

April 18, 2008

Dear MCA member,

May the grace and peace of the Holy Spirit be with us forever!

As many of you know, the MSBTs have been coordinating a very successful Family Development program each summer in Trinita for many years. Trinita, located in the beautiful rural area of the Birkshire Mountains in Connecticut, gathers inner-city families together for a week full of faith and family development activities, as well as typical camp-like fun such as swimming and arts and crafts. Each week for 6 consecutive weeks, a new group of families arrive to participate in this unique experience.

The program itself is planned, in attentive detail, by the sisters and staff who are at Trinita year-round, but it actually relies on volunteers to bring it to life. Upwards to 12 volunteers are needed each week! Without them, the program simply would not exist. Volunteers help out in many ways, from leading a little peer group of children for an hour (materials provided!) to preparing lunch to pool duty to helping out with arts and crafts. Several MCA members have volunteered at Trinita over the years, and we are writing you now to invite you to consider joining us this summer.

There is an orientation week (June 22-28) for new volunteers the week before the first families arrive (June 28). Volunteers must be 18 years old or over, willing to help out in various ways, and be able to function in a camp-like environment (ie. this is not the Hilton :) volunteers sleep in cabins, etc). An information brochure (in English and in Spanish) is available on the MCA website for you to view or print and we would be happy to email files or mail copies of them out to you at your request. Please also share this with another MCA or anyone else you know who might be interested in serving in this program and supporting our Cenacle mission.

Two MCAs who have volunteered at Trinita in the past are available for you to contact and ask about their experiences. Angel Garcia, MCA has been volunteering for most of the program weeks each summer for years, and Margaret Flanagan, MCA joined us for the first time last summer and is coming back again this year! Here is their contact information:

Angel Garcia, MCA
(212) 580-0568
angelgarciany@aol.com
(English or Spanish inquiries)

Margaret Flanagan, MCA
(212) 982-1217
margaflan@verizon.net
(English inquiries)

The Missionary Cenacle Volunteer staff is responsible for advertising, selecting and training volunteers. There is an online application as well as brochures in English and Spanish available at our website www.TMC3.org. Please also feel free to call us with any questions at (216) 252-4727, toll free (800) 221-5740 or email us at cenaclevolunteer@aol.com. Thank you!

Yours in the Trinity,

The Missionary Cenacle Volunteer Staff
Maureen Masterson - Director
Joan Larsen - Secretary
Rebecca Sallee – Intern