

Service-Learning at Saint Joseph's University



Bethesda Project- My Brother's House

Address	609 South 15 th Street Philadelphia, PA 19146
Supervisor	Misty Sparks Megan McManus
Phone	215-545-3011
Email	mspark@bethesdaproject.org mmcmanus@bethesdaproject.org
Transportation	Approximate Travel Time by Car: 30 Minutes
Clearances Required	No Clearances Required

Description of Agency: My Brother's House has existed to serve the most vulnerable homeless men of Philadelphia since 1984. The mission of My Brother's House, "to be family with those who have none, and to find and care for the abandoned poor," is carried out through permanent housing, support and emergency services. They offer food, clothing, shelter, mail and social services. Due to their substance abuse, many of the men who come to My Brother's House would not be able to receive assistance in other Philadelphia shelters. Unlike other shelters, the men are allowed to enter My Brother's House while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, although they are not allowed to use while they are on the premises.

Student Role:

Students will work to create one-on-one relationships with residents by spending time, participating in activities including games, meals, arts, music, etc. Students will assist Staff in greeting the men and facilitating various functions for and with the residents.

Unique Features:

My Brother's House seeks to meet its residents where they are, and accept them as part of a community. Students will work with men who struggle with addiction, homelessness, hunger, and social marginalization. The students must be willing to engage men, who may have difficulty communicating, in conversation. They will see many of the same residents each week, and build trust and a relationship of sharing experiences with one another. Students from past years have developed meaningful relationships with many of the men.

Orientation / Requirements:

An orientation will be provided the first week of service.