Welcome, Kaitlin Depuydt, our new associate director!

Hello! As I begin a new adventure as associate director for FCV, I am excited to be here and to share a little about myself. My roots are in the Mankato, Minn., area, where I grew up with wonderful parents, two brothers and a huge extended family. I received a degree in Pastoral & Youth Ministry from St. Mary’s University in Winona. I joined the Lasallian Volunteers, a ministry of the Christian Brothers of De La Salle, where I volunteered for a year in Kansas City, Mo., at the Holy Family Catholic Worker House and then a year in the Bronx, N. Y., in the Campus Ministry & Social Action office at Manhattan College. After volunteering, I returned to Pipestone, Minn., and worked in a tri-parish as the director of faith formation in the southwest corner of the state.

I am very excited to be in this new position with Franciscan Community Volunteers. Being able to work in this supportive environment and in a position that makes it possible for others to have faith-filled volunteer experiences is a perfect fit. So far, my experience with the staff and community here at the Welcoming House has been wonderful, and I look forward to continue exploring Franciscan spirituality and making connections within the St. Cloud community.

Our fourth group of Franciscan Community Volunteers begins its year!

Sister Clara Stang, Director

We began our 2012-2013 FCV year with a new associate director, Kaitlin Depuydt, and six new volunteers! An added bonus is that Anna Zaros, our past associate director, continues to be with us during this transitional time. The first week of orientation was a tremendous community-building experience for all. Coming from diverse paths and past experiences, we soon discovered that we came seeking similar goals and aspirations, related to the three components of our program: Franciscan spirituality, intentional community living, and a life of dedicated service. In the Commissioning Service during the Mass on the Feast of St. Clare, August 11, the volunteers promised: “The Gospel compels each of us to reach out in the name of Jesus Christ and to be a living sign of hope in the reign of God. We answer the call of discipleship by committing one year as a Franciscan Community Volunteer. We pray for the grace to live and preach the Gospel daily through words and actions, and we pray also for the courage to be a Christian role model for all.”
Introducing the 2012-2013 Franciscan Community Volunteers...

Shannon Hagerty is from St. Francis, Minn. She recently graduated from St. Cloud State University. She will be working at the St. Cloud Children’s Home as a clinical support assistant. Shannon shared with us some of the aspects of the program she is looking forward to, “One of the many things I am excited about this year is to see each of our individual talents and passions make an impact on our communities, faith lives and those we serve.”

Corey Dossey is from Conroe, Tex. She recently graduated from Texas A&M University. She will be working at Talahi Elementary School as a support services assistant. Corey told us she has really enjoyed orientation, the first week of our 2012-2013 FCV program. “It has been wonderful getting to know my fellow volunteers this week. The more I learn about each of them the more excited I am about our year of service.”

Lisa Yanzer is from Holmen, Wisc. She recently completed her term of service with Jesuit Volunteer Corps before joining FCV. She will be working with all the St. Cloud district schools as the autism resource program assistant. Just after a week, Lisa feels as though she is where she is meant to be. “The peace I feel in community with my fellow volunteers and the sisters makes me feel right at home.”

Philip Lomneth is from Omaha, Neb. He recently graduated from St. Olaf College. He will be working at the Great River Interfaith Partnership as the racial equity organizer and researcher. During orientation Philip shared with us, “Living with people eager to share and grow in their faith has given me great hope for what this year will bring. Though the road ahead is not entirely clear, I know I travel with wonderful companions.”

Maureen Reynolds is from Brooklyn Park, Minn. She recently graduated from St. Thomas University. She will be working at Lutheran Social Service as a refugee caseworker. Maureen shared with us her thoughts about orientation also, “I’ve really enjoyed this week of getting to know all the volunteers. I’m excited to be a part of such a wonderful community!”

Kristine Origone is from Lodi, Calif. In California she worked as a speech pathologist assistant. With FCV she will be working at Catholic Charities as the immigrant and refugee program assistant. When thinking about the year ahead Kristine said, “I pray to see and be the light of Christ in uniting with my community and those with whom I am blessed to serve.”

What is Franciscan Community Volunteers?
Franciscan Community Volunteers is a program that allows young adults to make an 11-month commitment to serve the poor and marginalized. Based on the three pillars of service, community and Franciscan spirituality, FCVs work full time in local nonprofit agencies that serve the needs of the marginalized, while accepting the challenge of living simply and in accordance with Gospel values.

Help support our ministry.
Your donation will help to:
- Buy a $43.00 bus pass for one volunteer for one month.
- Pay for a $100 monthly stipend for one volunteer.
- Pay $165 for health insurance for one volunteer per month.
- Pay $1075 monthly for rental of the Volunteer house.

Donate online at www.fcvonline.org.