

CHANGED LIVES

Volunteering and service changes the lives of those who serve, as well as helping families and communities in time of need. This inspiring story comes from the UPF's Alliance for Recovery partnership with the Points of Light Foundation in the US, and is one of many—

“He had no permanent address and a track record that was far from clean. Doug wanted to be a firefighter but the school was hesitant to accept him.

Living and receiving drug treatment with Florida Faith Ministries, he negotiated with the school to reevaluate his application after 60 days.



During that time he volunteered for the community 40 hours a week. He went to Volunteer Services of Manatee County, FL because of a partnership established between the Volunteer Center and Florida Faith Ministries. With the UPF's Alliance for Recovery Award, the Volunteer Center was able to pay his fee to attend Emergency Response Team training.

Doug not only completed training, he also gathered his housemates to create a team that focuses on identifying potential Points of Distribution. He also led a group of 34 volunteers in an initiative to visit senior residents to identify hazardous materials in their household.

Doug was rewarded as Manatee County Volunteer of the Year and the Manatee Technical Institute awarded him a full scholarship to pursue his dream of becoming a firefighter.”



Fixing a Katrina-damaged roof in Mississippi

“Everybody can be great because everybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve...you only need a heart full of grace, a soul generated by love.”

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Universal Peace Federation

155 White Plains Road, Suite 222
Tarrytown, NY 10591 USA
Phone (914) 631-1331

481 8th Ave, Suite 3000
New York NY 10001
Phone (212) 239 6500

www.upf.org

Local Contact



**LIVING FOR THE
SAKE OF OTHERS
HELPING HANDS
IN A TIME OF NEED**



CROSS CULTURAL

Through working for the greater good alongside people of other cultures, religions and national origins, participants discover that their partners are not people to fear and mistrust but potential friends—brothers or sisters.

Religious Youth Service: The initial RYS project took place in the Philippines in July 1986. Over 100 projects in 40 nations have included constructing and repairing community centers, schools, homeless shelters, refugee housing, playgrounds, and toilet facilities. Reforestation, peace gardens and peace murals contribute to an uplifting, peaceful environment. It also offers seminars and training programs as part of its effort to build communities of peace.



RYS Volunteers rebuilding a wall in Mongolia, 2004

International Relief Friendship Foundation: Founded in 1975, IRFF has provided food, medical supplies and school clothing in Africa and Latin America. In South Asia, it supports schools and refugee programs, and a long-distance adoption program for orphan girls. Recent long-term

COMPASSION

development projects focus on health care, nutrition, literacy, and vocational and agricultural education. Disaster relief was provided after the tsunami in Indonesia and hurricanes in the Dominican Republic, Honduras, and the United States.



SFP medical relief team onsite after earthquake disaster

The **Women's Federation for World Peace** is involved in projects bettering the lives of families, women and children. In Korea they operate a telephone-counseling center for abused and troubled women. Japanese women go to 160 nations to help women achieve financial independence, improve children's education, provide medical aid, support agricultural projects, and inspire women and children to reach out to those around them.

American women fund schools in Africa and provide scholarships and micro-loans to women entrepreneurs. European women work for reconciliation of ethnic strife, for instance in Ireland and in the Balkans. In the Middle East, women visit victims of violence and families of the bereaved, both Jewish and Palestinian.

PARTNERSHIP

Service For Peace: SFP brings the energy of youth to service projects throughout the USA and the world, including disaster recovery in Thailand and Pakistan. UPF sponsored a SFP relief team from Korea to Indonesia to assist after the May 2006 earthquake recovery, in partnership with the Korean Council on Volunteering and Badan Koordinasi in Yogyakarta.

In the United States, SFP has worked with its Alabama affiliate CHASM; (also supported by UPF) in multiple Hurricane Katrina recovery projects in Mississippi and Louisiana that have combined local volunteers, students from US universities on Alternate Spring Break, and participants from Israel and Japan eager to give something back to the US in its time of need.



Volunteers sort mattresses for families displaced by Hurricane Katrina in Greensboro, South Carolina

UPF has also been working with the **Points of Light Foundation** and volunteer national networks to provide disaster recovery and capacity building grants and projects in 30 states.