



*March 2017*

## MISSION GRANT STORY

### **Lutheran Youth Corps \$25,000**

“There is an ever-growing number of LCMS college students and young adults joining the Peace Corps and AmeriCorps. They say ‘We would do it with the church, but there is nothing for us to do.’” This quote comes from the executive director’s office of LCMS Office of National Mission. Hearing the desire of Lutheran youth wishing to serve with LCMS guidance, the Lutheran Mercy Youth Corp initiative was born.

Youth attending the National Youth Gathering of the LCMS have voiced a desire to be of service to the church in a deeper level. Many young adults wish to utilize the time between high school and college or college and the start of full time employment serving in their communities. Lutheran Mercy Youth Corp will provide these students with the opportunity to live and serve in urban or underserved communities. This experience will engage the youth and connect them to ongoing opportunities to be Christ’s witnesses in acts of mercy for the

world. The program will also expand the young people’s understanding of life’s vocation and the important part service to others and sharing the Gospel plays in fulfilling their vocational call. For the young adults who have yet to settle on a vocation, this provides time for life experiences and possible connections with various employment opportunities.

The time frame for their service will range from three months to one year. Prior to departure, students will receive training which will include theological foundation, relational training and other areas specific to the work they will be asked to perform. Once ready for service and assigned, the students will reside in an intentional community of their peers with a professional church worker serving as a proctor. They will be connected to a local congregation for Word and Sacrament and daily devotions to enable them in remaining faithful to the commitment. More information is available at: [www.lcms.org/young-adult-corps](http://www.lcms.org/young-adult-corps).