



# BRETHREN VOLUNTEER SERVICE APPLICATION FORM

Please use this copy as a guideline for completing the online application, available at [www.brethrenvolunteerservice.org](http://www.brethrenvolunteerservice.org) Your accompanying documents – resume, photo, and transcripts (if applicable) – may be submitted online or sent to [bvs@brethren.org](mailto:bvs@brethren.org).

## PERSONAL DATA

First Name:	Middle:	Last:	Name you use:		
Address:	City:	State:	Zip:	Country:	
This is my present address until what date?					
Telephone: Cell:	Home:	E-mail:			
Permanent Address: Check if same as above: <input type="checkbox"/>	City:	State:	Zip:	Country:	
Permanent Telephone: Home:	Race:				
Date of Birth (m/d/y):	Age:	Sex:	Pronouns:		
Citizenship:	If non-U.S. citizen: Place of Birth				
	City	State	Country		
Do you have a valid driver's license?	Do you have any dependents?				
Marital Status: (check one) Single ___ Married ___ Widowed ___					
Preferred Orientation Unit: (Please use orientation unit numbers as listed on website or project book)					
Person(s) to notify in case of emergency:					
Relation to you:					
Address:	City:	State:	Zip:	Country:	
Telephone: Day	Evening:	Cell:			

## RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION

Religious Affiliation: (check one) Protestant ___ Catholic ___ Jewish ___ Other _____				
If Protestant, denomination:				
Home Church/Parish/Synagogue:	Minister/Priest/Rabbi:			
Address:	City:	State:	Zip:	Country:

## MISSION STATEMENT

Brethren Volunteer Service (BVS) exists to share God's love through acts of service. The program is grounded in Christian faith and brings a spiritual dimension to advocating justice, working for peace, serving human needs, and caring for creation. Though volunteers come from all walks of life, in BVS they become representatives of the church, and therefore are expected to uphold the values expressed by BVS and the Church of the Brethren (as represented in the attached Vision, Mission and Core Values of the Church of the Brethren Mission and Ministry Board). By signing my name below, I confirm that I will uphold the values of Brethren Volunteer Service and the Vision, Mission, and Core Values of the Church of the Brethren Mission and Ministry Board. I acknowledge that my typed name represents my signature.

Signature:	Date:
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## ACTIVITIES, HONORS, HOBBIES

Please list academic, religious, professional, or other organizations in which you are a member or in which you participate and the dates of your involvement:

Organization	From	To	Organization	From	To

Honors/Awards that you have received:

Favorite reading materials, activities, hobbies, and/or outside interests:

Which of the above most impacts your desire to serve?

Have you been involved in summer camps, church camps, or Church of the Brethren Workcamps?

## LANGUAGE SKILLS

Native Language:

Please provide information about *other* languages you speak:

Language	Reading Ability (circle one)	Writing Ability (circle one)	Speaking Ability (circle one)	Ability to Understand Conversation (circle one)	Where Learned	# of Years	Spoken in your home?
	F G E	F G E	F G E	F G E			
	F G E	F G E	F G E	F G E			
	F G E	F G E	F G E	F G E			

F = Fair G = Good E = Excellent

## EDUCATION

List all high schools, colleges/universities, graduate, vocational and other training schools you have attended, *beginning with the most recent*:

Name of School	Location		Dates Attended		Degree & Year Received	Field of Study
	City	State/Country	From	To		

Number of years of education completed:

## JOB SKILLS

Please identify your job-related skills and mark your skill level. (If more than two, please attach separately)

Skill Description	Slight Knowledge	Skilled Amateur	I can Earn A Living

## CRIMINAL RECORD

BVS requires a criminal background check and a motor vehicle report on all incoming volunteers. In the event that a response is returned to BVS indicating some past criminal history, BVS will be in communication with the volunteer regarding how this information will be handled and how it might affect a placement. BVS reserves the right to not place a volunteer in a particular assignment due to results from a background check.

Do you have a criminal record? Yes / No

## PROJECT INTEREST

General type of work desired:

Specific project interests: List project numbers and names in order of preference. (Some projects may not be available at the time of orientation):

(1) (Project #)	Project Name/ Country	(2) (Project #)	Project Name/ Country	(3) (Project #)	Project Name/ Country

If you have listed only projects outside the U.S., please list three domestic choices also:

(4) (Project #)	Project Name/ Country	(5) (Project #)	Project Name/ Country	(6) (Project #)	Project Name/ Country

Geographic Preference:

Length of assignment preferred: (check one) One year \_\_\_ Two years \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

What are your housing/living preferences? (check one)

Independent \_\_\_ Family \_\_\_ On project site \_\_\_ In community \_\_\_ No preference \_\_\_

If the projects you listed are not available or if your preferences cannot be met, are you flexible and open to other options?

Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If no, please explain:

**REFERENCES** - Please provide 6 references in the categories listed below. Please give *complete* current mailing addresses.

**PERSONAL REFERENCES** - Friends, co-workers, classmates, pastors, etc. **Do not list relatives.**

<b>Full Name:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b> <b>Phone:</b>	<b>Address:</b> <b>City/State/Zip/Country:</b>
<b>Full Name:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b> <b>Phone:</b>	<b>Address:</b> <b>City/State/Zip/Country:</b>

**EMPLOYMENT REFERENCES** - Current/former supervisors. If self-employed, list business references.

<b>Full Name:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b> <b>Phone:</b>	<b>Address:</b> <b>City/State/Zip/Country:</b>
<b>Full Name:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b> <b>Phone:</b>	<b>Address:</b> <b>City/State/Zip/Country:</b>

**SCHOOL REFERENCES** - Teachers, major advisors, counselors from within last 3 years. *If not in school in last 3 years, additional employment references.*

<b>Full Name:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b> <b>Phone:</b>	<b>Address:</b> <b>City/State/Zip/Country:</b>
<b>Full Name:</b>	<b>E-mail:</b> <b>Phone:</b>	<b>Address:</b> <b>City/State/Zip/Country:</b>

This application is accurate to the best of my knowledge and may be verified by Brethren Volunteer Service. I hereby authorize Brethren Volunteer Service to contact my references (by phone, email or mail), and make any and all contacts necessary to verify my prior employment history, and to inquire concerning any criminal records or any judicial proceedings involving me as a defendant. By signing this application, I also authorize any previous employer or law enforcement agencies or judicial authorities to release any and all requested relevant information to Brethren Volunteer Service. This application, excluding the essay section, will be shared with the project. Copies of the references may also be shared with the project. By signing this application, I am waiving my right to review my references unless I inform BVS in writing.

**Signature:**

**Date:**

**BVS reserves the right to make the final decision regarding acceptance, project placement and ongoing service in Brethren Volunteer Service.**

**Submit completed application, essay answers, resume, transcripts, and photo to [bvs@brethren.org](mailto:bvs@brethren.org)**

BVS is a ministry of the Church of the Brethren



**ESSAYS** - As part of your application to Brethren Volunteer Service, please type up your responses to the following questions on a separate sheet.

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1. **How/where did you find out about Brethren Volunteer Service?**
  
2. **Write about your present religious faith, beliefs, and values. Use words or images that are expressive for you. Include ways you express your faith, beliefs, and values in daily life.**
  
3. **We welcome applicants from all economic, faith, spiritual, and cultural backgrounds. What do you expect from living and working with persons from various backgrounds?**
  
4. **How do you define service? What is motivating you to serve at this time in your life? What draws you to serve with a faith-based organization like BVS?**
  
5. **BVS projects require volunteers capable of giving more than they themselves need. To what extent do you depend on others to fulfill your needs?**
  
6. **Volunteers often experience a period of disillusionment and adjustment to a new setting. How do you deal with situations like this? Give specific examples.**
  
7. **Describe your most challenging experience and how you coped with it.**
  
8. **Describe a particularly rich, powerful, and/or important life experience.**

# Church of the Brethren

## Mission and Ministry Board

### Vision

The Mission and Ministry Board envisions the Church of the Brethren wholly engaged in the reconciliation of all people to God and to each other.

### Mission

The mission and Ministry Board is called by the Church of the Brethren to extend the church's witness around the world. It leads out in God's mission, serving as a bridge between the local and the global and creating opportunities for service and partnership.

The Mission and Ministry Board supports congregations in their task to create joyful communities of faith that proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ, cultivate discipleship, respond to human need, and make peace.

The Mission and Ministry Board cares for the whole fabric of the community, building up the Church of the Brethren as a distinctive part of the body of Christ, cherishing its unique heritage, and strengthening its witness.

### Core Values

**Christ-likeness:** Reflecting the love and heart of Jesus

**Servant leadership:** Serving the church with both humility and boldness.

**Discernment:** Seeking the leading of the Holy Spirit through prayer, scripture, and the gathered community.

**Community:** Cultivating relationships and building up the body of Christ.

**Stewardship:** Caring for all God's gifts and the resources of the Church of the Brethren

**Simplicity:** Living simply so that we have room in our lives for God and for others.

**Hospitality:** Following Jesus' example of respecting all people and inviting them into his fellowship.

**Peacemaking:** Acting as instruments of reconciliation and justice.