

Local Opportunities to Serve

Get involved in your community! Many of the organizations listed are Christian ministries, but all are opportunities to show love.

Arrive Minnesota: arriveministries.org

Arrive is a Christian non-profit organization that helps refugees and immigrants. They partner with over 50 Twin Cities churches and hundreds of volunteers to provide tutoring, English language training, resettlement support, church refugee gardens and friendship to refugees across the metro area and beyond. Volunteer opportunities are listed on arriveministries.org/how-you-can-help. Contact: [mvolunteers@arriveministries.org](mailto:m volunteers@arriveministries.org) or 612-798-4332.

Bridging: bridging.org

Bridging collects, assembles and delivers furniture to people in need. Volunteer opportunities for individuals or groups are listed on their website. Contact: 952-888-1105. Steve and Jill Rose have coordinated efforts in past.

China Outreach Ministries: comumn.org

Ministry to Chinese students and scholars. Ministry could include meeting them at the airport, temporarily housing them, helping them get settled, coming with them to the monthly Friendship Dinners, teaching them to drive and helping them buy a car, and inviting them to family activities. Contact: com@umn.edu. Many First Free people have done this including Kyle & Lenka Bragg and Steve & Marie Mondy.

City Life Center: citylifecenter-mn.org

City Life Center is a multifaceted pro-life ministry that offers counselling, support, baby clothes and equipment, adoption help, and parenting classes. Volunteer opportunities include prayer walks in the neighborhood, donating hostas in the spring, helping with spring yard work, providing cookies or baked goods for open houses and special events, and purchasing items such as baby clothing for up to 12 months, gift cards for gas and food, and personal care products for mothers and children. Contact: info@citylifecenter-mn.org or 612.874.1808.

Community Emergency Services: cesmn.org

CES provides direct aid relief (including food from their food shelf), advocacy, referral, guidance and prayer support for people in need. They can use

volunteers to interview clients, help sort and shelve donated groceries, and donate items. Contact: Melanie LaPointe, CES Volunteer Coordinator at mlapointe@cesmn.org or 612-870-1125, extension 128. Karin Olson has helped for several years.

Damascus Way: damascusway.com

Damascus Way is a halfway house for men coming out of prison. Opportunities to help include preparing hygiene kits for new residents or cooking and sharing a meal as a group. Contact: 763-545-6558 or craig.fruen@damascusway.com

Doing Good Together: doinggoodtogether.org

Doing Good Together's mission is "empowering families to raise children who care and contribute". They connect families with resources and opportunities to serve. Contact: Laurie@DoingGoodTogether.org

Feed My Starving Children: www.fmsc.org

Pack nutritious food packets for needy children around the world. Well organized for groups and families to participate. Many First Free families have participated. Contact: 763-504.-2919 or info@fmsc.org.

Fill their Plate: filltheirplate.org

A ministry of Urban Refuge and Evergreen Church, Fill Their Plate packs food for needy children. Specific sessions are noted on the website, sometimes at Urban Refuge (55th and Chicago), sometimes in Bloomington. Contact: info@filltheirplate.org.

Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery: www.crisisnursery.org

A ministry that provides counselling, overnight residential care, home visits and parent support. Volunteers can cook meals, prepare snacks, care for children in the center, provide enrichment activities. Email rmartinez@crisisnursery.org for information. SALT small group, Bryant and Hannah Dittmer, Mordechai and Jane Hershstein have participated.

Habitat for Humanity: habitat.org

Builds homes for needy families and rehabilitates neighborhoods, provides financial education and disaster response. Twin Cities Chapter: 651-207-1700 or info@tchabitat.org. Lowell and Gwen Larson have helped for years.

Joyful Harvest Ministry

Presenting the gospel to the imprisoned to bring about transformation through Christ. Training men and women for mentoring former inmates in prison remotely and continue when they are released. Volunteers can help with monthly check of lists of inmates. Families can make valentines to include in February issue of Joyful News and make Christmas ornaments for December. Contact Doneetsa Anderson at joyfulharvestministry937@gmail.com or 612-308-1962.

Linda Leonard's ministry to refugees

Can use help with individual families, such as mentoring, helping with transportation, childcare, and managing apartment buildings. Kyle & Lenka Bragg have helped. Contact: 612-655-1755 or leona005@umn.edu.

Marie Sandvik Center: mariesandvikcenter.org

Provides meals and overnight shelter to needy families. Volunteers are needed to prepare meals, supervise children's programs, and provide evening church services. Contact: 612-870-9617 or msc@usfamily.net

New Life Family Services: www.nlfs.org

New Life offers adoption service, pregnancy help, and healing after abortion. Volunteers help with office work, events, organizing clothing and baby equipment, and supporting individuals. Contact: info@nlfs.org or visit nlfs.org/contact to get in touch with specific area branches around the Twin Cities.

New Salem Church

New Salem Church engages in ministry to the Hispanic community. Volunteers are needed for English language conversation partners, homework helpers for students, and help with organizing clothing donations. Contact Felix & Maureen Juarez (maryandfe@msn.com) or call 612-251-5586.

Prison Fellowship: prisonfellowship.org

Prison Fellowship works to support and offer restoration for those in prison and former prisoners. Find volunteer opportunities at prisonfellowship.org/action. For volunteering, apply through the website or call 1-800-251-7411. For Angel Tree inquiries (Christmas presents for children of prisoners) call 1-800-55-ANGEL (2-6435).

Royal Family Kids: rfk.org

Provides positive relationships for foster children through mentoring clubs and camps. Churches can provide a location and individuals can volunteer. Email office@royalfamilykids.org. Mordechai and Jane Hershstein have participated.

Sandwich Project: thesandwichprojectmn.org

The Sandwich Project is a volunteer-led grassroots organization that provides sandwiches to the hungry in Minneapolis throughout the year. Volunteers can make the sandwiches and deliver them to the collection centers or can deliver to homes. Contact through the website or email info@thesandwichprojectmn.org. Jill Rose has coordinated it for the church.

Tandem Resource Center: wearetandem.org

Tandem offers services to women and children including crisis intervention, health care, housing, childcare, and life skills and vocational training.

Service opportunities can be found at wearetandem.org/donate. Contact: call 612-823-0301 and ask for Sarah if you are interested in knowing more or email info@wearetandem.org. Tandem is located at 4105 Chicago Ave South.

Urban Homeworks: urbanhomeworks.com

Urban Homeworks acquires and rehabilitates buildings, provides affordable rental housing, and helps low to moderate income households own homes. They also help stabilize neighborhoods by placing volunteer “Urban Neighbors” in strategic locations to volunteer in the community and minister to neighbors. Contact: emailus@urbanhomeworks.org. John Symington has helped.

Young Life: younglife.org

Volunteer leaders build genuine relationships and offer mentorship to high school kids (commitment involves being at weekly club meetings, going to sports games, coffee, hanging out, etc.). Adult Committee volunteers attend monthly board meetings, help with fundraising, and provide prayer support. You can also help prepare meals that are provided at weekly clubs. Skip Stoelzing is the contact person: skip.stoelzing@gmail.com