

October 12, 2018

Dear Friends, Alumni, and Supporters of Border Servant Corps' Yearlong Service Program:

As you may be aware, the 2018/19 Border Servant Corps (BSC) volunteer year ended unexpectedly early. Regardless of the reasons, many of the volunteers have now been left without the support they anticipated.

Some volunteers have moved on to other opportunities or returned home. Four volunteers from this year, however, have decided to stay at their current service sites as staff. However, without the program structure of BSC, these service sites aren't prepared to support these former volunteers on their own, and they need our help.

As members of the El Paso and Las Cruces communities, we have seen the difference a year of service can make in a young adult's life, and we want to honor their commitment and the work they do by supporting the remaining volunteers however possible for the rest of this year. To that end, we are joining other community partners in raising funds to supplement the former volunteers' salaries at their respective service sites and to help provide the support they need to survive and thrive this year.

Peace Lutheran Church in El Paso has agreed to receive monetary donations, which will be directed to Doña Ana Communities United, Iglesia Luterana Cristo Rey, Kelly Memorial Food Pantry, and the Beloved Community, with the understanding that these funds will go directly toward the wages they are able to pay the former volunteers. These organizations have partnered with BSC for many years, and the work they have been able to do with volunteer support has, and continues to make, a tremendous impact on our shared community. All donations designated to "BSC Support" will be kept separate from Peace's general operating funds and other designated offerings.

Please help us support these former volunteers, community organizations, and this work by whatever means possible. Monetary contributions can be made:

- Online through Tithe.ly on Peace Lutheran, El Paso's website: <https://www.peacelutheranelp.org/give>.

- Click on the green "Give" box and select "BSC Support" in the "Give to" dropdown list

- Or by mailing a check to Peace Lutheran Church, 1699 Belvidere St., El Paso, TX 79912.

Please indicate "BSC Support" on the memo line.

If you can't contribute to the fund right now, please consider at least reaching out to the volunteers and showing them the community support all around them.

Exactly how much we can supplement volunteer salaries will depend on the funds we are able to raise, but our goal is to raise \$10,000 to give volunteers the basic sense of safety and well-being that BSC volunteers have had in the past. Any extra funds raised

will be used for the support of the volunteers through those service sites that have nurtured so many volunteers already.

In addition, we would love your help in spreading the word about this fundraising effort. Please forward this request to others who may be interested in supporting former BSC volunteers!

With Gratitude,

- Pastor Diana Linden-Johnson, Peace Lutheran, El Paso, BSC Volunteer 1998-2000, BSC Director 2002/03
- Ryan Steinmetz, BSC Volunteer 2001/02, BSC Director 2007-2013
- Michael Dickson, BSC Volunteer 2017/18
- Mary Beth Harper, Director of Kelly Memorial Food Pantry 2017/18
- Tom Rood, Peace Lutheran, El Paso, BSC Board of Directors 2015-2018
- Herb Janssen, Peace Lutheran, El Paso, BSC Board of Directors 2015- 2018
- Janna Cannady, Peace Lutheran Church, El Paso