

Ways to get involved

Ongoing Volunteer Roles

We strive to cultivate long-term volunteers serving in regular, relational roles with clients. In a consistent relationship, be it monthly, biweekly, or weekly, volunteers have an extraordinary impact. Other ongoing volunteers contribute by working behind the scenes without direct client contact. We match all ongoing volunteers with professional staff to provide support and direction. Check out opportunities [at Gallagher Services](#) and [in the behavioral health programs](#).

Special Events or Seasonal Projects

Groups, clubs, companies, and families may enjoy working together to lead or support [a special event or seasonal project](#). One-time or infrequent involvement such as this does not require significant screening or training.

Therapeutic Mentoring

[The Therapeutic Mentoring Program](#) offers structured, one-to-one, strength-based relationships for emotionally challenged youth, ages 9 to 17. For at least one year, mentors and mentees meet once a week, learn new things, and have fun!

Internships

Graduate and Undergraduate field placements provide excellent systems-exposure and real-life training, not to mention great career opportunities! We partner with various schools to provide [undergraduate students](#) at least one semester and [graduate students](#) at least one year of field training in social work, counseling, psychology, family studies, [marketing](#), and more.

In-Kind Donations

Donations of certain new items can be extremely helpful to the clients and clinicians in our program. Please visit our [wish lists](#) for more guidelines and to arrange your delivery in advance.

Age considerations

Family volunteer activities, donation drives, or indirect volunteer service are perfect ways for younger volunteers to get involved when accompanied by an adult guardian.

Volunteers as young as 14 can work with the Individuals at Gallagher Services.

Volunteers 16+ can work with the clients of our behavioral health programs.

Therapeutic Mentors must be at least 21 years old.



Volunteer Services

Catholic Charities—Family Services

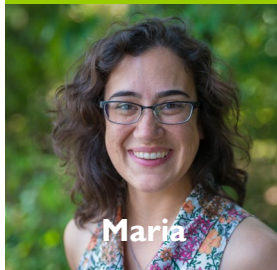
Volunteer Services

Catholic Charities—Family Services

Our mission

Our goal is to match public involvement (volunteerism and in-kind donation) with Family Services' strategic initiatives in order to advance program outcomes and foster a trauma-informed community.

Meet our team



Maria



Mikael



Joanna



Lauren

Our clients

Individuals with intellectual disabilities (Gallagher Services)

Children and families with emotional disabilities and behavior difficulty (St. Vincent's Villa, Villa Maria School, Villa Maria Community Resources)

Contact us to discuss opportunities

Maria Busko—Volunteer Services Manager—Donor connections and group partnerships, program development, screening & training oversight, Volunteer Services policies, Graduate Internship questions | mbusko@cc-md.org | 667-600-3006

Mikael Kristiansen—Volunteer Coordinator—Volunteer placement, role development, undergraduate internships, screening, events, groups, volunteer use of Better Impact | mkristia@cc-md.org | 667-600-3039

Joanna Leuschner—Spiritual Development Coordinator—Volunteer support and integration for Gallagher Services, weekend and weekday worship services at Gallagher Services | jleuschner@cc-md.org | 667-600-2544

Lauren Porter—Mentor Program Coordinator—Therapeutic Mentor Program, screening, training, matching, case management, program development, grant compliance | lporter@cc-md.org | 667-600-3054

Our strategy

Match - We incorporate motivated community volunteers into our programs, forming partnerships that enhance services to clients, on an ongoing basis or through special events. We also steward in-kind donations.

Screen - Ongoing volunteers and interns are interviewed to identify their skills and motivations and formally screened (e.g. background checks, references, etc.) before serving. Volunteers serving children require more rigorous background screening.

Train - All volunteers receive appropriate training before starting their service. Those volunteering in our behavioral health programs attend a three-hour Pre-Service Training, where we introduce Agency mission and values, Divisional programs, the child welfare system, mental health diagnoses, and sound service philosophies like trauma-informed care, confidentiality, boundaries, family-provider partnership. Additional clinical trainings are also made available.

Evaluate - Volunteers report their service hours to us online, and feedback mechanisms allow us to follow up on concerns, support positive service experiences, and improve our strategies.

*Cherishing the Divine Within All—
Clients, Volunteers, Donors, and Staff*

