

Student Leadership Candidates (vote for 2; these are 1-year terms)

1. Zachary St. Louis (Zach)

I have been on one Mission of Hope so far and that was the February 2010 Mission. I am applying to be on the Leadership Team because I believe I could be a great asset as I was totally and completely changed and inspired by my Mission experiences. What probably inspired me most was that every individual I encountered, even those living in total poverty and despair, were full of faith, love and joy. I will be totally and completely committed to Leadership and the Mission because I truly believe that the Mission of Hope is such a life changing organization, both for those who volunteer and those who the Mission reaches out and helps.

2. Megan Ann Harris (Meg)

I have gone on one Mission in February of 2010. It was a very rewarding experience to me and I look forward to hopefully continuing to go to Nicaragua in the future, but also to continue helping out while I am here. I want to serve on the leadership team because I would like to help out and be involved with the Mission in any way possible in addition to packing. I am passionate about staying involved in my community as well as worldly needs. I was recently re-elected as Saranac High School's Key Club President and as President I am constantly searching for new ways to get myself and the club in the habit of giving back. I am accustomed to and enjoy providing input and ideas.

3. Adam Oropallo

I would like to serve on leadership as a result of being forever changed and inspired by my first mission trip in February 2010 and plan on applying to the February 2011 Mission. I would like to bring my past student leadership and community service roles to the Mission of Hope which include class President, Spanish club President, and Rotary Interact member. I could apply the following skills in this position fluency in Spanish, and vast understanding of Latin American culture. The Mission of Hope has an incredibly bright future and I would be honored to be a part of it.

4. Caitlin Houle

pending

Adult Leadership Candidates (vote for 5; these are 2-year terms)

1. Connie Miller (Current Leadership member)

I have been on 9 missions, my first was February 2001, and my most recent was February 2009. After serving as Executive Secretary of Leadership Team, it is time for a new perspective. I wish to continue in MOH Leadership with a less demanding role. I have extensive experience in all facets of MOH, organizational skills, computer capabilities, knowledge of MOHtown packing procedures, familiarity with many missionaries, fluent in speaking and translating Spanish.

2. Rachael Claire Oberding

My first mission was this year, in February 2010. I love everything that the mission is striving to do, bring hope to all those suffering in Nicaragua. As a member of leadership, I would be able to see first hand how a mission is run, and I would be able to help my Nicaraguans from afar. On the mission, I realized that there are so many more aspects of mission work that do not involve medical clinics or handing out food. It's the love you give with the food, with the shot. A large part of mission work also takes place right here, in our homes and communities, to spread the word and get funds. I am a creative, bubbly teenager, with a heart for mission work. I am fully dedicated to the Mission of Hope, and help in every way I can from Vermont, by translating letters sent to me. I am full of new ideas, spirit, and enthusiasm for the Mission of Hope.

3. Lou Ann Neilsen

I went on mission in August 2009. What I bring to the table is a sense of humor and compassion and common sense. MOH has made me a better person all the way around, it is really hard to explain all that is in my heart.

4. Yamilette Flores (Current Leadership Member)

I have been on mission trips since before its beginning as I am one of the co-founders. I bring my knowledge of the country and its people to the Mission as I am from Nicaragua. I am fluent in Spanish, my heart is in the mission, and my desire is to help the people of Nicaragua and that what they hope for comes to them every year.

5. Joan Riani

A retired teacher who moved to Plattsburgh 7 years ago, I have served on St. John's Transition Council, Seton Catholic School Council and R.S.V.P. Board. Presently, I am serving on St. Vincent De Paul Board, Champlain Valley Voices Oratorio Board, Volunteer for RSVP, JCEO, Senior Center Clinton County, Food Shelter (OLV), Soup Kitchen (Seton Academy), Relay For Life, and am a member of St. Peter's and Our Lady of Victory Parishes. I have made two missions: July 2009 and February 2010. Since going on mission, my priorities have changed. I am more aware of the suffering of others and am trying to explore ways and avenues which will improve the quality and sanctity of life for all people. The need to conserve and protect our Natural Resource and gifts has also become very important to me.

6. Jeremy Dumont

I am a Graduate of the Rochester Institute of Technology with a BS in Computer Science and a MS in Learning & Knowledge Management Systems. I currently work for Siemens Industry, Inc as Engineering Specialist in the Malone office where I design, install and maintain Building Automation & Energy Management systems. I went on Mission as a member of the A-team in Feb 2009 and will travel again in June. I currently assist with packing and community development projects, along with technology projects as necessary. I have served on the Executive Board of the Franklin County Chapter of the American Red Cross (1999-2000) and on the Executive Board of the Rochester Institute of Technology Ambulance (2003-2005). I also have experience in construction, electrical, computers and medical (as a former EMT) which should help me understand the issues brought to leadership.

7. Tom Doran

I have been a member of the Mission since my first trip on MISSION #3. I have been on many missions since that time, the last being in 2005. I was the Mission's first President and instrumental in the incorporation of the Mission as a 501(C)3 non-profit corporation. I have chaired the local Transportation Committee since its inception. I wrote the request for obtaining the medical supplies from the former Base Hospital and was instrumental in obtaining storage facility at the former base for our excess supplies and equipment as an interim location between the move from the North Country Shopping Center and our current MOHTown location. I have also procured the storage trailers behind MOHTown which we use in preparation for each container shipment. I have been continuously active in many phases of the Mission throughout the past 11 years.

8. Bill Murray

I am committed to the goals of the mission and feel that many of my talents are best suited at the leadership level to help make a difference in the lives of the poor in Nicaragua. With my technology, engineering, and business skills I feel that I have a lot to help the mission as it grows.

Executive Candidates (vote for 1 per office – these are 2-year terms)

Bonnie Black: President - Nominated for Reelection for President (Current Leadership Member)

Currently serving my first 2-year term as President, I look forward to another two years collaborating with the Leadership Team on developing our strengths for the future. During the last two Team retreats, we formulated a Mission Statement and developed a Strategic Plan. We are currently working on a Values Statement - with your help! I have been on each large mission since February of 2004 and have also traveled to Managua with Marty Mannix and two New Jersey Rotarians to implement and monitor the Rotary latrine project which brought 200 families and 2 schools sanitation and better health. I was brought 'into the fold' by my daughter, and have been involved volunteering with the Mission since 2002. Serving on the Executive Committee as well as the Publicity Committee, I also coordinate the Silent Auction.

Kathy Eppler: Nominated for Treasurer (Current Leadership Member)

My full name is Kathleen Eppler, but go by Kathy (unless in trouble with my mother). I have been to Nicaragua twice, although only once on mission in February 2009. I will be in Nicaragua the

beginning of June and fortunate enough to join the other members of the focus group for a day at El Crucero. I have had the opportunity to work with and be on the Leadership Team the last couple years. I've been in the banking industry for 30 years and would do my best to bring my experience to the table. Like so many others, the Mission is inspirational to me and I firmly believe in the work and contribution that is made to the Nicaraguan people. I'd like to say that I have a lot to contribute, but feel like I've already gained so much more than I give!

Roger E Patnode, MD: Nominated for Recording Secretary

I have been actively involved with the Mission since February of 2007 (February 2007, August 2007, February 2008, 2009, 2010) working for the most part as a part of the Medical Team both on Mission and at MOHTown, and as liaison to Catholic Medical Mission Board. I served one year on Leadership but resigned as I felt my limited time was better utilized in focusing on the Medical Team efforts. I have been asked to serve as Secretary of the Executive Committee and Leadership and am willing to serve where my skills are judged to be needed. I am organized, a reasonable writer, and have reasonable computer skills. I have business and leadership experience to offer advice and direction for NCMOH in short term planning as well as long term goal-setting.

James Carlin: Nominated for Vice President (Current Leadership Member)

I have participated on 3 large Missions and one focused-group mission. I have found that I have taken a lot more away from the mission than I could ever give. The lessons taught me and the perspective given me by the people of Nicaragua and the mission participants has changed and enriched my life. I think I can bring a business as well a not-for-profit experience to the process of working through operations and planning as the mission moves forward. I also believe I can work well with the rest of the board in bringing compromise and consensus.

Oscar Flores: Nominated for Vice President, Nicaraguan Operations (Current Leadership Member)

I have been on mission trips since the beginning and believe that through the Mission of Hope we can make a difference to my native country. I bring to this position my knowledge of what will be good or not for the people, as I know them, and I am the link between both countries. I am, naturally, fluent in Spanish and I really feel good by helping the people of Nicaragua through all that we do for them.