



# Volunteers For Peace 2019 Program Announcement





Volunteers For Peace (VFP) is a US non-profit organization founded in 1982 and located in Burlington, Vermont. Through international voluntary service VFP promotes intercultural education, service learning, and community development. Each year we support local communities by organizing and promoting about 20 short, medium and long-term service projects in the USA and many projects in Haiti and Nicaragua. We have exchanged over 31,000 volunteers worldwide and offer over 3,000 projects in more than 90 countries around the world. Through these projects, nations join together to improve life on our planet. Our volunteers experience a microcosm of our world within the international group, and communities are able to create goals that improve life for their members.

We provide opportunities for volunteers to build cultural understanding and connections around the world while exploring grassroots community development and leadership roles. Volunteers will be encouraged to learn, share and plan effective ways to address local and global challenges together. Through these experiences, our volunteers gain valuable skills and an enhanced global consciousness, which we believe will help them become citizen diplomats, global leaders, and advocates for a more peaceful world! For more information visit our website at [www.vfp.org](http://www.vfp.org).



**VFP Staff:** Matt Messier (Executive Director)  
802-598 0052  
[vfp@vfp.org](mailto:vfp@vfp.org)

**Address:** Volunteers For Peace (VFP),  
131 Main St #201  
Burlington Vermont 05401 USA

**Tel:** +1 802-598 0052  
**Facebook:** Volunteers For Peace  
**Twitter:** @VFPUSA

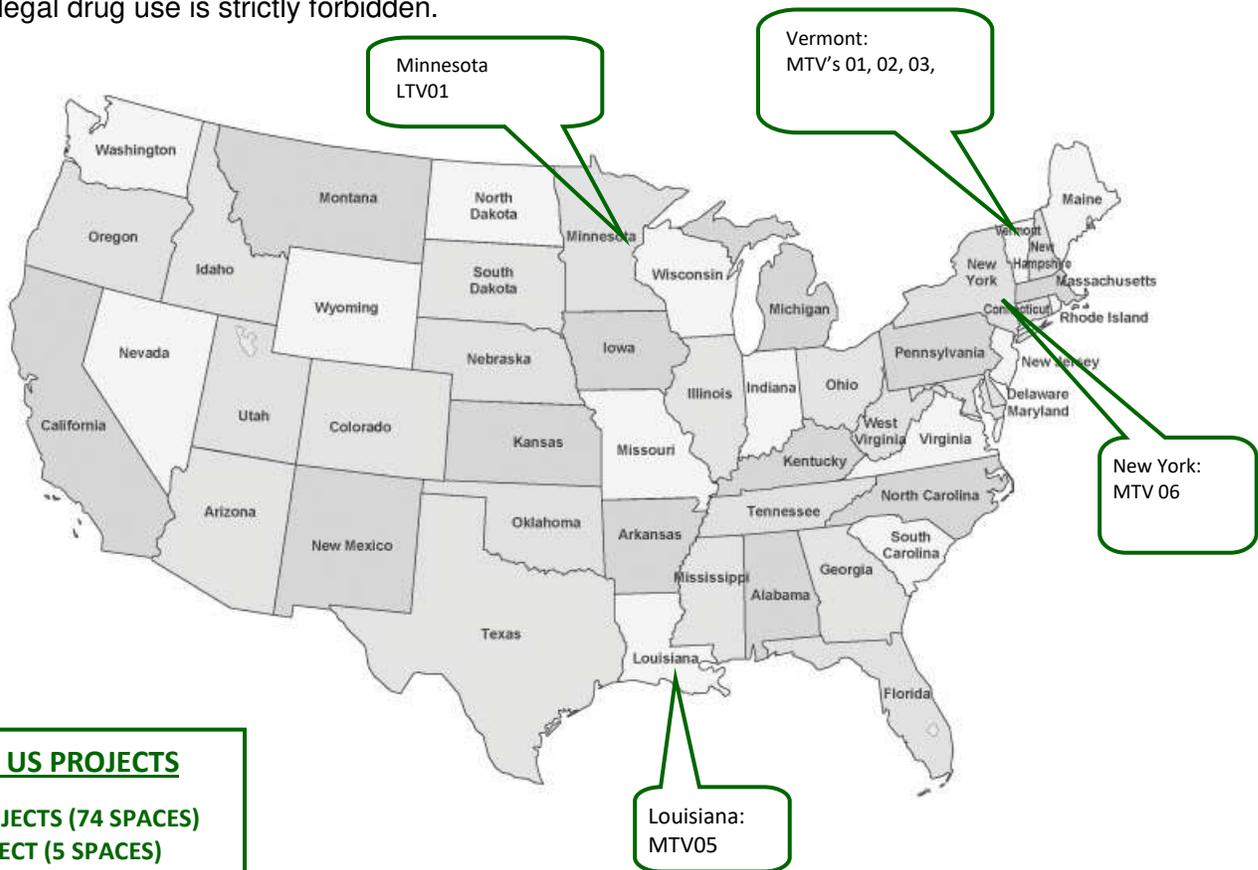
## VFP 2019 CAMP NOTES & CONDITIONS

- **INSURANCE:** Volunteers must obtain health and accident insurance for the duration of your travel and stay in the US. This insurance must cover you for all medical eventualities. You must bring your insurance card or receipts with you. If you cannot prove that you have insurance on arrival, you will not be allowed to take part in our workcamps. Some travel related insurance carriers are World Nomads, HTH Worldwide, and Global Rescue LLC
- **CONFIRMATION:** Volunteers must email VFP a confirmation of their participation before the camp begins. A Confirmation form is provided along with the information sheet. Please include specific arrival details to the project on the confirmation form along with a confirmation that you have received a visa (if applicable). Participation in a project may be cancelled if we do not receive confirmation.
- **VISA INFORMATION:** Regulations have changed and the US Department of State makes it very clear that an invitation letter will not make a difference in whether you receive a visa or not. You must be sure you meet and understand the requirements to get a visa before you apply to the project. Follow the link for more information on visa requirements from your country.  
(<http://travel.state.gov/content/visas/english/visit/visitor.html#overview>)
- Volunteers should be motivated to work at least 30 hours per week, or as indicated in project description.
- **INFORMATION SHEETS:** These will contain more detailed information, including travel information and what to bring, and are available now.
- **TECHNOLOGY FREE:** There are positive benefits to spending a little time away from technology and we hope you will be fully present to the volunteer experience. There will be designated times for volunteers to stay in touch with family and friends. In some project locations there is little or no cell phone service available.
- **VFP MOTIVATION FORM:** VFP or partner Motivation form is required for all projects and should be submitted with the VEF at the time of application.
- **VFP CHILD PROTECTION FORM:** Volunteers working with children must complete a Child Protection form before they can begin work. This form will be given to volunteers on the first day of the project.
- **INTERVIEWS:** Phone or Skype interviews required for placements in most MTV projects. Volunteers must include a Skype address on their VEF. Allow at least two weeks for these placements.
- **PARTICIPATION FEES:**
  - VFP-MTV05 fee to support local organization (Lowernine): \$160 a week for the first three weeks. (So 3 weeks = \$480). After three weeks, the fee decreases to \$50 a week for up to 3 months. (So for example, the fee for 5 weeks would total \$580). After 3 months, there is no additional cost. This fee is due in US Dollars upon arrival or online through [lowernine.org](http://lowernine.org)'s website
  - b. All other projects have no extra fee.

# VFP VOLUNTEER EXPECTATIONS

VFP hosts, staff and co-leaders work hard to ensure a rewarding and unforgettable experience in the USA. Please read the following expectations below.

- Every volunteer is an important and valuable part of the group. You are expected to be an active member, contribute to the work project, assist with cooking and cleaning, and participate in work and free-time activities. Please bring recipes, photos, music, cultural information, group games and other information and activities to share with other volunteers and the community.
- Work activities will take place for about 6 hours a day, 5 days a week. Some days and projects may have longer or shorter work periods depending on the weather, leadership, motivation, availability of materials and other factors.
- VFP and your local hosts will provide many fun and cultural free-time activities during the project. If volunteers decide to travel to a different location as a group or plan their own free-time activities they will be responsible to cover the expenses. The camp leaders will be able to share how much free-time activities will cost.
- Co-leaders, workcamp hosts and work project leaders are there to help you plan activities, understand your tasks, teach you how to use tools and many other things. If you have concerns or issues please raise them with a leader and work with the leader to engage the group in finding a solution that works for everyone.
- Volunteers are expected to live as a group. You are expected to stay for the entire duration of the project and are not allowed to arrange your own activities and spend days or nights away from the project.
- Smoking use is on the decline in the USA and in most of the communities where you are serving you will not see people smoking. It is prohibited in many buildings and also public spaces. You must be 18 years old to purchase cigarettes in the USA.
- The drinking age in the USA is 21 years old. It is illegal to purchase alcohol for a person younger than 21. Excessive drinking is a major social problem and is an obstacle to overcoming the social and economic problems that afflict the world community today. Please check with the host regarding alcohol consumption where you are staying and if you choose to drink please be responsible and only do so during free-time.
- Any illegal drug use is strictly forbidden.



## VFP 2019 US PROJECTS

5 MTV PROJECTS (74 SPACES)  
1 LTV PROJECT (5 SPACES)

## 2019 MEDIUM AND LONG-TERM PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

### **VFP-MTV01-19 COMMUNITY REENTRY and SOCIAL JUSTICE, BURLINGTON, PERMANENT SOCI/MANU AGE 21+ 4 Vols, Only 1 volunteer serves at a time, Minimum 12 weeks; maximum 6 months**

Hartford Dismas House provides transitional housing and opportunities to men and women getting out of prison so that they can successfully transition back into the community

**WORK:** Volunteers will assist in a variety of tasks including but not limited to: administrative support in the office, helping with fundraising activities, supporting the residential community by helping with planning and participating in house activities and Residential Advisor duties (See below). The type of work and number of hours varies but is usually 4 – 6 hours a day. Volunteers live on site and participate in all house activities including evening meals and all outside activities.

**STUDY THEME:** Criminal Justice

**ACCOMMODATION:** Shared room in large Victorian house, meals & laundry provided.

**LOCATION:** Hartford, Vermont. is a beautiful small town in Windsor County, population 10,000. The small city is located right on the shore of the White River and Connecticut River. Group activities and sightseeing is offered.

**LEISURE ACTIVITIES:** Recreation includes house activities and many festivals and events in area. Volunteers will participate in house outings including baseball games, hikes, camping, etc. Time off for travel may be approved.

**TERMINAL:** White River Junction VT where they will be met by a Dismas House Staff Member. [www.greyhound.com](http://www.greyhound.com)  
[www.dartmouthcoach.com](http://www.dartmouthcoach.com)

**SPECIAL REMARKS:** Volunteers must be 21+, speak fluent English and have basic computer skills. Absolutely NO alcohol or drug use permitted during the stay. VFP Motivation Form and email interview required. VFP does not provide insurance for volunteers on this project! Dismas offers emergency and liability insurance only. Only one international volunteer serves at any time. Volunteers must indicate the dates they are able to serve.

### **VFP-MTV02-19 COMMUNITY REENTRY and SOCIAL JUSTICE, WINOOSKI, PERMANENT SOCI/MANU AGE 21+ 4 Vols, Only 1 volunteer serves at a time, Minimum 12 weeks; maximum 6 months**

Winooski Dismas House provides housing and opportunities to men and women getting out of prison so that they can successfully transition back into the community. <http://www.dismasofvermont.org/>

**WORK:** Volunteers will be working as a Resident Advisor as well as on administrative tasks in small office. Volunteers are also expected to support the residential community by participating in group activities.

**STUDY THEME:** Criminal Justice

**ACCOMMODATION:** Shared room in a house, meals & laundry provided. Access to Wi-Fi is also available.

**LOCATION:** Winooski, Vermont. Winooski borders Burlington and has a population of ~8,000. There are colleges and universities nearby, the lake and mountains and much to do. Volunteers For Peace is located in Burlington and we welcome the volunteers in our office as well. Dismas has a house in Burlington and Rutland Vermont as well.

**LEISURE ACTIVITIES:** Recreation includes house activities and many festivals and events in area. Volunteers will participate in house outings including baseball games, hikes, camping. Time off for travel may be approved.

**TERMINAL:** Burlington, Vermont is easily accessible by bus or plane from Montreal, Boston or New York City.

**SPECIAL REMARKS:** Volunteers must be 21+, male, speak fluent English and have basic computer skills. Absolutely NO alcohol or drug use permitted during the stay. **VFP Motivation Form and email interview required. VFP does not provide insurance for volunteers on this project! Dismas offers emergency and liability insurance only.** Only one international volunteer serves at any time. Volunteers must indicate the dates they are able to serve.

### **VFP-MTV03-19 COMMUNITY REENTRY, SOCIAL JUSTICE, RUTLAND, PERMANENT SOCI/MANU AGE 21+ 4 Vols, Only 1 volunteer serves at a time, Minimum 12 weeks; maximum 6 months**

Rutland DISMAS HOUSE provides transitional drug, alcohol and violence free housing opportunity to men and women getting out of prison so they can successfully reconcile with the community before living independently.

<http://www.dismasofvermont.org/>

**WORK:** A good deal of participation in various components of fundraising activities, representing Dismas at speaking engagements on college campuses and at civic organizations, working with clothing and food donations and support of the residential community by participating in house group activities. The average daily work commitment expected is up to 5 -6 hours per day, however, the hours are varied and non-traditional, and may include some weekends and evenings. As a resident of the house, volunteers will live as an equal to and with the same expectations as the former prisoner residents: The volunteer is **not** at Dismas to act in a counseling or other related capacity.

**STUDY THEME:** Reintegration into society from prison.

**ACCOMODATION:** Modestly furnished shared room in a large Victorian house; sheets, towels, meals, laundry facilities, internet access provided.

**LOCATION:** Rutland is a beautiful small city in the Green Mountains with nearby lakes and streams, population 17,500. Dismas also has houses in Burlington, Winooski and Hartford, Vermont.

**LEISURE ACTIVITIES:** Recreation includes gym and rock climbing memberships with other residents, as well as house group activities (bowling, hiking, camping, fishing, etc.) which are offered. Snow skiing is nearby. Time off for travel may be approved.

**TERMINAL:** Air to Burlington, Vermont; Albany, New York; Manchester, New Hampshire; Boston, Massachusetts. Train from New York City to Rutland, Vermont.

**SPECIAL REMARKS:** **Absolutely NO alcohol or drug use permitted during the stay;** presence at the evening meal Monday through Friday is required, as is presence at the weekly house meeting one evening during the week; no smoking inside the house; no intimate relationships between residents permitted. Volunteers must be 24+, able to speak and understand a better than basic level of English, and have basic computer skills. A 90-day/3 month commitment is required, but volunteers may choose to stay for up to 3 additional months following the initial 3 month period if invited to do so.

**VFP MOTIVATION FORM AND TELEPHONE INTERVIEW REQUIRED. VFP does not provide insurance for volunteers on this project! Dismas offers liability insurance only – Volunteers are responsible for their own health/accident/travel insurance.** Only one international volunteer serves at any time. Volunteers must indicate the dates they are able to serve.

**VFP-MTV05- 19 HOUSE BUILDING RESTORATION, NEW ORLEANS CONS/RENO PERMANENT AGE 18+ 30Vols  
Minimum 1 Month; Maximum 3 Months**

LOWERNINE.ORG, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA is a non-political, secular, 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the long-term recovery of the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans, Louisiana in the wake of hurricanes Katrina and Rita, and the levee breaches of 2005. The organization completes residential building projects so that pre-Katrina residents of the neighborhood can return to their homes. <http://lowernine.org>

**WORK:** Unskilled and experienced carpenters, roofers, plumbers, painters and other tradesmen needed for rebuilding homes in the flood-

damaged Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans. Unskilled volunteers will be trained by skilled staff. All aspects of home rebuilding will be addressed, from roofing to finish carpentry. 5-day week of full work days from 8:15 AM - 4:30 PM. Volunteers provide free labor to

neighborhood residents, so they can return home after Hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Isaac. Work can be difficult and it is hot in New Orleans!

**STUDY THEME:** Carpentry, construction, community building.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Housing is in dormitory style bunkrooms, and volunteers are responsible for all cleaning and cooking. No smoking in the house. No drugs allowed. No alcohol allowed in the house or on the property. Vegetarian meals available.

**LOCATION:** New Orleans, LA, 2 miles east of the French Quarter.

**LEISURE ACTIVITIES:** Volunteers will have ample opportunity to partake of the abundant cultural offerings of the most unique city in America on weekends and after work hours.

**TERMINAL:** Louis Armstrong International Airport; Amtrak and Bus station downtown.

**SPECIAL REMARKS:** VFP Motivation Form required. Volunteers must have intermediate spoken and comprehension of English in order to ensure workplace safety. VFP does not provide insurance for volunteers on this project, LowerNine general liability insurance will cover volunteers only while they are working. In case of a natural disaster volunteers will be required to make their own arrangements to evacuate the city. Multiple volunteers serve at all times in this location.

**EXTRA FEE:** \$480 Minimum (Covers \$160/week for the first three weeks. The fee is the same whether you stay for 1 day or 3 weeks). After three weeks, the extra cost will be \$50 for each additional week up to 3 months. For example, a volunteer staying 6 weeks will pay \$630 and one staying for three months will pay \$930. After 3 months, there is no additional cost. This fee is due in US Dollars upon arrival or online through [lowernine.org](http://lowernine.org)'s website.

**VFP-MTV06-19 EXPLORE NEW YORK, DISA/CULT 15 Vols AGE 21+  
Dates**

- June 1 – June 30: 5 leaders
- July 1-July 31: 6 leaders
- August 1-31: 8 leaders
- Sept 1-Sept 30: 6 leaders
- Oct 1-Oct 31: 4 leaders

**SPROUT, NEW YORK, NEW YORK** is dedicated to helping individuals with developmental disabilities to grow through challenging and safe travel experiences. <http://www.gosprout.org/>

**WORK:** Volunteers will co-lead small groups of adults with special needs on short vacations to various destinations. Responsibilities include ensuring safety, providing emotional and physical support, enhancing fun, budgeting, driving and activity planning 24 hours a day while on trips. Volunteers must be willing to assist with all Adult Daily Living skills (brushing teeth, separating dirty clothes, showering etc.). This is very challenging work, yet also very rewarding and fun. Experience working with this population is an asset but not required. Training will be provided. Between trips, some light office work or assistance is required.

**STUDY THEME:** Traveling with disability.

**ACCOMMODATION:** While on trips you will stay in hotels. In between trips, you will stay at a youth hostel. Volunteers will be responsible for their own meals, transportation and activities when not on a trip.

**LOCATION:** Manhattan, New York City & various destinations.

**LEISURE ACTIVITIES:** In between trips, you will have minimal time to explore NYC

**TERMINAL:** New York City, New York.

**LANGUAGE:** Fluent English REQUIRED

**SPECIAL REMARKS:** Responsible, motivated vols age 21+ with driver's license strongly preferred. Start dates are set for orientation but end dates can be flexible if required. VFP does not provide insurance for volunteers on this project. Sprout insurance only covers volunteers when they are on group trips. No alcohol during trips. Fluent English. VFP Motivation form and phone/Skype interview is required.

**VFP-LTV01-19 Camphill Village, Sauk Centre Minnesota, SOCI 3-5 Vols, AGE 21+ 1 – 3 volunteers serve at a time, Minimum 6 months**

**Camphill Village Minnesota (CVM)** is a life-sharing, residential community of fifty people, including adults with disabilities. Our lives, work and celebrations are woven into the rhythms of nature found in the rolling hills, sparkling waterways, and prairie grasslands of Central Minnesota. Our community is deeply rooted in the belief that every individual, regardless of limitations, is an independent, spiritual being. Each person is part of the fabric of Community experience and is worthy of recognition, respect and honor. Website: <http://www.camphillmn.org>

**WORK:** Volunteers will assist in a variety of tasks including but not limited to: Assisting adults with developmental disabilities in their daily living activities in the home and managing crews in workplaces such as gardening, farming, cooking, food preserving, cleaning, woodworking, weaving, baking, or arts. The type of work and number of hours varies but is usually 5 – 10 hours per day. At least 5 hours per day will be spent in the workplace and another 3-5 hours per day in the home. Volunteers live on site and participate in all house activities including meals and all outside activities.

**ACCOMMODATION:** Volunteers (Coworkers) will live together family style in homes within the community. Each person has their own bedroom. All meals, hot showers, toiletries, linens & towels are provided. There is a fleet of vehicles that each person with a driver's license is welcome to use.

**LOCATION:.** Sauk Centre is a small town in the heart of Minnesota. CVM is less than an hour from St. Cloud and Alexandria and about 2 hours from Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**LEISURE ACTIVITIES:** There is a rich social life within the community. During down time coworkers can be found doing yoga, group workouts, playing pool, canoeing, hiking the land, playing music/ singing, or going to the nearest town to see a movie at the theatre. Community members are able to go to larger cities on their days off. For year long Coworkers 3 weeks of vacation is offered.

**TERMINAL:.** You must send your arrival details to [lindsey@camphillmn.org](mailto:lindsey@camphillmn.org) so we can arrange to meet you. Depending on departure point, volunteers can fly directly to Minneapolis, Minnesota airport (MSP).

**LANGUAGE:** English

**SPECIAL REMARKS:** Volunteers are reminded that CVM is a shared living environment therefore it is recommended not to bring valuable items, unless absolutely necessary. Volunteers should ensure that they carry full insurance to cover both themselves (medical) and their possessions, as this is not provided.