What our volunteers have to say...

“It’s always a humbling experience knowing that I am helping out those out there who are in need. Working in the kitchen preparing meals is always a blast!”  K. New

“I’ve learned that people aren’t that different, we just find ourselves in different circumstances.”  T. Wessenberg
Come to Cass Community Social Services for an hour, a morning, an afternoon, a day or multiple days. Bring just yourself or as many as 100 friends or co-workers. Come with your church group, school group, corporate team or as part of an Alternative Spring Break or mission trip group.

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There are many reasons to volunteer at Cass:

- To serve the poor
- To experience Detroit
- To work with my hands
- To be an encouragement
- To grow closer to other people

Your group and its members will have your own reasons and it will be important for you to explore those reasons before coming. Many groups spend time team-building, fundraising, focusing on cross cultural sensitivity, as well as making decisions about transportation and evening activities.
Your Day @ Cass

Groups generally work from 9 am—12 pm and/or 1—4 pm. Groups that stay multiple days often take an afternoon off to go sightseeing in and around Detroit.

Many teams choose to experience all we have to offer including food prep, document destruction, mud mat production, buildings and grounds projects, and activity time with our developmentally disabled clients. Other teams focus on one particular project as they are available.

**Overnight Groups**

8:30 am — Breakfast  
9:00 am — Project 1  
12:00 pm — Lunch  
1:00 pm — Project 2  
4:00 pm — Free Time  
5:30 pm — Dinner  
6:30 pm — Evening Activity
Lodging, Meals and What it Costs

Teams that stay with us are housed in one of three buildings based on numbers and availability. In all cases, there is access to a kitchen, wi-fi, showers, and parking. Separate spaces are available to divide your group as you wish.

We prepare three hot meals each day for our clients and those staying with us. For those groups that stay 3 nights or more, we include a dinner out at one of Detroit’s ethnic favorites.

The cost is $25 per person per night which includes all meals, lodging and materials. Team members will need to bring air mattresses (if staying at our Activity Center), sleeping bags and pillows.

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Skilled Team Members and Tools

If you are bringing someone with carpentry, electrical or plumbing skills, be sure to let us know so that we can make use of those skills while you are here.

Though we have most tools needed for the jobs you will be doing, feel free to bring your own.
Orientation, Evenings & Other Activities

Before your group begins work, you will receive an orientation covering the history of Cass Community Social Services, its mission, locations and some information on Detroit itself. Rules and expectations will be reviewed at that time as well.

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Monday through Wednesday evenings CCSS staff members and interns will be available to help your group reflect on the day. Be sure to schedule your evenings with them in advance.

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Groups will be encouraged to visit some of the places unique to Detroit like Belle Isle, the Heidelberg Project, the Riverfront, the Detroit Wailing Wall and Hitsville U.S.A. You may want to include a museum or a professional sports event while you are here.
Application

Organization Name __________________________
Street Address _______________________________
City, State, Zip Code __________________________
Contact Name ________________________________
Contact Phone ________________________________
Contact Email Address __________________________
Estimate Group Size __________________________
Skilled Persons?
   Carpenters      Electricians      Plumbers

Date(s) Requested:
   Arrive ___________  Depart ___________

Housing:
   ____ Our group needs housing
   ____ Our group has secured lodging elsewhere

Group Covenant

- We will prepare for the experience before coming to Cass
- We will abide by CCSS’s rules and expectations
- We will do criminal/sex offender checks before our trip

Signature of Contact Person __________________________
Date __________________________

Return the form and deposit to: CCSS, Rev. Sue Pethoud,
11745 Rosa Parks, Detroit, MI 48206  313-883-2277, ext. 203
There are a number of ways to learn about Cass’ programs and people prior to volunteering. In addition to our web site, both Cass Community Social Services and Cass Community United Methodist Church have Facebook pages and there are several Cass videos available on Youtube. Rev. Fowler has also written two books about our work which are available at ccpublishinghouse.org.