into a community of support that sustains their service and seeks to find God in all things. Hear from members our community about this transformational experience:

"To me, the opposite of loneliness is community. In the communities in which I volunteer and the IVC community, there are good times and imperfect times...but there are also moments of joy in bridging a divide. That is what keeps me coming back to IVC."

Regina Bryde, IVC Albany

"Through our involvement with IVC, we have been enriched spiritually in many ways. We have experienced new ways to perform service, meet new friends and find God in all who we deal with on an almost daily basis."

Anne & Matt Baas, IVC Northeastern Pennsylvania

"[My time with IVC has] been a gift for me, an enriching and deeply satisfying opportunity to give back for a life full of blessings. To be in service along with prayerful reflection leading to a deepening in faith has been a dream come true for which I am so very grateful."

Helen Taney, IVC NCA



"If you are now retired or considering retirement and feel that you have something inside of you to help the community, please consider becoming a member of the IVC. The rewards are immense, knowing that you may leave a seed with someone that will develop into something special for that person."

Henri Louapre, IVC New Orleans

"You'll grow as a person... Meeting the other IVC members has been inspiring, especially when we meet in smaller groups and hear one another's stories. For me, it has helped me to listen to God more, deepened my spiritual practices. I feel more aware of God's presence in each situation and person I find myself with."

Georgina Dietz, IVC Philadelphia/South Jersey





"If I were just a volunteer, it would be a self-contained experience. But



when I am with the other IVC people, it's a wider view. The introduction to Ignatian spirituality helps me to see how what I am doing is part of something much bigger. Being able to debrief the experience is incredibly valuable. It is a community of caring and kind people that was really sent by the Holy Spirit for me."

Bette Ann Binstead, IVC Philadelphia/South Jersey

"I have been reflecting on what brings me joy in my service as an Ignatian Volunteer Corps member: For me, joy is a subtle



moment, an assurance that basically I'm doing what God wants. There's a feeling of comfort in that, if not happiness. I've had many moments of joy in my service there and when I've asked some of the residents there how I can bring joy to them, they've replied that their joy comes from me bringing the "outside" to them."

Richard Farrell, IVC Albany

"I love the fact that I can make a difference for the students [I serve with]. I'm using the talents God gave me to change the trajectory for children born into different circumstances from my own."

Lynn Devine, IVC San Diego

# Learn How Your Experience Can Make a Difference!

# Join us March 21st at 3:30pm ET

for a free virtual information session featuring Sr. Jean Dolores Schmidt, BVM.

Are you retired or finished raising your family? Do you want to give back, enrich your spiritual life, and build community with other mature adults? Through the Ignatian Volunteer Corps you can make a difference in your community while living out the values of St. Ignatius of Loyola. As a member of the IVC, you'll have the opportunity to serve those in need one or two days a week, while also participating in spiritual formation in a community of peers who share a commitment to service. Register now and learn how you can deepen your faith and make a difference in the world.

#### To register scan this QR code or visit us at www.ivcusa.org/info





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#### **CONTACT US**

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