

# Salesian Missionary Volunteering



*Hope for the World*



**150** GIVE THANKS  
RETHINK  
RELAUNCH

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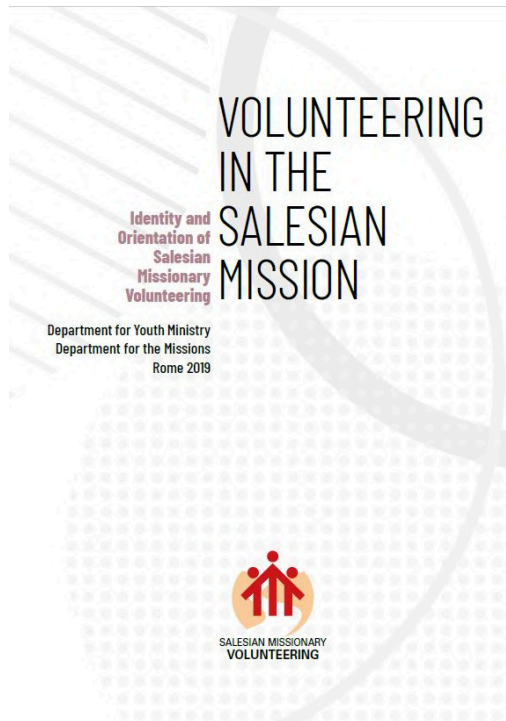
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*1st Salesian missionary expedition, 11/11/1875*

# Salesian Missionary Volunteering



**SMV** is a service of solidarity, made without cost and freely-given by a young person, sent and welcomed by a community, which is part of the educative and pastoral project of a Salesian presence or promoted by it, with a sufficient continuity of time, motivated by faith, with a missionary style and according to the pedagogy and spirituality of Don Bosco.

*(Volunteering in the Salesian Mission Identity and Orientation of Salesian Missionary Volunteering, Rome, 2019)*

SMV is a joint initiative of Missions Sector and Youth Ministry Sector of the Salesian Congregation.

In 2019, the updated manual “**Volunteering in the Salesian Mission**” was published, as the fruit of the contributions and experiences of all the regions of the Congregation, wherein meetings between Youth Ministry and Missionary Animation reflected upon the current situation, perspectives and identity of volunteers in the various provincial realities. Contributors were Salesians and lay experts from the many Provinces committed to volunteering.

# Salesian Missionary Volunteering

**Salesian:** guided by the Preventive System, with an Oratorian heart and family spirit; the service is linked to a Salesian religious community and embedded in an educational and pastoral community, with an educational and pastoral project.

**Missionary:** expression of the joy of evangelising; the fundamental motivations spring from faith. Volunteers participate in evangelisation through his/her testimony and professional intervention.

**Volunteering:** done freely, for solidarity and free of charge, with continuity (sufficient dedication of time and perpetuity of the project carried out in an institutionally organised way).



# Salesian Missionary Volunteering

The SMV proposes the values of the Gospel with the witness of selfless service and solidarity in education and in the sociopolitical commitment that reaches the realities of family, work and culture.

The integral formation of the volunteers as disciples and missionaries is taken before, during and after the SMV experience, as well the accompaniment.

The accompaniment is offered as educational environment, at group level and at personal level.

A Salesian Missionary Volunteer is sent from a community to another community, according to the provincial organization of SMV.

## **SMV cross**



During the 2024 meeting of SMV coordinator in Rome, the new cross for SMV was presented as a unification symbol for Salesian Missionary Volunteers.

# SMV Advisory Team

*Mission:* Connect and network with Salesian volunteer organizations to provide support, guidance, formation, and opportunities to network and collaborate. This will hopefully improve the quality of service provided by Salesian volunteer organizations and will support and animate the Salesian Missionary Volunteering that will support the Congregation with quality volunteers with a clear Salesian identity.

*Purpose:* The role and identity of the Advisory Team will evolve as specific needs change, but what is certain is that the AT wants to be of service to SMV.

The graphic features a central title "Salesian Missionary Volunteering Advisory Team" in red and black text. To the left is the "salesian missions sector" logo, and to the right is the "YOUTH MINISTRY SECTOR" logo. Seven team members are shown in hexagonal frames, each with a name, title, and location. The year "2024" is displayed in a red box at the bottom right.

Name	Title	Location
Marco FULGARO	M. SECTOR	
Adam RUDIN		USA
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Fr. Rafael BEJARANO	YM. SECTOR	
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# SMV Advisory Team: communicate with us

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Write to us if you want to receive our  
newsletter or to join our Whatsapp group  
“Salesian Missionary Volunteering”



*Marco, Pavel, Rafa, Chris, JC, Adam and Lauren*



# SMV Coordinators meeting 2024

The Salesian Missionary Volunteering (SMV) coordinators meeting, held from March 5 to March 9, 2024, in Rome, at UPS Salesian University, has been pivotal in advancing our commitment to missionary service and community engagement. Organized collaboratively by the Missions and Youth Ministry Sectors, this gathering aimed to deepen our understanding of SMV while fostering synergetic partnerships for impactful missionary volunteer work.

## Key Highlights:

1. Exploring Volunteer Identity
2. Formative Experience
3. Synergetic Partnerships between Laity and Religious
4. SMV Cross
5. Accompaniment
6. Data and Networking Platform



# 150 years of Salesian missions

The 150th anniversary of the first missionary expedition (11/11/1875) ought not be only a commemorative event but a process of missionary renewal.

**Give Thanks:** We give thanks to God for the gift of missionary vocation which enables the sons of Don Bosco today to reach out to poor and abandoned youth in 137 countries.

**Rethink:** This is an opportune occasion to rethink and develop a renewed vision on the Salesian Missions in the light of new challenges and new perspectives which led to new missiological reflections.

**Relaunch:** We have not only a glorious history to remember and be grateful for, but also a great history still to be accomplished! We look to the future with missionary zeal and enthusiasm so that we may reach out to even more poor and abandoned youth.



**150**  
**GIVE THANKS**  
**RETHINK**  
**RELAUNCH**



# AFE KENYA



**Director:**

FR. SAHAYA G. SELVAM SDB

**Program Name:**

BOSCO VOLUNTEERS KENYA

Our volunteer program at Don Bosco unites local and international volunteers to foster community development. We are improving local volunteer recruitment, training, and placement with a structured policy for consistent impact. Volunteers gain valuable skills while supporting youth outreach, education, and social initiatives. Comprehensive training equips them with practical and interpersonal abilities, creating a collaborative environment alongside international volunteers. This teamwork approach enriches projects, strengthens community bonds, and ensures meaningful roles that maximize individual strengths, leading to a rewarding volunteer experience and a lasting positive impact on the community.



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# AFM SOUTHAFRICA

**Director:**

FR. LINGOANE TLAILE SDB

**Program Name:**

BOSCO VOLUNTEERS

The program began in 1994, 30 years ago, when the Salesian mission at Don Bosco College shifted its focus from operating as a school to becoming a youth center.

This change highlighted the need to recruit local young people as volunteers to help run various programs, fostering community involvement. In addition, volunteers from overseas were welcomed, contributing to initiatives across the Province and enriching the local efforts.

Today, the program continues to thrive, empowering volunteers to support youth outreach and development.



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# ARS ARGENTINA



**Director:**

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**Program Name:**

VMS

For nearly a decade, we have been engaged in the reciprocal exchange of volunteers who live in Salesian communities, immersing themselves in the life and mission alongside the SDBs and local residents.

This experience deeply enriches the vocation of the Salesian animator and often provides opportunities for meaningful discernment.

The program benefits both the volunteers and the communities that host and send them, fostering mutual growth and understanding.



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# AUL AUSTRALIA

**Director:**  
LAUREN HICHAABA  
**Program Name:**  
THE CAGLIERO PROJECT



The Cagliero Project sent its first long term volunteer in 2008. The Cagliero Project gives Australians and New Zealanders an opportunity to devote up to a year in volunteer service to youth in overseas Salesian communities.

We work together with our placement communities and aim to utilise the skills and talents of our volunteers in order to provide the best possible contribution to the host community in a spirit of solidarity and mutual learning.

The heart of the volunteer experience are the important Salesian values of presence, joy, loving kindness and a central focus on young people.

In 2009 the first short term immersion program took place. Since then over 100 short term volunteers have travelled to Samoa and Cambodia for this experience.



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# BSP BRAZIL



**Director:**

FR. TIAGO GONÇALVES DE MORAIS SDB

**Program Name:**

VOLUNTARIADO MISSIONÁRIO SALESIANO

Our Salesian Province of Our Lady Help of Christians, based in São Paulo, Brazil, welcomes volunteers aged 21 and older, ideally with completed university degrees, to engage in youth ministry. Volunteers will collaborate with our religious communities, participating in various social initiatives, youth centers, oratories, or parishes throughout the Province.

We seek candidates who live and promote Christian and Salesian values in their daily interactions, providing positive role models for young people. This opportunity allows volunteers to make a meaningful impact on the lives of youth while growing spiritually within the Salesian mission of service and evangelization.



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# CEP CZECHIA



**Director:**

PETRA KLASKOVA

**Program Name:**

ADOPCE NABLIZKO (CAGLIERO)

The Salesian Association of Don Bosco (SADBA), established in 2005, prepares and sends volunteers worldwide through its "Adopce nablízko" program. This year-long formation equips volunteers to work with children and youth in Salesian communities, engaging in youth ministry, manual labor, social work, and healthcare.

Volunteers receive ongoing support during their mission and are encouraged to stay involved in Salesian activities upon returning to the Czechia. Open to individuals over 18, the program also offers shorter assignments, such as a month-long mission in Bulgaria. SADBA adapts its program to address contemporary needs and ensure continued impact.



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# CIL CHILE



**Director:**

MANUEL ARMANDO VENEGAS PACHECO

**Program Name:**

VOLUNTARIADO MISIONERO SALESIANO

Over the years, there has not been an official proposal for volunteering in the Province, however a few young individuals have opted for mission experiences outside the Province. The last participants in missionary volunteering were in Paraguay in 2013 and Ecuador in 2017.

However, in 2024, a formal initiative was launched to establish a volunteer community in Santiago and Concepción. In Santiago, this community actively supports the Don Bosco Foundation, working with young people and families experiencing homelessness. This new initiative provides an opportunity for young volunteers to engage directly in meaningful work within their communities.



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# COB COLOMBIA

**Director:**

ANA MARIA ARROYO SÁNCHEZ

**Program Name:**

VOLUNTARIADO SALESIANO

The St. Peter Claver Province has been working with volunteers for over 50 years, with our approach evolving to ensure continuous improvement. Currently, we are redesigning our SMV Manual to incorporate recent national legislative changes.

Our strength lies in local volunteering, especially within our social works and services, which are essential to enhancing our mission. Recently, our international volunteer program gained momentum with the addition of four volunteers from the SSM Province in Spain, fostering a positive collaboration.

We are committed to expanding our volunteer capacity, focusing on both receiving and sending volunteers, while strengthening the impact of our Salesian mission.



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# ECU ECUADOR



**Director:**

FR. DIEGO RODRÍGUEZ SDB

**Program Name:**

VOLUNTARIADO JUVENIL MISIONERO  
DE LA FAMILIA SALESIANA

In Ecuador, Missionary Youth Volunteering of the Salesian Family (VJMFS) is coordinated by the Salesians of Don Bosco, the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians (FMA), and the Daughters of the Sacred Hearts of Jesus and Mary.

Since its inception in 1972, over 2,500 young people have have been sent to serve, primarily in the Amazon, coast, and highlands, assisting at-risk youth, sharing the Gospel, and supporting educational initiatives.

The program consists of three stages: pre-volunteering, volunteering, and post-volunteering. Volunteers spend a year in a religious community, living the Salesian spirit and deepening their personal life project while contributing to the Salesian Project Ecuador.



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# GBR GREAT BRITAIN



**Director:**  
FR. BOB GARDNER SDB

**Program Name:**  
BOSCO OVERSEAS  
VOLUNTEER ACTION (BOVA)

Founded 20 years ago, BOVA has been committed to sending volunteers from the UK to communities worldwide, making a lasting positive impact. Over the years, GBR has placed 100 dedicated volunteers in various countries, where they have contributed to local projects and initiatives, strengthening ties across cultures.

By focusing on community development, education, and support, GBR volunteers have helped transform lives, bringing hope and empowerment to those in need. Our volunteers' efforts are a testament to the power of service and solidarity, and we look forward to continuing this mission for years to come.



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# GER GERMANY



## Directors:

FR. STEFAN STÖHR SDB

FR. JOHANNES KAUFMANN SDB

## Program Name:

DON BOSCO VOLUNTEERS

For over twenty years, the German Salesian Province of Don Bosco has been running the "Don Bosco Volunteers" program, annually offering around 90 young people the opportunity to gain life-changing experiences through social work in Germany and globally. Many young Germans, inspired by Don Bosco's example, dedicate a year of service after their education.

Participants receive training that integrates Salesian spirituality and the preventive system, preparing them for their work. A dedicated coordination team supports volunteers throughout their journey. Since its inception, over 1,000 young people have participated, making a meaningful impact on the lives of others.



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# ICC ITALY



**Director:**

FR. FRANCESCO DE RUVO SDB

**Program Name:**

MISSIOLAB



MissioLab is a dynamic form of missionary animation at the local and interzonal levels, inviting young people to engage with social and current issues while responding to the call to be witnesses of the Gospel. Through a journey of reflection and action, participants are encouraged to explore their role in the world as missionary disciples.

Those interested can pursue a missionary experience, either in Italy or abroad. As a key component of the Salesian Youth Movement, MissioLab complements the educational initiatives of the Salesian institutions, enriching the missionary animation efforts of the ICC Province and the two FMA ILS-IRO Provinces.



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# ICP ITALY



**Director:**

FR. MARCO CAZZATO SDB

**Program Name:**

PERCORSO NEL CUORE DEL MONDO

The ICP Province offers a dynamic training course for young people aged 19 to 29, preparing them for a month-long mission experience during the summer. This program has become a key initiative, equipping participants with the skills and spiritual foundation necessary for impactful service.

Each year, the mission destinations vary, offering participants the opportunity to serve in diverse locations, including Italy, Europe, Africa, and, in previous years, South America. This experience fosters personal growth, cultural exchange, and a deeper understanding of global community service, while embodying the core values of faith, service, and solidarity in different parts of the world.



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# ILE ITALY



**Director:**

FR.GIOVANNI RONDELLI SDB

**Program Name:**

CAMMINO MISSIONARIO

The Salesian Youth Movement of Lombardia- Emilia proposes the missionary path: formation meetings and preparation for summer expeditions.

It is a path for young people from 18 to 28 years old who want to discover and deepen the missionary dimension of Christian life, through the proposal of a concrete path that includes the possibility of a summer experience of service in mission lands.

The path is created and proposed in collaboration with the Opera Don Bosco Foundation, the Amici del Sidamo Association and the Tonj project Onlus Association.



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# INB INDIA



**Director:**

FR. MICHAEL BANSODE SDB

**Program Name:**

SALESIAN MISSIONARY VOLUNTEERING

The Province of St. Francis Xavier Bombay officially launched its volunteer program in 2022, marking a significant strategic step in our mission. While we have long been a receiving community, this initiative expands our outreach. Currently, eight volunteers are deployed across regions within India, primarily in Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Maharashtra.

These volunteers are initially engaged for three months, with plans to extend their commitments to six months and eventually to one year. This program not only strengthens our community efforts but also offers a meaningful way for individuals to contribute to the Province's mission and make a lasting impact.



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# ISI ITALY



**Director:**  
FR. DARIO SPINELLA SDB

**Program Name:**  
SCUOLA DI MONDIALITÀ

The program focuses on the human and spiritual development of young people (19+) and adults, with a missionary and service-oriented approach. Over the course of a year, participants attend six weekends of training, including Spiritual Exercises, and work towards fostering global fraternity. At the end of the course, those interested in a summer missionary camp submit applications and engage in preparation meetings. Participants receive their missionary mandate during the Salesian Mission Day.

Last summer (2024), three camps were organized in Tunisia, Senegal, and Palermo, involving 30 volunteers. For the 2024/2025 year, 80 individuals are enrolled in the Scuola di Mondialità.



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# KOR MONGOLIA



**Director:**  
FR. ANTONIUS WERUN SDB

**Program Name:**  
MISSION ANIMATION

Each year, we welcome volunteers to our delegation in Mongolia to experience the Salesian mission and contribute to meaningful service. Many volunteers are referred to us through personal connections with Salesians already in Mongolia, and a number return multiple times, eager to continue their missionary work.

Their presence is invaluable in carrying out God's mission in the spirit of Don Bosco, serving as powerful witnesses to God's love. Volunteers exemplify Christian values and inspire those around them. We are truly blessed to have these dedicated individuals, and we eagerly anticipate their continued involvement in our mission.



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# MEG MEXICO



**Director:**

LAURA MARGARITA AGUILAR AGUIRRE

**Program Name:**

VOLUNTARIADO MISIONERO SALESIANO

In 1987, the Salesian Youth Volunteering program was officially launched in Tijuana, following over a year of preparation. It built on a history of missionary work in Oaxaca, where young people from Guadalajara engaged in short-term missions in the 1970s.

In 1986, Fr. Humberto Meneses sent Salesians to assess needs in Tijuana, leading to the creation of ‘peripheral oratories’ that involved young volunteers working alongside Salesians to foster community leadership. The program has since expanded, serving as a key element of Salesian Pastoral Care. In 2020, the program was updated, aligning with the congregation’s 2019 manual.



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# MEM MEXICO

**Director:**

VIRGINIA CERÓN MARTÍNEZ

**Program Name:**

VOLUNTARIADO JUVENIL  
MISIONERO SALESIANO

For about 35 years, the Salesian Province of MEM has been working on local Youth Volunteering, mainly for young people with vocational concerns, although there have also been young people without this inspiration.

In 2024, MEM Province launched its third edition of the Provincial Volunteering, under the name of Salesian Missionary Youth Volunteering, whose content is infused with various voices that were immersed in the experience of service of the Volunteering. A road map was drawn up with 9 steps to follow for its construction, which included, from learning about projects in other Provinces, to the design of instruments to carry out a diagnosis. The means were a SWOT, a digital form and an empathy map.



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# MLT MALTA



**Director:**

FR. PAUL FORMOSA SDB

**Program Name:**

SALESIAN PASTORAL YOUTH SERVICE

SPYS (Salesian Pastoral Youth Service) was founded in 1995 by a group of passionate young people and Salesians committed to volunteering. Recognizing the desire of many young individuals to engage in such experiences, SPYS began offering formation sessions by 2005 to prepare volunteers for missionary work abroad.

The organization focuses on holistic Christian formation, guiding young people to deepen their relationship with the Lord, find inner peace, and serve others. Each year, SPYS invites volunteers to participate in preparation sessions, equipping them for mission opportunities in Malta, Africa, Europe, India, and South America.



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# PER PERU



**Director:**

FR. JÓZEF KAMZA SDB

**Program Name:**

VOLUNTARIOS MISIONEROS SALESIANOS

The SMV training program began in 2022, following the pandemic, with weekly virtual meetings that fostered a strong missionary spirit. By 2023, the program expanded, reaching 90 participants, 10 of whom completed the training. New topics, such as the Social Doctrine of the Church and Human Development, were added to the curriculum.

This year, over 100 young people and adults are undergoing training to serve in the Salesian tradition. The program emphasizes youth participation, as highlighted in the publication *Volunteering in the Salesian Mission*, equipping candidates with the necessary tools for impactful missionary service.



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PLE  
POLAND



**Director:**

FR. JACEK ZDZIEBORSKI SBD

**Volunteer Coordinator:**

JOANNA MATUSZEK

**Program Name:**

INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERING  
OF DON BOSCO

The International Volunteering of Don Bosco was established in 2002 at the initiative of the Salesian Missionary Center in Warsaw, at the request of young people who wanted to work in the missions in the spirit of St. John Bosco. It was a response to the call of Pope John Paul II: *“You are indispensable not for what you can do with your abilities and physical strength, but for what you can do through faith in God.”*

The goal of the International Volunteering of Don Bosco is to engage young people in missionary work at home and to prepare them to go and work in missions abroad.



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# PLS POLAND



**Director:**

FR. MARCIN WOSIEK SBD

**Volunteer Coordinator:**

MARIA KARGULEWICZ

**Program Name:**

SALESIAN MISSIONARY VOLUNTARY SERVICE -  
YOUTH FOR THE WORLD

Since 1997, Salesian Missionary Voluntary Service - Youth for the World has supported vulnerable communities in Africa, South America, Asia, and Eastern Europe. Nearly 500 volunteers have embarked on missions, with over 1,000 participating in long-term projects in Poland. Our initiatives focus on education, healthcare, infrastructure, and training local craftsmen. Volunteers travel annually to missionary outposts to teach, train staff, provide healthcare, and build essential facilities.

Domestically, we promote education on development issues, foster volunteering values, and collaborate with local, regional, and international partners. We also unite and train volunteers both locally and abroad, enhancing global social inclusion.



**YOUTH FOR THE WORLD**  
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# POR PORTUGAL

**Director:**

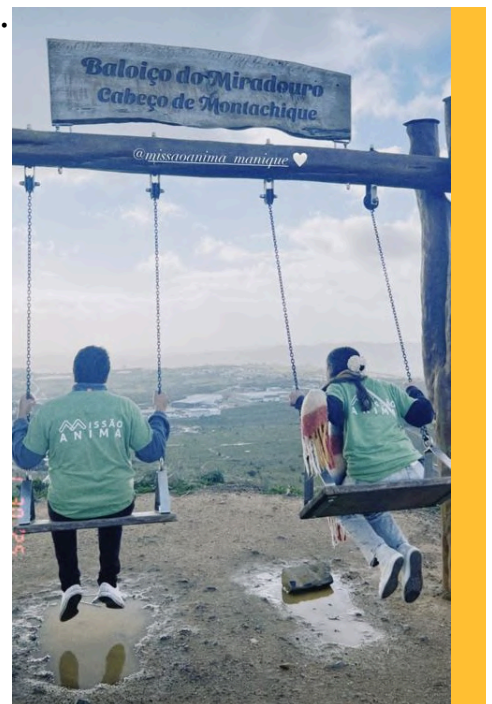
FR. JUAN FREITAS SDB

**Program Name:**

VOLUNTARIADO SALESIANO

Salesian volunteering thrives across all our houses, with a vibrant and active presence. Every year, our mission implements a dynamic missionary pastoral program that engages each house in meaningful activities. This program is designed to inspire and empower volunteers to serve with passion and dedication, fostering a spirit of global fraternity.

Following World Youth Day, we successfully organized a comprehensive Salesian volunteer project, which aimed to enhance our outreach and deepen our impact in local communities. This initiative brought together volunteers, fostering connections and strengthening our mission to share God's love and values with young people worldwide.



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# SLK SLOVAKIA

**Director:**  
FR. PAVOL NIZNER SDB  
**Program Name:**  
SALEZIÁNSKE MISIJNÉ  
DOBROVOLNÍCTVO

The Salesian Family began preparing mission volunteers in 1992 under Fr. J.D. Pravdu SDB, focusing on the Siberian mission. Volunteers helped with education and collecting humanitarian aid materials for Russia. In 1994, a summer camp for Russian youth was organized, continuing annually with varying participation based on fundraising.

Since 1995, volunteer missions have expanded to Ukraine, with short-term missions during holidays. Mission renewals initially took place in Bratislava and Košice, later in Žilina. By 2000, 2,000 volunteers had participated, and each year, around 10 young people undergo training, now serving in countries like those in Africa.



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# SMX SPAIN



**Director:**

EVA CABALLERO SEGARRA

**Program Name:**

BOSCO GLOBAL- ESPAÑA

Since its inception, Bosco Global has been dedicated to international volunteering, a core element of its mission. Volunteers share their experiences to foster personal growth and vocational discovery. Our approach is responsible and transformative, responding to the needs of global projects while providing specialized training that covers the socio-cultural and political realities of host communities.

We prioritize genuine connections and mutual learning, avoiding welfare. After a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic, we now have 26 international volunteers (6 in 2022, 14 in 2023, and 6 for 2024), along with 10 volunteers from work camps in the past three years.



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# SSM SPAIN



**Director:**

FR. JOSÉ CARLOS SOBEJANO GARCÍA SDB

**Program Name:**

VOLUNTARIADO MISIONERO SALESIANO

The SSM program began 30 years ago, with the Province sending both Salesians and laypeople to various countries, initially focusing on countries within Africa. Over the past 15 years, the program has transformed significantly, enhancing resources for Volunteer training and support, as well as improving coordination with host Provinces.

Each year, an average of 20 volunteers embarks on missions lasting 1 to 3 months, serving in countries such as Angola, Uganda, Mexico, Venezuela, Honduras, the Dominican Republic, Bolivia, Peru, Colombia, Uruguay, and Guatemala. These nations remain key partners, benefiting from the dedication and service of our volunteers, who spread God's love through their mission.



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# MISIONES SALESIANAS SPAIN



**Director:**

MANUEL MORAL LAMELA

**Program Name:**

VOLUNTARIADO MISIONERO SALESIANO

The international volunteering of the Mission Office of Spain “Misiones Salesianas” is a vocational commitment whose mission is focused on the development and education of children and young people in vulnerable situations.

The SMV is aimed at people over 21 years of age living in Spain who want to respond to their vocation through service, dedication and encounter with other cultures. A sufficient degree of psychological and human maturity is required, as well as the ability to work in a team.

The term is from three months to one year and the destinations are in countries in America, Africa and Asia, in schools, parishes, youth centres, social projects and planning and development offices. The destination is assigned according to the profile of the person, the availability of the Salesian project and the situation of the country.



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# SUE U.S.A.



**Director:**  
ADAM RUDIN

**Program Name:**  
SALESIAN LAY MISSIONERS

Launched in 1981, the Salesian Lay Missioner (SLM) program offers laypeople the chance to serve young people and marginalized communities in the U.S. and abroad. Nearly 600 missioners have served in over 35 countries, taking roles in education, social work, and community development.

The program provides comprehensive training and emphasizes communal living with Salesian priests and sisters, fostering personal and spiritual growth. Many missioners pursue careers in healthcare, education, social work, or ministry, with some discerning a call to religious life. The SLM program deeply impacts communities, embodying Don Bosco's values of service, love, and faith.



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# SUO U.S.A.



**Directors:**

JC MONTENEGRO - LUIS CHACÓN

**Program Name:**

SALESIAN VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The Salesian Missionary Volunteer (SMV) Program began in the 1990s under Fr. Roger Luna, encouraging young people to serve in the Province and in Tijuana, Mexico. In 2007, JC Montenegro proposed formalizing the program, leading to the approval of the Volunteer Manual in 2009. Since then, about 57 volunteers have been placed globally, with a focus on transformative service and personal growth.

Collaborating with the Salesian Lay Missionaries in New Rochelle, the SMV Program fosters compassion, solidarity, and cultural immersion, impacting both volunteers and communities. Volunteers describe the experience as life-changing, embodying Salesian values of service and global fraternity.



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# THA CAMBODIA



**Director:**

FR. ARUN MICHAEL CHARLES SDB

**Program Name:**

CAMBODIA MISSIONS

Since 1995, we have regularly welcomed volunteers from our partner organizations, whose invaluable support has greatly enhanced our mission. Their dedication has allowed us to make a significant and lasting impact in the community, especially in serving the most vulnerable.

These volunteers play a vital role in enriching our programs, from education to social outreach, embodying the spirit of service and solidarity. Their contribution has not only supported our initiatives but has also helped foster a sense of global fraternity.

We are deeply grateful for their ongoing commitment, which continues to strengthen our work and uplift those we serve.



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# UNG HUNGARY

**Director:**

VACHAJA FANNI

**Program Name:**

SZALÉZI MISSZIÓS ÖNKÉNTES IRODA

The SMV Office in Hungary, a young organization, prepares volunteers for missionary service abroad, with strong ties to Austria, England, Slovenia, Angola, and Ghana. We engage youth (18+) through Austrian camps twice a year, preparing European volunteers for year-long assignments, while recommending three-month service for those going to Africa.

Hungarian volunteers have served in Egypt, India, Ghana, Angola, and several European countries. Run by two former volunteers with support from Salesian Brothers and priests, our office manages all logistics and provides thorough preparation for missionary work, prioritizing placements in Salesian locations worldwide.



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# URU URUGUAY



**Director:**

FR. HUGO ESPINOSA SDB

**Program Name:**

VOLUNTARIADO MISIONERO  
SALESIANO UY

The Salesian Missionary Volunteering (SMV) in Uruguay, established in 1994, began with young people and a Salesian inspired by faith and service. They connected deeply with local communities, which led them to dream of reaching out to other cultures.

Since then, many young people have dedicated a year to serving those in need, both locally and in ad gentes missions abroad. Volunteers, aged 18 and over, live within Salesian communities, embracing prayer, spirituality, and teamwork.

With placements in countries like Nigeria, Argentina, and Ecuador, 56 volunteers have completed their service, embodying a strong Christian identity and Salesian values.



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# VEN VENEZUELA



**Director:**  
FR. PEDRO SÁNCHEZ SDB

**Program Name:**  
DIMISAL

The volunteering program works closely with the vocations commission, offering young people the chance to explore their calling to service and discernment. Participants experience the Salesian charism firsthand, using their unique talents to serve others while receiving personalized guidance that supports their individual journeys.

Through this program, they grow spiritually and develop a deeper sense of purpose, inspired by the spirit of Don Bosco.

The experience encourages them to discern their vocation while contributing meaningfully to the community, fostering both personal growth and a lifelong commitment to service rooted in faith and love for others.



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# VIE VIETNAM



**Director:**

FR. PHAN TRAN THAI BARTOLOMEO SDB

**Program Name:**

HEART IN HAND

The program received official recognition and approval in 2019. By 2024, approximately 150 volunteers had been sent on eight expeditions to five mission regions, both domestic and abroad.

New volunteers undergo four months of formation from February to May each year, prior to being sent on missions that commence in June and last for one or two months. Services extending beyond two months are considered only after this initial short experience.

The most emphasized phase of this pastoral program is the post-mission formation.

With approximately 40 volunteers who have been committed to the post-mission programs for at least three continuous years, the next step of the program is to establish an office, managed by the youth, specializing in educational development projects.



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