

## **Join With Catholic Relief Services and Transform the World**

Catholic Relief Services (**CRS**) **Campus Associates** are making a difference, and so can you! All it takes is:

- A sponsoring office/community of worship
- A community member with a passion for global social justice
- Minimum “check-in” type supervision

### **How it works:**

- 1.) A sponsoring organization /Catholic Campus Community commits to global solidarity with the poor by supporting a CRS liaison. It would officially recognize the “Catholic Relief Services (CRS) Campus Associate”\* by communal blessing at an installation and continuous prayer.
- 2.) The Director of the sponsoring office agrees to provide oversight and assist the CRS Campus Associate in the promotion of the work of CRS and global solidarity with the poor in the rest of the world. CRS will provide an orientation, materials, and a support network.
- 3.) The individual designated the “CRS Campus Associate” would agree to voluntarily fulfill the responsibilities set forth below for a minimum of one academic year.

**Who should apply?** Ideally the person should regularly attend and worship with the Catholic community. Students, staff or faculty members or administrators of the affiliated university are preferred. Upper division or graduate students are preferred. The applicants should have a passion for social justice work grounded in Catholic Social Teaching (CST).

This program is particularly focused on the west coast states, but if are from a different area and would like to participate, simply email [campus@crs.org](mailto:campus@crs.org). We will connect you to your local CRS regional office.

**How much time is expected?** The typical CRS Campus Associate commits to a minimum of 1-2 hours time per week.

### **What are the Responsibilities of the CRS Campus Associate?:**

Campus Associates must be familiar with CRS programs which engage faculty and students in acts of global solidarity. Campus Associates should join and are strongly encouraged as a top priority to regularly participate in the Facebook Group: “CRS Campus Associates” <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=4933239958> Associates serve as the CRS liaison on campus and are involved in a variety of activities such as:

- Keeping informed by regularly checking in to the CRS Associates group site, reviewing CRS websites: [www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org) & [www.crscollege.org](http://www.crscollege.org) and informing the university or Newman community of items of interest through announcements and a short printed update.
- Encouraging the inclusion of prayer for the poor around the world in liturgical celebrations and prayer of the community.

---

\* Although the title, “Catholic Relief Services Campus Associate” is suggested by this Concept Paper, the community may wish to designate the liaison by some other title such as “Catholic Relief Services Campus Director”.

- Helping to educate faculty and students on key policy issues relating to international Justice and Peace and inviting people to join and be active members of the CRS Legislative Network.
- Encouraging participation in the CRS Lenten Program Operation Rice Bowl and events such as “soup suppers.”
- Promote Fair Trade program on campus. Hold at least one Fair Trade Fair and work with organized Fair Trade groups where possible
- Planning a gathering or event for the community to hear and dialogue with CRS Speakers when those are offered.
- Raising awareness of Catholic Social Teaching and its applicability in everyday life through educational and programmatic opportunities when possible.

In the West Region Associates may also:

- Participate in periodic conference calls (excluding summer term) to share best practices with other CRS Campus Associates and the CRS West Partnerships Officer. Attending an occasional mentoring meeting with CRS West professional staff or the designated CRS Diocese Director of the local diocese to the extent availability permits.
- Gather occasionally to share experiences and ideas with peer Associates from related campuses in geographical proximity to each other.
- Attend, provided it is made possible by community support, an annual regional gathering of CRS Campus Associates.

**What are the Benefits of being a CRS Campus Associate:**

- Learning about the work of CRS around the world and how each of us can make a difference here in the United States.
- The opportunity to experience first-hand how to organize a community to effectively advocate for global social justice.
- Meeting with and sharing best practices with peers that share a passion for social justice and global solidarity.
- Depending on the individual campus community and campus academic situation, the possibility of a stipend and/or credit for service as the CRS Campus Associate.

**Application Process:** Each Catholic Campus or Newman Center that wishes to designate a CRS Campus Associate will determine its own selection process<sup>†</sup> and submit the contact information for the individual selected to the CRS West Partnerships Officer at:

Joseph R. Symkowick, Partnerships Officer  
 Catholic Relief Services (CRS), West  
 (916)484-0315  
[crswest@crs.org](mailto:crswest@crs.org)  
[www.crs.org](http://www.crs.org) / [www.crscollege.org](http://www.crscollege.org)

---

<sup>†</sup> The CRS West Partnerships Officer will be available for consultation.