



Dear Prospective McCurdy Ministries Volunteer:

Thank you for your interest in the Long-Term Individual Volunteer program at McCurdy Ministries. Our volunteers are an important part of our day-to-day operation, and without them, it would be difficult to continue our service to the youth and families in our Valley.

If accepted into the volunteer program, we will work with you to schedule your time at McCurdy Ministries that is convenient for both you and the McCurdy staff. We depend upon volunteers to do a variety of tasks and will try to match your skills to a specific need.

McCurdy volunteers are housed in the Pilling-Robinson Retreat Center or, if available, you may use one of our RV hook-ups. We accept Long-Term Individual Volunteers year-round. Retreat Center space and McCurdy's needs are *both* determining factors when considering individual volunteers.

**Please complete this Long-Term Individual Volunteer Application. Additionally, before being approved to volunteer, you will be required to complete Safe Gatherings Training on our website at [www.mccurdy.org](http://www.mccurdy.org).** Please return the application form as soon as possible so that you and we can make timely preparations for your time on the McCurdy campus.

We look forward to hearing from you. If you have any questions after reviewing the enclosed forms and information, please do not hesitate to call Eufemia Romero, our volunteer registrar at 505-753-7221, ext. 210 or email her at [eromero@mccurdy.org](mailto:eromero@mccurdy.org).

We look forward to helping you through the application process and welcoming you to our campus. Thank you for helping McCurdy be a light in the valley.

Sincerely,

**Rev. Tiffany Hollums**

Executive Director, McCurdy Ministries

# McCurdy Ministries

## Handbook for a Long-Term Individual Volunteers

Revised February 2026

*All McCurdy volunteers must complete Safe Gatherings training.  
Training is available on our website: [www.mccurdy.org](http://www.mccurdy.org).*

McCurdy Ministries benefits greatly from the services of volunteers. Many people give of their time and skills to strengthen our program and improve our facilities. The satisfaction of serving as a Long-Term Individual Volunteer is evidenced by the volunteers who return year after year.

One of the wonderful aspects of McCurdy is the opportunity to interact with nature as well as the Hispanic, Native American, and Anglo cultures, history, art, and science. The Española Valley is surrounded on the east by the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and on the west by the Jemez Mountains. Flowing through the valley is the Rio Grande River. The mountains and rivers provide wonderful opportunities for hiking, rafting, and enjoyment of God's creation. Despite the geographic and cultural richness, 32% of our population lives under the Federal Poverty Line, 22% of adults over 25 have not graduated from high school or earned a GED, and 60% of our children are being raised by their grandparents.

Since 1912 McCurdy Ministries has been making God's difference in the Española Valley and we deeply appreciate our Long Term Volunteers who help us to fulfill our mission year after year. At McCurdy Ministries, our mission is to *"create hope and empower the lives of children, youth, adults, and families through education, life skills, and faith-based programs."*

Long-Term Individual Volunteers serve on an individual basis (or sometimes together as a couple or with a friend). We accept individual volunteers throughout the year and work closely with each volunteer to determine the best time frame and volunteer assignment. If Long Term Individual Volunteers serve for at least two weeks in a fiscal year, there is no charge for housing.

### Possible Volunteer Tasks

**Office:** Volunteers assist office staff. Duties may involve typing, computer data entry, making copies, filing, shredding, writing thank you notes, and preparing mailings.

**Maintenance:** Volunteers perform electrical work, plumbing, woodwork, mechanical repairs, yard work, and cleaning as needed and according to the volunteer's skills.

**Tutoring:** Volunteers act as classroom assistants under the direction of McCurdy Charter School teachers.

**Food Service Helper:** Volunteers help prepare meals and assist in serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner for our preschoolers and our volunteers. This job requires that you comply with all health rules, including hair nets, gloves, aprons, etc.

Our volunteers need to be flexible in their work, just as all our staff is required to be flexible in their work. Over time we have learned that God works in amazing ways in unexpected work assignments so we hope you will be open to new experiences,

especially when we are confronted with emergency needs.

## General MMCC Information

Please go to our website at [www.mccurdy.org](http://www.mccurdy.org) for the latest McCurdy Ministries news, information, and publications.

## Housing

**Retreat Center Rooms:** Volunteers are housed in the Pilling-Robinson Retreat Center. Each room has two of the following: a single bed, dresser, desk, and closet. There is a washbasin and mirror in each room. Retreat Center baths consist of a tub/shower, toilet, and ceiling/heating fan and are shared between two rooms. Note that pets and hot plates are not allowed in the Retreat Center but there are kitchen and kitchenette areas available for your use. There is a small refrigerator, microwave, coffee maker, and toaster in each lounge. The kitchens in the NE and SW apartments contain a stove and regular-sized refrigerator. While living in the retreat center you will be living close to others so compromise and cooperation are important.

**RVs:** There are two RV hook-ups, if available, which can be used during the spring, summer and fall. Temperatures in December through February are not suitable for RV living.

**Hours:** To be considered a full-time volunteer, you must work 30 hours per week. Normal work hours are 8 AM to noon and 1 to 3 PM. Even though volunteers are on a full work schedule, there are many opportunities to enjoy the unique geographic and cultural characteristics of Northern New Mexico. Occasional time off may be requested from the Executive Director and is usually approved. Please note that McCurdy has a generous holiday schedule (three days at Thanksgiving, ten days at Christmas, two days at Easter, and five days at Spring Break, plus several other holidays like Labor Day) and when the staff is off on holiday, so are our volunteers. Occasionally, volunteers acting as Retreat Center Hosts are asked to do VIM Team check-ins on holidays.

**Climate:** Although the climate in Española is generally temperate, winter clothing is needed at times. Summer days can be hot, but nights are cool. The elevation in Española is approximately 5,800 feet, but elevation varies greatly throughout the region. There are four distinct seasons, with low humidity year-round. Lows are listed at 15°F and highs 90°F.

**Travel:** Volunteers are responsible for their travel expenses to and from McCurdy campus. You also will need to provide your transportation to run errands and for sightseeing.

**Insurance:** Volunteers must provide proof of health insurance and car insurance if they have a car on campus.

**Other Considerations:** Volunteers should consider whether or not they are up to the demands of the work they will be asked to do. In addition, our volunteers live and work in communal settings so each volunteer must assess whether these living and work situations fit their personality.

## Articles/Services Provided by McCurdy Ministries

**Linens:** Sheets, pillows, pillowcases, quilts, towels, and washcloths are provided for your use while staying at Pilling-Robinson Retreat Center.

**Laundry:** Washers and dryers are available for personal laundry at 50 cents per load to wash and 50 cents to dry. Volunteers are asked to launder the linens and towels they use while staying at the Retreat Center. Detergent and dryer sheets are kept on hand for your use. Note: Please have laundry completed by 9:30 p.m. because the noise generated affects adjacent living quarters. When planning an early morning departure, please make arrangements for another volunteer to do your laundry of linens/towels.

**Telephone:** A telephone (505-753-7221, ext.232) is provided in the main lounge for adult use. To make a long distance call, you must use a phone card.

**Mailing Address and UPS Deliveries:** (Your Name), Long-Term Individual Volunteer, McCurdy Ministries, 362A S. McCurdy Road, Española, NM 87532.

**Visitors Policy:** Long-term volunteers may welcome visitors needing a separate room in the Retreat Center for three nights' free lodging once per year. After three nights, rent will be charged at the rate of \$30 per night per person.

**Drug and Alcohol Policy:** McCurdy Ministries is a SMOKE-FREE and DRUG-FREE campus. ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ARE PROHIBITED on campus and during off-campus McCurdy activities.

**Security:** Retreat Center security is everyone's concern. Exterior doors are locked at all times. Do not prop open the end or inside fire doors. You will be issued an outside door key and a gate key in addition to your room key. Also, please do not use the south entrance unless you are housed in the south wing. To help secure the campus, the gate at McCurdy Road near the playground will be closed each afternoon after most of the students have left the campus, but you will be given a key to that gate. All other gates are locked at all times.

We suggest you take security measures to protect your car against vandalism. Lock your car and park it in well lighted areas, either behind the Retreat Center or in the fenced lot in the back. Please take care when parking in the fenced lot to make room for as many cars as possible. Do not park cars in the lawn areas or block any Retreat Center exits. There are sensing lights in the rear of the building. Report any acts of vandalism. The Española Police Department is the only security force available by dialing 911. McCurdy is not responsible for damage to your vehicles.

**Articles to Bring:** Suggested items include an alarm clock, raincoat, umbrella, comfortable clothes, personal toiletry articles, personal glass for washroom use, comfortable walking shoes (closed-toed shoes for working because the grounds are rough in spots and the buildings are far apart), and clothing for both warm and cold weather (our elevation is 5,600 feet and we do have snow in fall, winter and spring). Optional items include a desk lamp, fan, throw rug, bath mat, and radio.

**Pharmacies:** CVS, Walgreen's, and Wal-Mart are all in Española to meet your prescription needs. We also recommend Fairview Pharmacy (a Good Neighbor Pharmacy). There is a local hospital and two Urgent Care providers.

## Local Points of Interest

*Please note all entrance fees are the responsibility of the participants. Time estimates are for round trips.*

**Pueblos:** San Juan, Santa Clara, San Ildefonso, Pojoaque, Picuris, Taos, Nambé (half to full day) When Native American ceremonies are held, we encourage visiting groups to take the afternoon off to observe the dances. Pictures are usually not allowed ~ you must have permission from the pueblo or your camera will be confiscated.

**Chimayo:** Hispanic weaving and Santuario de Chimayo (2 to 3 hours )

**Bandelier National Monument:** Cliff dwellings and hiking trails (half day)

**Los Alamos:** The atomic city, Bradbury Science Museum (3 hours)

**Santa Fe:** oldest continuously occupied capital in the new world, numerous museums, shops, galleries, and restaurants (half day)

**Taos:** Taos has galleries, shops, museums, and restaurants and is a Spanish colonial town. Taos Pueblo is a few miles north of town (half day)

**Truchas-Trampas-Penasco:** The high road to Taos, Hispanic mountain villages, and scenery (half day) · Ghost Ranch: museum, hiking trail, labyrinth, Abiquiu and Echo Amphitheater (half day)

**Pecos Wilderness:** High mountain hikes (one day)

**Jemez Pueblo and Springs:** High country trip (one day)

**Restaurants:** There are a variety of fast food and dine-in restaurants in Española, as well as several that serve Northern New Mexico cuisine including Angelina's, El Paragua, and La Cocina. We also recommend Rancho de Chimayo in Chimayo.

## Local United Methodist Churches

All our local United Methodist Churches welcome our volunteers:

**Santa Cruz UMC**, across the street from McCurdy, built in 1953, and used for many years by McCurdy for chapel services.

**Valley View UMC** (and the Española Valley Hospital), started on the McCurdy campus and operated by the United Methodist Church until 1977.

**Alcalde UMC** where a plaza school was opened in 1917 and operated with eight grades in three rooms until 1980. The church was built in the 1950s. La Loma Vista, the cemetery close to the church, is owned by the United Methodist Church and has served as the only Protestant cemetery in the area.

**Velarde**, where the work began in 1912. The original building, Hauser Memorial Chapel, is still used as the church. (This tour will take about one-half day.)

## Could I Be a Long-Term Individual Volunteer?

Please answer the following questions honestly, for yourself, before you complete the application. **This form is for your evaluation and reflection; do not return this form with your application.**

1. Do I feel called to volunteer?
2. Am I willing and able to be away from home?
3. Can I live in close quarters with others? Possibly share a bathroom with someone I don't know?
4. Am I willing to have fun at work? Could I be flexible in my daily routine?
5. Can I work 30 hours per week?
6. Do I enjoy being around children of all ages?
7. Can I work and live in a culture different than mine?
8. Do I love sunshine? Beautiful scenery? Snow? Dry heat? All of the above in the same week (sometimes the same day)?
9. Can I keep my eyes and ears open? Am I willing to help those less fortunate than me without judgment?

# Long-Term Individual Volunteer Application

*Please print, fill out, and return this portion of the application.*

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred method of contact:  Email  Cell Phone  Home Phone

Emergency Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Available dates to serve:

Start Date: \_\_\_\_\_ End Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Housing Needs:  On Campus  RV Hookup  I will arrange off-campus housing

Health:  Excellent  Good  Fair  Poor

Please list physical disabilities, health factors, physical conditions, recent operations, chronic illness, and/or treatments:

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List any medication (include name and dosage) as well as any herbal over-the-counter medications you take (If more space is needed, attach a complete list):

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Is your spouse applying for volunteer service? \_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_ No

## **CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:**

Name of church in which you hold membership: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Church Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Church Address: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note we will be contacting your pastor by phone for a personal reference.*

## ACTIVITIES / INTERESTS / SKILLS

Work Experience: List job experiences with the most recent first (you may also attach a resume). Include position dates and if job experience was on a paid or volunteer basis:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

**Check those service areas in which you wish to serve.**

OFFICE	TEACHING/TUTOR	MAINTENANCE	TALENT
<input type="checkbox"/> Computer Skills	<input type="checkbox"/> Math	<input type="checkbox"/> Appliances/ Mechanical	<input type="checkbox"/> Drama,plays
<input type="checkbox"/> Outlook	<input type="checkbox"/> Reading	<input type="checkbox"/> Carpentry	<input type="checkbox"/> Driving vans
<input type="checkbox"/> PowerPoint	<input type="checkbox"/> Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Electrical	<input type="checkbox"/> CDL
<input type="checkbox"/> Quickbooks	<input type="checkbox"/> Social Studies	<input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping	<input type="checkbox"/> Sewing
<input type="checkbox"/> Typing	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade:	<input type="checkbox"/> Masonry	<input type="checkbox"/> Music

## SHORT ESSAY

To more fully understand the skills and abilities, please share your specific expertise to enable us to better match you to the project/work areas that are needed.

Short Essay: Please write a short, concise statement explaining why you want to participate in our Long-Term Individual Volunteer Program. (You may use a separate page if needed). Please summarize your expectations for your volunteer experience at the McCurdy Ministries campus.

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McCurdy Ministries  
Long Term Individual Volunteer  
Medical Information Form

*This form must be included with your application*

McCurdy Ministries is committed to ensuring that your privacy is protected. The medical information asked for is for your protection and will only be used if you are unable to speak for yourself in an emergency. *Please return this completed form to Eufemia Romero, volunteer registrar, at McCurdy Ministries, 362A S. McCurdy Road, Española, NM 87532, or scan and email it to [eromero@mccurdy.org](mailto:eromero@mccurdy.org).*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Last Physical Exam: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you had any of the following conditions? (If yes, please check the appropriate space and give details on the back of this page or on an additional sheet.)

- Blood or circulatory problems Paralysis
- Colitis or intestinal condition Heart disease, angina
- Gall bladder disease or gall stones Stroke
- Disorders of spine, joints, bones Heart attack
- Arthritis Thyroid or goiter
- Disease of eyes, ears, nose, or throat Cancer or tumor
- Lung condition, TB, asthma Liver condition
- Muscle or nervous system disorder Epilepsy
- Ulcers or other stomach condition Connective tissue disease Diabetes
- Emotional/mental condition

List all medications (with exact dosage) you take on a regular basis. (If more space is needed, attach a complete list):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

List any allergies:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Please list the date of your last vaccination/booster for the following:

\_\_\_\_\_ Diphtheria/Tetanus      \_\_\_\_\_ Hepatitis A      \_\_\_\_\_ Typhoid  
\_\_\_\_\_ Hepatitis B      \_\_\_\_\_ Pneumovax      \_\_\_\_\_ Influenza (flu)

**Physician's Statement**

I certify \_\_\_\_\_ is currently in:  
\_\_\_\_\_ excellent, \_\_\_\_\_ good, or \_\_\_\_\_ fair physical condition.

Please list any activity restrictions or limitations:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Physician's signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

Print physician's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Physician's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Any medical information you feel would be relevant to add can be included here (if needed, use additional pages):

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