

# **Volunteering with the Sisters of Social Service**

Get involved with SSS ministries in Los Angeles and San Diego!

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## Projects with Active Seniors/Elders, Encino

The Villa Retirement Community is home to 13 Sisters of Social Service who have spent their lives in the social work field, working with those on the margins of our world. They have varying interests including visual art, gardening, technology, photography, current events, and of course a rich and diverse spiritual life.

**Opportunities:** Their interests and needs are as varied as the Sisters: repotting plants and gardening, reading the newspaper aloud, helping with correspondence, playing card games and Checkers, and social visits. The Sisters are especially in need of volunteers for help with computer technology and projects. Individuals and group volunteers are welcome.

**Contact:** Sr. Shaun Marie Wise (818) 285-3352

## SSS Archives, Encino

**Opportunity:** Volunteers needed to help in the SSS Archives with sorting, scanning, compiling, and organizing files and historical documents. Hours are flexible, but a regular commitment is desired. Archive experience required.

**Contact:** Sr. Merita Dekat (818) 285-3365 [merideksss@gmail.com](mailto:merideksss@gmail.com)

## Holy Spirit Retreat Center, Encino

Holy Spirit Retreat Center, as a chartered ministry of the Sisters of Social Service, is rooted in Scripture and the vision and spirit of Saint Benedict. They strive to create an atmosphere of prayer and hospitality where community is nourished, each person can thrive and an interfaith environment is fostered.

**Opportunities:** Gardening projects, general office work, data entry, and work parties on the 10 acre oasis where the Center is housed. Projects can vary by interest level and your schedule.

**Contact:** Sr. Chris Machado at (818) 285-3354 [Chris\\_testver@yahoo.com](mailto:Chris_testver@yahoo.com)

## Good Samaritan Hospital, Los Angeles

**Opportunity:** Volunteers needed to help give Holy Communion to patients at Good Samaritan Hospital, Los Angeles. Time and dates are flexible, but an ongoing commitment is needed (this is not a one-time volunteer opportunity). Bilingual English/ Spanish or other languages are always needed. Volunteers do not have to already be Eucharistic Ministers: training can be provided.

**Contact:** Sr. Yolanda Vega, Chaplain at Good Samaritan Hospital: (213) 482-2755 [vegaflores2@yahoo.com](mailto:vegaflores2@yahoo.com)

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## Regis House Community Center, Los Angeles

RHCC is social service agency serving the Westlake-Historic Filipinotown near MacArthur Park and downtown Los Angeles, focusing on families and youth.

**Opportunities** include, but are not limited to:

- After School Program, working with children K-5th grades in homework assistance and club activities. M-F following the LAUSD school calendar.
- Summer Day Camp for youth ages 6-13, runs from mid-June – July. Day camp counselors must be 14 years of age and older.
- Weekly food distribution is every Wednesday (August – May).
- Rummage sales are held the first Saturday of the month from August-May.
- Opportunities to assist with basic building maintenance, and special events throughout the year.

**Contact:** Sr. Albertina Morales or Sr. Teresita Saavedra at (213) 380-8168 or at [regishouscc@att.net](mailto:regishouscc@att.net). Website: [www.regishousecommunitycenter.com](http://www.regishousecommunitycenter.com)

## International Life Services, Los Angeles

Pro-life organization founded in 1985 to promote Catholic values applied to family life and bio-ethical issues.

**Opportunity:** Many administrative needs, including typing, filing, letter writing, phone, etc. If you are interested in public speaking or writing, there are opportunities to work on abstinence promotion and abortion education, as well as helping with our online educational magazine. We will train.

**Contact:** Sr. Paula Vandegaer (213) 382-2156

**Opportunity:** Volunteer for Life! Give a year of your life to prayer and service in a live-in program to promote the pro-life message and works. Application required. Rolling admission.

**Contact:** Sr. Paula Vandegaer (213) 382-2156 [www.volunteersforlife.com](http://www.volunteersforlife.com)

## Scholl Institute of Bioethics, Los Angeles

A program linked to International Life Services that is devoted to research and education on bioethical issues.

**Opportunity:** help with research of issues, writing, administrative work, assisting with organizing conferences and website education.

**Contact:** Sr. Paula Vandegaer (213) 382-2156 [www.schollbioethics.org](http://www.schollbioethics.org)

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## Homeboy Industries, Los Angeles

Homeboy Industries provides hope, training, and support to formerly gang-involved and previously incarcerated men and women allowing them to redirect their lives and become contributing members of our community.

**Opportunity:** "Homeboy Heals" - A Program of Homeboy Industries is looking for licensed clinicians willing to see 1 client, at no charge for weekly counseling. Sessions can be conducted in his or her private office or any of the Homeboy locations.

**Contact:** Mary Nalick, LCSW at (323) 526-1254, ext. 367

[mmnalick@homeboyindustries.org](mailto:mmnalick@homeboyindustries.org)

## Camp Mariastella, Wrightwood

Outdoor learning and recreation within a Christian ecumenical setting for children and young adults.

**Opportunity:** Spring Work Party to prepare camp for the busy summer season, including outdoor work clearing fire zones, reopening cabins. No limit on no. of volunteers. Start dates May and June every year. **Contact:** Sr. Patricia McGowan (818) 285-1555 by April.

**Opportunity:** Residential camp counselor for Mariastella Girls Camp designed to nurture self-confidence, independence, and creative decision-making for girls 7-15 years old through outdoor, prayer, and liturgical activities. Camp runs from late June to mid-August each year. Stipend included. Application required. **Contact:** Sr. Jennifer Gaeta (818) 285-1555 by April.

**Opportunity:** Volunteer nurses needed for Mariastella Girls Camp. Must be licensed. Camp runs from late June to mid Aug each year. Application required. Contact Sr. Jennifer Gaeta (818) 285-1555

## Camp Oliver, San Diego area

Camp strives to nurture children and adults so they can appreciate and value themselves, others, and the natural world around them.

**Opportunities:** Volunteers needed for exterior painting of camp buildings, landscaping and weed whacking; volunteer electrician for occasional work needed.

**Opportunity:** Spring Work Party to prepare camp for the busy summer season. Outdoor work clearing fire zones, reopening cabins. Hands on. No limit on no. of volunteers. Start date April and May every year.

**Contact:** Trista Brant (619) 445-5945 or email: [info@campoliver.org](mailto:info@campoliver.org)

Website: [www.campoliver.org](http://www.campoliver.org)