



Poverello News

(559) 498-6988 • www.poverellohouse.org



Poverello
House

Ambassador Program

The Ambassador Team is a volunteer lead that will be the first point of contact and will provide a positive and welcoming environment to all clients, staff, and volunteers. This team will offer direction, provide basic information, and answer questions. Below is a brief description of ambassador positions available.



Donation Lane/Warehouse Ambassador

Role: Welcome and assist in unloading donations from community members. Answer questions and create a positive and welcoming environment for our donors.

Schedule: Several shifts available 7 days a week, 8 a.m. -5 p.m.

Requirements: Light lifting, strong verbal and written skills.



Weekend Volunteer Lead Ambassador

Role: Assist in signing volunteers in and out. Ensure all volunteers are in dress code, registered, and given necessary instruction and guidance. Ambassadors are encouraged to take initiative and provide a welcoming environment for clients and volunteers at Poverello House.

Schedule: Saturdays and Sundays 8 a.m. – 12:30 p.m., and/or Saturdays and Sundays 12:30 p.m. – 5 p.m. Internship/service-learning hours eligible.

Requirements: Light lifting, strong verbal and written skills.



Client Apparel Ambassador

Role: Responsible for creating a positive shopping-like experience for those in need of clothing. Work with staff and residents to sort clothing and maintain the clothing warehouse. They will work closely with and oversee other volunteers to appropriately store and distribute clothing in the warehouse.

Schedule: Flexible, 10-20 hours per week. Internship/service-learning hours eligible.

Requirements: Light lifting, strong verbal and written skills. Good communication and leadership skills, ability to work independently.



Join our Volunteer Team!

For more information, visit our website

www.poverellohouse.org

Email your interest to
volunteer@poverellohouse.org

"As an Ambassador, I will give a thorough tour of the facility, providing the new volunteers with more of an in-depth understanding of the facility and how each component of POV comes together as a whole and provides the necessary assistance to the community, and each other.

We always have something to do."

- Christopher Lewis,
Kitchen and Meal Prep Ambassador

"I have volunteered at Poverello for more than 15 years; I help in the warehouse sorting through donations and putting can goods away. Creating an organized system and putting things in order has made it easier for the kitchen staff to find what they needed. That showed me the value of whatever time I could give. I feel like I am a small part of the Poverello family and that is a good thing."

- Doris Van,
Warehouse Ambassador

"I started volunteering at the Poverello House in June 2018. Later in August, I started helping in the Contact Office with the weekend mail and during my teaching holiday & summer breaks. I feel fortunate that I deal with clients on a first-hand basis, and, at times, it is the clients who share their kindness or smiles that brighten up my day! Being a volunteer at the Poverello has been a blessing in my life in more ways than one."

- Carolyn Jacques,
Contact Office Ambassador

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Zack Darrah,
Chief Executive Officer

You may well know the story of how our name, Poverello House came to be. If Poverello is Italian and is translated as “the poor little one.” This was the nickname for St. Francis of Assisi, who rejected a life of luxury to live in poverty and to serve those in poverty. Papa Mike was deeply impacted by the Franciscan order of the Catholic Church through the ministry of several clergy members. The life, teachings, and ways of St. Francis are what were the very motivation for him to begin the journey of Poverello House. The simple act of giving out peanut butter sandwiches to those on the streets of Fresno is reflective of the heart of service that St. Francis preached. If Poverello is quoted as saying, “Not to hurt our humble brethren is our first duty to them, but to stop there is not enough. We have a higher mission; to be of service to them whenever they require.”

We all have a “peanut butter sandwich” to give to others who are in need in our community. One does not need education to serve others, or have any skills, they just need the heart to help. Here at Poverello House, you just need to show up with that heart and we will put your heart to good use! Without

the thousands upon thousands of people who serve as volunteers here, the work would simply not be possible. I can personally guarantee you will be glad you came to serve and that you will want to come back. You may even be making a few hundred peanut butter sandwiches when you come!

At the end of “On The Level”, a book of Papa Mike’s photography and commentary on those he served for most of his life at Poverello House, an anonymous contributor writes:

It’s doubtful that he will eat another peanut butter sandwich, but one should be cast in bronze and enshrined on the Poverello House wall of honor, because this humble repast represents well the utter simplicity of need among the poor—and an equally simple first step toward correcting the situation. Mike is street-wise enough to take praise with a grain of salt, but he will understand our gratitude for the simple lesson he teaches. Mike, like his friend St. Francis, just started walking, and helping and giving.

May we all be peanut butter sandwiches reflective of the spirit of Papa Mike and the one by which we received our name, St. Francis.

Humbly,

Zack

**POVERELLO HOUSE
CALL FOR
HOPE
TELETHON**

*Proceeds Benefit
Poverello House*

TELETHON
THURSDAY, APRIL 7TH

POVERELLO HOUSE STORY -
30 MINUTE SPECIAL
SUNDAY, APRIL 3RD AT 6:30 PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR
WEBSITE AT
WWW.POVERELLOHOUSE.ORG OR
CALL 559.498.6988

Presented by

MARCH WISH LIST

- Towels • Travel Size Toiletries • Disposable Razors
- Toothbrushes & Toothpaste • Toilet Paper
- Ziploc Bags – All Sizes

Donations are Accepted

Monday - Friday
8 am - 5 pm
Saturday - Sunday
8 am - 1 pm

412 F Street, Fresno

Donation lane located on
G Street between
Ventura and San Benito

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION



"I believe life-change happens through an intentional combination of relationships and time. Being able to build relationships with individuals in my community who have different circumstances than me is so rewarding and life-giving."

- McKenna Gilman,
Kuppa Joy Partner

How to Volunteer:

Visit our website
www.poverellohouse.org
and register for an orientation!



"Being able to give to others is always so fulfilling. We as a team were put in an environment that we don't usually see and I think it was such a positive experience for us. The kids had an eventful day and we got to give them that. There isn't anything more gratifying than that."

- Ava Medrano,
Bullard Varsity Girls Volunteer





"Mary, who has shared my love and concern for the needy for 23 years. She was the first Poverello House volunteer, a creator of sandwiches, soup, and chili from whatever was donated." - Papa Mike