

Meet the Constituent Engagement Department staff

We are here to ensure open communications between congregations and Mennonite Mission Network. Contact us to join your congregation (in person or via Zoom) in worship to share stories of God at work around the world and the ways they can become involved.



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The role of the congregation

At Mission Network, we believe that God works most powerfully in the lives of volunteers and the people whom they serve, when those volunteers are sent by and serve in partnership with communities of faith.

Home congregations provide advocates for those who serve, commission them for service, pray for them as they serve, and help them share and integrate their experiences when they return.

Congregations and the volunteer’s family help the volunteer to

secure the needed funds, as well as prepare them spiritually and emotionally for their term of service. The level of activity depends on the program.

Contributions are tax-deductible when checks are written to “Mennonite Mission Network.” After service participants apply, they receive placement materials, which include specifics for how the assignment should be funded.

Program	Role of congregation and family
International Ministries	Congregations participate in the discernment process and agree to be a partner in sending the person or family. Costs vary widely, according to location and length of service — usually \$10,000 or more per person for shorter terms, and \$30,000–\$60,000 or more per person per year for longer terms. Mission Network provides fundraising consultation and materials as needed.
Just Peace Pilgrimage	Join a pilgrimage with your congregation or group. If you don’t have a group, check with us for ways you can participate. Congregations may contribute funds toward costs, as determined by each congregation.
Mennonite Voluntary Service	The participant identifies an advocacy team or an individual advocate to help them prepare and give them support during their service. The team/individual and participant solicit funds and communicate regularly with the congregation during their service.
Service Adventure	<b>Mennonite Voluntary Service:</b> Travel to and from service location, plus \$4,000. <b>Service Adventure:</b> Travel to and from service location, plus \$4,000.
SOOP (Service Opportunities with Our Partners)	Congregations commission and support individuals and families who serve and may contribute funds to ward their costs, as determined by each congregation. Costs vary widely, according to location and whether the site provides room and board.
Youth Venture	Participants raise the needed financial support to cover team expenses, ranging from \$500 to \$2,800. This helps pay for orientation, travel expenses and visas (as applicable).

Current information about available locations and placements, along with detailed program information, can be found at **MennoniteMission.net/Serve**. For further inquiries, resources or referrals, please contact our recruitment office at **Serve@MennoniteMission.net**.



TAP  
a shoulder!

A guide to service opportunities



# TAP a shoulder!

Who and what influences people to serve? Often, it is their pastor, church leader or mentor.

Micah 6:8 reminds leaders that “he has told you, O mortal, what is good: and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.”

A term of service is one place we can live into this biblical concept.

**Did you know that more than 600 current pastors and church leaders have participated in voluntary service of some kind?**

Mission Network seeks to create an atmosphere of calling within every congregation and encourages people to participate in God’s work of reconciliation. Service programs provide unique opportunities for personal and spiritual growth.

Consider your congregation. Who might benefit from the encouragement to venture out and test their abilities in what God is doing in the world?

## Adults and families

Ages 18+

3-month to 3-year terms



### International opportunities

*Accompany, reconcile, equip.*

**Global Anabaptist partnerships** — Join God’s work across the world, through education, leadership development, community development and discipleship.

Type of assignments: special assignments, sabbaticals, internships, long-term assignments.

Groups, families and individuals

1-2-week trips



### Just Peace Pilgrimage

*Visit, learn, grow.*

**Listen and learn** — Visit places of historical and contemporary significance. Listen to stories, and learn why our faith calls us to stand with people and stand against injustice. Pilgrimages include themes of racial justice in the U.S. and Africa; immigration at the U.S.- Mexico border and in Calais, France; and connecting with the histories and contemporary realities of Indigenous Peoples.

Ages 25+

2-week to 3-month terms



### SOOP

*Service, relationships, learning, flexibility.*

**Serve in partnership** — Individuals, couples and families enjoy the flexibility of serving in a variety of placements in the United States, Canada and abroad.

## High school and college ages

Youth and young adults, ages vary per location

2- 3-week terms



### Youth Venture

*Team, relationships, learn, serve, grow.*

**Serve and learn** — Join with other young people to serve, learn, worship and build relationships in local communities around the world.

## High school graduates and beyond

Ages 20-35

1- 2-year terms



### Mennonite Voluntary Service

*Faith, community, service.*

**Serve in community** — Practice your faith through placements in education, social services, health services, business, advocacy, law, and environmental and sustainability agencies.

Ages 17-20\*

10-month term



### Service Adventure

*Community, faith formation, service.*

**Explore and grow** — Invest in faith formation and leadership development, through placements in childcare, community agencies and church ministries.

*\*Service Adventure leaders are 24 or older and serve for two year terms..*