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Boston College graduates join JVC Northwest
Recent Graduates Dedicate a Year to Serving as Jesuit Volunteers

Portland, Ore. --- Boston College alumni have recently embarked on a year of full-time volunteer service with Jesuit Volunteer Corps (JVC) Northwest:

- Kelsey Alexander, Pathfinder Academy, Portland, OR
- Natalie Thomas, St. Labre Youth and Family Services, Ashland, MT
- Sarah Brewster, Volunteers of America Men's Residential Center, Portland, OR
- Lauren Sposa, Northwest Justice Project, Omak, WA
- Clare Garvey, St. Margaret's Shelter Garden, Spokane, WA
- Lauren Waski, AWARE, Inc., Juneau, AK
- Joseph DeNatale, Real Change, Seattle, WA
- Allison Gabbert, JOIN, Gresham, OR
- Emily McCormick, Catholic Community Services, Juneau, AK
- Cara Snajczuk, The Wintonia, Seattle, WA
- Christina Stewart, Community House, Seattle, WA

A total of 138 Jesuit Volunteers (JVs) – 24 returning for a second year – are serving in 21 locales throughout the five states of the Northwest, living in 24 JV communities. Going where the need is greatest has led JVC Northwest to open a new community of five JVs in Hood River/Odell, Oregon this year.

“JVs come to the Pacific Northwest with great enthusiasm, skills, and compassion to make a difference in the communities where they live and serve. In this exciting and challenging year of service, JVs are invited to participate in making the world a better place and to be open to the transformation in their own lives,” says Jeanne Haster, Executive Director for JVC Northwest.

There are two Jesuit Volunteer organizations in the United States, JVC Northwest and JVC. Jesuit Volunteers can be found in a variety of urban and rural locations and are challenged to live simply and work for social and ecological justice in a spiritually supportive environment.
Established in 1956 in Copper Valley, Alaska, JVC Northwest is an independent, non-profit organization that recruits, places, and supports volunteers living in communities across the states of Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington. Jesuit Volunteers serving outside of the Pacific Northwest are part of Jesuit Volunteer Corps, which consists of five JVC regions that merged in 2009.

As a national direct grantee of the Corporation for National and Community Service, 133 of our Jesuit Volunteers are also AmeriCorps members. Jesuit Volunteers live in urban and rural locations in communities of four to eight volunteers. This year, the JVs work with over 107 partner agencies across the region in many areas, involved in critical social services advocating for domestic violence survivors, nursing in community clinics, teaching and tutoring in schools with Native American children, assisting in shelters, working for food justice issues, and many more important works. Throughout their year of service, JVs focus on four core values–social and ecological justice, simple living, spirituality, and community.

For more information, visit [www.jvcnorthwest.org](http://www.jvcnorthwest.org), or [http://jvcnorthwest.wordpress.com/](http://jvcnorthwest.wordpress.com/)

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