



## **Catholic Volunteer Network**

### Ministry Description

*Re: Missionary Cooperation Plan, Diocese of Cleveland*

**Catholic Volunteer Network (CVN)**, an affiliate of the U.S. Catholic Bishops, is the official U.S. Catholic network of over 150 lay volunteer mission programs that send missionaries of all ages to over 100 countries worldwide in service to the poor and needy. We proudly continue the work began by our founder, Fr. George Mader of the Archdiocese of Newark) more than 50 years ago.

Each year, thousands of lay missionaries from all walks of life – married and single, recent college graduates and retirees, with children and without – serve within our Network in programs around the globe and across the United States. Just last year, more than 18,000 lay missionaries served with over 150 CVN member programs. These women and men have served in ministries such as childhood education, religious education, health care, social services, youth development, prison ministry, and home repair, among many other categories.

**The funds from the Mission Cooperative Plan support our programs as we work to make known the opportunities to serve God through mission service.**

Specifically, we publish the RESPONSE volunteer directory, which lists information about the opportunities available in our network. We annually distribute 18,000 copies of RESPONSE, free of charge, to parishes, colleges, high schools, and individuals interested in serving. We also visit more than 75 colleges and universities each year to speak with campus ministry and service-learning groups in-person about post-graduate service opportunities. We want students to know that through mission service, they can discover more about their life's vocation.

The Mission Cooperative Plan allows us to share about lay mission service with people of all ages, many of whom have never heard about the variety of ways to serve God through service. The collections also support our efforts to support our member programs, so that they can better serve the poorest among us.

***Thank you for your prayerful consideration and support of our mission!***

- Catholic Volunteer Network