



Examples of past programs for Catholic Volunteer Network member programs

- **Nazareth Farm** invited Julie McElmurry to create and lead their Spiritual Renewal Retreat for their full-time staff. This was held at the breathtaking Rolling Ridge Retreat Community in West Virginia.
- **St. Francis School** in northern New Mexico has invited Julie to lead intensive one-day workshops on the charism of the Franciscans. Although founded by Franciscans, they are long gone and the school is faithfully staffed by a principal and a merry band of people from around the U.S. who agree to teach (and coach and mentor) students at this small but powerful school for a year at a time.
- **Bethlehem Farm** invited Julie McElmurry to create and lead their Annual Caretaker's Retreat in January, just before their Alternative Spring Break Season which brings in 100s of volunteers from all over the country for week-long service. Little Miriam holds the record for FP's youngest retreat participant at 16 months of age.
- **Farm of the Child** invited Julie McElmurry to create and lead a retreat to be given in the midst of the annual board meeting in Florida. Board Members experienced a few hours of "retreat" each day, reflecting on St. Francis' writings interspersed with important business meetings. Plus, Julie McElmurry created a series of written reflections for their incoming missionaries and those who are departing.
- **Vincentian Volunteers of Cincinnati** invited Julie McElmurry to create and lead a Busy Person's Retreat for their volunteers over the course of several days. A group meeting set the tone on Monday evening, followed by one-on-ones (these ranged from 45 min. to 1.5 hours each), followed by another group meeting at the end. As an outside person, Julie was able to reflect back to them some of their common concerns and goals for their year of living in community together. We've worked together for 4+ years doing this
- **Catholic Volunteers in Florida** called on Julie to facilitate the group's fall retreat, a three-night event in central Florida which included volunteers from RSHM Volunteer program when a staff member left the program within its first few weeks. Julie and her

husband served as faithful mentors to the Tampa-based participants of the year-long CVIF program.

- **Colorado Vincentian Volunteers** invited Julie to speak at their Fall retreat with this, one of the most established and, in my opinion, the absolute best year-of-service program out there.
- **Christian Appalachian Project** has invited Julie to lead retreats in spring of 2016 and January of 2017, by popular demand. Having grown up in Appalachia, this has been a lovely fit as the volunteers give of themselves to serve the poor.

In addition to these individual programs, Julie has attended the Catholic Volunteer Network annual conference every year since 2009. For 3 years, Franciscan Passages was a sponsor of the meeting. Look for her booth at upcoming conferences. She also travels the country as needed to give mission appeals on behalf of CVN, an organization she believes in.