



OVC

Orthodox Volunteer Corps



SERVE FOR A YEAR PREPARE FOR A LIFETIME

Orthodox Volunteer Corps invests a year in Orthodox young adults by connecting them to immersive and transformative encounters of service, training, community, and Church to grow and strengthen servant leaders.

OUR CALL

Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

Proverbs 22:6

In the Orthodox Church, we have taken up the call to train our children and youth. But when our children become young adults, fewer formative opportunities exist, despite the pivotal nature of these years. Orthodox theology, tradition, practice, and history create a unique understanding & expression of formation through service. Young adults of the 21st century are hungry to serve and make an impact on our world; we should nurture them with an Orthodox ethos, our phronema. We must train our young adults in the way they should go.

THE FOUR CORE COMPONENTS

The OVC pathway to leadership.

Orthodox Volunteer Corps (OVC) is a pan-Orthodox, national venture developed through the Assembly of Bishops. OVC invests a year in Orthodox young adults to prepare them for a lifetime of service within and beyond the parish. Four components comprise the core of this work. **Service** is at the center. A historic calling & practice of our faith, service resonates with today's young adults seeking engagement in the world. OVC will match talented young adults with nonprofit agencies. But service alone is not enough. The second component of OVC is **formation**. We will link corps members to Orthodox mentors, history, and theology. Formation will also include a comprehensive leadership development curriculum, designed to cultivate values-based, effective leaders for church and society. Recognizing that service and formation are rooted in connection, OVC employs a third component: intentional **community**. Participants will live in communal housing, breaking bread together and undertaking the hard but enriching work of loving one another day to day. Finally, undergirding service, formation, and community is **church**, the final and fundamental component. Corps members will immerse themselves in the life of the local parish.



Since 2019, representatives from CrossRoad, FOCUS, the Neighborhood Resilience Project, OCMC, Project Mexico, and St Basil Academy have been meeting to develop OVC. This taskforce, commissioned by the Assembly of Bishops, has focused on organizational structure, partner agencies, fundraising, and curriculum development. And in April of 2021, OVC became an independent nonprofit that can receive tax-exempt donations.

Now is the time to launch OVC. The taskforce has laid structure. Our bishops have blessed it. Our parishes need it. Our time cries for it. Now is the time to catapult vision to reality.



OUR TIME

FALL 2021

Program Launch –
Recruit nationally &
lay groundwork for 1st
target city

FALL 2022

Run core program &
establish larger circle
of young adults in 1st
city

FALL 2023

Continue
programming in
1st city and lay
groundwork for 2nd
city

FALL 2024

Run programming in
2 cities

GET INVOLVED



Pray

OVC is a labor of
faith, hope, & love.



Connect

Help us connect to other
early investors.



Invest

Give to help launch
this vital ministry.

learn more at: www.orthodoxvolunteercorps.org