



# 2022 Application

# Young People Who Care

# Summer Service Project

July 10-15, 2022

A Week-long Immersive Service Project for High School Students  
This Completed Application is Due: April 25, 2022

## Application Cover Sheet

Thank you for your interest in this year's *Young People Who Care Summer Service Project*. This page explains the application process. Please read it carefully.

### **What is the *Young People Who Care Summer Service Project*?**

The *Young People Who Care (YPWC) Appalachian Service Project* is a week-long Catholic volunteer experience designed especially for teens in high school. We stay at Bethany Youth Center in Frenchville, PA, which is a part of Young People Who Care. The week is a mix of direct service to the poor (may include yard work, painting, visiting, light construction and repairs) and living in Christian community (which includes things like cooking for one another, praying together, recreation together, and working side by side).

### **Group Size**

We are aiming for a group of about 20, including 15 student and 5 adult participants. High School participants must be at least 16 years of age in July and completed their sophomore year (through graduating Seniors) or participants may be 14 or 15 years of age if they are entering 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade and as long as a parent participates as well.

Adult Participants must be at least 25 years of age be able to bring and drive a reliable car. Must have a willingness and be healthy enough to work hard and to make this an excellent experience for the students.

All participants must be practicing Catholics.

### **The Application Process**

Every student and adult applying to be a participant in this year's YPWC Appalachian Service Project, even if they have been a participant in a previous year, must attend one of the information meetings. Students must have a parent attend as well.

Written Volunteer Applications must be filled out by every person who would like to participate in this year's project.

The Volunteer Packet must be carefully read by each applicant.

### **Informational Meetings**

Each student, along with a parent, and each adult applying to this year's YPWC Service Project must attend one of the following Informational meetings:

- Sunday March 20, 11:30 am, after the 10:30 am Mass and
- Sunday March 27 at 7:45 pm after Confirmation/Youth Group

### **Preparation Meetings**

Each participant must attend three preparation meetings.

- a) TBD
- b) TBD
- c) TBD

### **Written Applications**

Complete applications include four parts.

The first is the Volunteer Application Form.

The second part is a letter acknowledging that the participants and their parents have read the Participant Packet and agree enthusiastically participate in all aspects of the program.

The third part is made up of four brief answers to essay questions.

The fourth part is a Letter of Recommendation (teen participants only) from an adult other than a parent (a teacher, scout leader, coach, club moderator, etc.). **Note:** it is appropriate to write a thank you note to whomever writes your Letter of Recommendations.

**All parts of the written application are due by noon on Monday April 25, 2022.**

All Adult participants must have successfully participated in the Creating a Safe Environment Program (CASE) within the last three years. Participants over the age of 18 must have a background check. All drivers must be at least 25 years old and will have to have an additional DMV background check. More information about this requirement will be given at both informational meetings and preparation meetings.

### **Waiting List**

If necessary, a waiting list will be compiled to fill places that become available.

### **Participant Packet**

The Participant Packet is a separate document that fully explains this project and the expectations this project holds for its participants.

The Participant Packet must be read by every participant, student and adult, as well as by the parents of each student participant.

After reading the Participant Packet, the Agreement Letter (in the application) must be signed by every participant and a parent.

St. Rita Catholic Church  
Young People Who Care Summer Service Project

Part I: Volunteer Application Form

Due Monday April 25, 2022  
(Please print and complete entire form)

Name (last name first): \_\_\_\_\_ Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Completed: \_\_\_\_\_ Have you been here before: Y or N

Group Name: St. Rita Church Date of Arrival: July 10, 2022

Please circle: male female student adult (over 21)

State the condition of your health (include any surgery in the past year) i.e., back problems, allergies to food or animals: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a special diet? If so, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you able to participate in strenuous work and recreational activities? If not, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

For adults: will you have the use of a reliable car during the week: Yes No How many passengers? \_\_\_\_\_

For students and adults, check your experience/ability with each talent below

	Little	Some	Above Average	Explain
Leadership				
Organization				
Carpentry				
Roofing				
Lawn Work				
Painting				
House Cleaning				
Work w/ Children				
Work w/ persons with disabilities				
Visit the elderly				
Visit the sick				
Art				
Musical Instrument				
Community Builder				
Cooking				
Sense of Humor				
Good Listener				
Other				

**God is Spoken of here**

Mission Statement: Young People Who Care, Inc. is a Catholic grassroots ministry.

YPWC provides a wide, ecumenical circle of care among those who give and those who receive

Its members are committed to creating a holistic and nonjudgmental environment where the exchange of culture, education, and training to empower individuals and groups. While adapting to the changing times and needs, prayer, hospitality, simplicity and service remain constant characteristics of Young People Who Care, Inc.

St. Rita Catholic Church  
Young People Who Care Summer Service Project  
Part II: Participant Agreement Letter  
Due Monday April 25, 2022

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Fr. Tim and Sr. Suzanne Thibault (Director of Young People Who Care),

I, (volunteer's name) \_\_\_\_\_,

(check one)

- am 14 or 15 yrs. old in July and will be entering either 9<sup>th</sup> or 10<sup>th</sup> grade and a parent will be participating with me.
- am at least 16 years old and in July and will have completed my sophomore year.
- am at least 16 years old and in July and will have completed my junior year.
- am at least 16 years old and in July and will have completed my senior year.
- am an adult, at least 25 years old.

I have read the entire Participant Packet and the YPWC Guidelines (separate documents). I understand the kind of work I will be expected to do and the simple lifestyle we will be sharing.

I will enthusiastically participate in all aspects of this Service Project and life at YPWC

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I, (parent's name) \_\_\_\_\_, am a parent of the student listed above have read the entire Participant Packet. I understand the kind of work that my child will be expected to do, the simple lifestyle she/he will be sharing, and I enthusiastically wish her/him to participate in all aspects of this Service Project and life at YPWC.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

St. Rita Catholic Church  
Young People Who Care Summer Service Project  
**Part III: Volunteer Essay Responses**  
Due Monday April 25, 2022  
(To be completed by all applicants)

Applicant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please briefly answer all four of the following questions in the spaces below. Please print legibly or type.

A) Have you participated previously in a Christian Service project? Another service project through your parish or school? If so, what gifts or talents did you learn and/or contribute? If not, what gifts and talents do you hope to contribute to this project?

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B) What would you hope to gain by being a participant in this YPWC Summer Service Project?

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C) How do you think that participating in this service week might strengthen your faith or your relationship with God?

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D) Having carefully read the Participant Packet, what do you think might be the most difficult aspect of the week for you? Why?

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St. Rita Catholic Church  
Young People Who Care Summer Service Project  
Part IV: Letter of Recommendation

Due Monday April 25, 2022  
(please print or type your responses)

Greetings,

Thank you very much for your willingness to give your time and attention to this letter of recommendation. I appreciate your helping with this student's application. Please complete the following information and respond to the questions below.

*Your letter will be kept confidential.*

Please return by mail to: Rev. Timothy Niven, St. Rita Church, 1008 Maple Drive, Webster, NY 14580

or by email to niven@dor.org

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 585-507-1433, or niven@dor.org.

Again, I deeply appreciate your time and effort.

Sincerely,

Fr. Tim Niven, Pastor, St. Rita Church

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Your phone number (optional: will be kept confidential and used only if I have a question regarding this letter): (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Your relationship to the student: \_\_\_\_\_ How long have you known the student? \_\_\_\_\_

The above student is applying as a volunteer in the *Young People Who Care (YPWC) Summer Service Project: July 10-15, 2022*. The *YPWC Summer Service Project* is a week-long Catholic volunteer experience designed especially for teens in high school. We stay at Bethany Youth Center in Frenchville, PA a rural area in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains. The week is a mix of direct service to the poor (may include yard work, painting, visiting nursing homes, light construction and repairs) and living in Christian community (which includes things like large group education, small group activities, cooking for one another, praying together, recreation together, and working side by side). We live simply during the week and do without cell phones, tablets, TV, radio, junk food, etc. Students must have age-appropriate maturity in a variety of situations, an enthusiasm to participate, a willingness to learn, and a willingness to experience new situations.

With this in mind, please respond to the following questions (you may use the back if more room is needed):

How well does the student function/ behave in large groups? Small groups? Independently? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What skills and/or positive attitudes would this student bring to this week-long service project? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

In what ways would such a project be a benefit for this student? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Your Signature: \_\_\_\_\_