

# Andre House

## Phoenix, AZ

### **SITE INFORMATION**

#### **Site Description**

Andre House is a ministry of the Congregation of Holy Cross. It provides up close and personal encounters with the chronically and transitionally homeless and poor. Guided by a Holy Cross Priest and two Brothers, they provide transitional housing, dinner six nights a week with an average of 600 meals/night, showers, bathrooms, phone use, and the distribution of material goods such as toiletries, blankets, and clothing to those in need. The students assist with all the functions of the organization, working in solidarity with the guests (we refer to those who receive our services as guests rather than clients), staff, and other volunteers to provide a safe, supportive community of service. While the CUA students are at Andre House, they will be seen as part of the Summer Staff. Therefore, the students will live in community with the rest of the lay staff. The staff house is near site. The students may also have an overnight shift at the transitional house.

#### **Student Responsibilities**

Students will be responsible for assisting with the programs listed (meals, shelter, clothes, etc), as well as befriending guests, interacting with volunteers and living as a good community member with the rest of the staff. The student will essentially be a Summer Staff person at Andre House. Upon arrival, the student will receive a schedule that will include participating in and/or directing each of the areas of service that Andre House offers our guests. With an underlying philosophy of personalism, we believe that the relationships that the students will form with the guests coming for services at Andre House, other volunteers, and staff will form an essential part of their experience.

A high value is placed on the donations we receive at Andre House. The staff lives off of the same services we provide to our guests. The clothing we wear comes from donations, we eat the food we serve to our guests, any hygiene products we have are acquired through what we call "basement shopping." We try to emulate the lives of our guests as best we can without the comforts of home.

#### **Site Interaction**

Almost their entire day at Andre House will consist in direct contact with our guests. Spirituality is an important aspect of our life and work. Students are encouraged to join our community each day for mass and noon prayer. You need not be a good cook to come. We will teach you!

#### **Student Orientation**

General tour of the neighborhood, as well as of our services. Students typically shadow someone the first time they help with one of our services - clothes, laundry, etc. - and then are encouraged to fly on their own. All staff is always available for questions and guidance.

#### **Housing**

Andre House provides housing in a volunteer house, which is a short walk from the Andre House building. Students will live with other summer volunteers in an intentional community (4 to 8 volunteers in total), the majority of whom are college age. This community (along with the long-term, semi-permanent volunteers) will work together, live together, and pray together.

#### **Transportation to the site from student housing**

The student will live on site or close enough to walk

## **Site Hours**

Andre House and its staff are engaged seven days each week. No services are provided on Fridays as we have a weekly meeting and activity. Each volunteer will have regular days off during the course of the week (normally 1 ½ days per week).

Each day starts with mass at 9:00 AM. Services begin after mass, and go until lunch. The volunteers have lunch together, and after lunch, services continue until 7:00 PM.

## **Recreation**

During days off, the volunteer community has access to an Andre House vehicle, to travel around and see the city. There is also lots of hiking and outdoor stuff to do in the area.

## **Support**

The Andre House staff, permanent volunteer staff, and other summer volunteers will support CUA students. Students will be mentored by a permanent volunteer, as well as a priest, brother, or seminarian if they like.

## **CUA Connection to Andre House**

Aidan Burns, CUA Class of 2018 is currently doing a year of service at Andre House

# **STUDENT QUALIFICATIONS**

## **Language Requirements**

Spanish is helpful, but not required.

## **Background Check Required**

A background check is required of all volunteers. Andre House can also host international students.

## **Does the site require a driver's license in order to transport guests/clients or use a vehicle during work?**

License not required.

## **Student Attributes**

Resiliency! The ministry at Andre House is emotionally and physically taxing... and extraordinarily rewarding. At the end of each day, you will exhale and know you have made a difference in someone's life.

## **Dress Code**

Dress is casual. It is HOT in Phoenix. Shorts and tennis shoes are the norm.

# **ORGANIZATION DETAILS**

## **Site Address**

213 S 11th Ave / P.O. Box 2014  
Phoenix, AZ 85001

## **Website**

andrehouse.org