

BORDER AREA MISSION MINISTRIES

**Our Savior Lutheran Church
1105 West Fern Avenue
McAllen, Texas 78501**

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BAMM ORGANIZATIONAL LIST OF SERVANT EVENTS

- 1). **BARCA, INC.**
P.O. Box 1725
Edinburg, TX 78540
Phone: 956-631-7447; fax: 956-687-9266
E-mail: barcainc@aol.com
Contact Person: Ninfa Krueger

BARCA works directly with some of the colonias in Hidalgo County where they have established contacts who tell Ms. Krueger what needs they have. Colonias are substandard subdivisions usually on the outskirts of our cities. Service opportunities include working alongside local youth and adults, learning and sharing, and community outreach services. Your group may decide on an activity to be coordinated with Ms. Krueger.

- 2). **Rio Grande Habitat for Humanity**
1701 B-24 North 8th
McAllen, TX 78501
McAllen office phone: 956-686-7455
Work site: 956-630-4183; fax: 956-631-3595 or 687-9266
Contact: Dale McNellan

RGHFH partners with low-income families to help build simple, decent homes. Homeowner families are chosen according to their need, their ability to pay a no-profit, no-interest mortgage, and their willingness to work in partnership with Habitat to build their home and often the homes of others as well. This non-profit effort continues all year long. High school age groups and older are welcome. Supervision is necessary. Tasks range from very basic, and can be assigned to individuals or teams with abilities in particular areas. Volunteers are also needed in the warehouse.

- 3). **Comfort House/Casa del Consuelo**
617 Dallas Avenue
McAllen, TX 78501
Phone: 956-687-7367; fax: 956-630-6423
Contact: Elena Gonzalez (Mon-Thu mornings best time to call)

Comfort House is a 10 bed, homelike residence for persons in terminal stages of illnesses such as cancer, AIDS, heart disease, etc. Support comes from donations and grants. They work cooperatively with physician advisors, hospice groups, churches, hospitals, and people like you. A variety of service work is needed, such as maintenance cleaning, painting, yard care, etc. Volunteer to become a part of this loving ministry.

4). Children's Haven International

400 E. Minnesota Road
Pharr, TX 78577
Phone: 956-787-7378
Contact Person: Elma Garcia

Children's Haven is in Reynosa, Mexico. Service work from rebuilding to outreach programs is available, both in Pharr and in Reynosa. They have 7 houses. Volunteers are also needed in their thrift store to sort a variety of materials from food to clothes that have been donated. They can always use a helping hand.

5). Juntos Servimos/Together We Serve

Mailing address: P.O. Box 273
Los Fresnos, TX 78566
Physical address: Ebenezer Christian Church
205 W. First St., Los Fresnos
Contact Person: Larry Cox, Southwestern Good Samaritan Ministries
Phone: 972-814-8385
E-mail: larry@ntcumc.org
Website: www.juntosservimos.org

This organization works on the southeast side of Matamoros, Mexico in various ministries, from medical service to feeding people at the Refuge kitchen, to building small homes, beds, tables, etc., for the community. Many kinds of servant opportunities are available here, and they need your help. Larry will listen to your group needs and abilities to arrange an event where all benefit. You will be asked to contribute toward needed materials.

6). Mujeres Unidas/Women Together

511 N. Cynthia
McAllen, Tx 78501
Phone: 956-630-4878; fax: 956-687-4715
Volunteer coordinator: Melissa Alviar

A shelter and supportive services for battered women and their children, they offer various programs, like transitional housing, counseling sessions, legal advocacy at their Family Violence Justice Center. Frida's Thrift Store accepts donations of clothing, house wares, furniture and children's items. They also have a wish list of needs that your group may want to help them with.

7). Puentes de Cristo/ Bridges of Christ

P.O. Box 1499
Hidalgo, TX 78557
Phone: 956-843-7277; fax: 956-843-7279
Contact: Gilberto Medina (mornings best time to call)

Presbyterian USA programs service the people of the Reynosa, Mexico, area in preventative health, self-development of people projects, new church development, and mission participation programs. Year round service work is available for high school and adult groups.

- 8). **Project Arise**
6901 South Cage Blvd.
Pharr, TX 78577
Contact: Virginia Santana, 956-702-0524

This group helps families in the Las Milpas colonia. Their programs address personal development and educational needs. You can help with English classes, and mentoring, creative activities, and on various projects that change according to needs, sometimes with children and with local groups. Computer tutoring would be appreciated also. Groups will probably be asked to bring supplies and materials to be used in activities.

- 9). **Rio Grande Children's Home**
3 Mile La Homa Road
Mission, TX 78572
Contact person: Jorge Zapata, mission group coordinator
Phone: 956-668-1041 (Veronica is administrative assistant)
Or 956-451-1059

The Children's Home takes children from birth to 17 years old, referred by various churches, civic organizations and individuals that have been affected by neglect, abuse or abandonment. They need help in painting, cleaning, reorganizing, yard/landscaping work, and some specialty work like electrical repair. Groups who are willing to work with the children in activities for them and/or vacation bible school are welcome. High school age and older, please.

- 10). **Rio Grande Food Bank**
2601 Zinnia
McAllen, TX 78501
Mailing address: P.O. Box 6251, McAllen, TX 78502
Phone: 956-682-8101; Fax: 956-682-7921
Contact: Nadia Ochoa

RGFB is a distribution center serving over 180 agencies throughout the Valley, such as in church pantries, homeless shelters and soup kitchens. 17,901 different people receive assistance from the agencies in any given week. 53.7% of the households who come here include at least one employed adult, but the annual income level is very low, with most of the help going to young (6-17 years) or old (65 or older) people. How can you help? With food drives and donations, and volunteer service working with food or cleaning, sorting and packing and serving food. Mature young people are welcome.