



La Puente Home Volunteer Application

911 State Avenue
Alamosa, CO 81101
Phone (719) 589-5909
Fax (719) 587-0810

The Application deadline for full time volunteer applicants is April 15th. Any questions you have can be directed to the Volunteer Coordinator at 719-587-5499 or volunteers@lapuente.net.

Last Name	First Name	Middle Name
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Current Address (all information will be sent here unless you notify us of a change)

City	State	Zip code
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Phone	Cell Phone	Email Address
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Permanent Address (If Different)	Phone (If Different)
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City	State	Zip code
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Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year)	Age	Social Security Number
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Marital Status (Married, Single, Other)	# of Dependents if any
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How did you learn about La Puente Home?

Language: For some of our positions it is helpful that a person have some Spanish language skills. Please indicate your level of ability.

Limited

Proficient

Fluent

Please list other languages spoken as well.

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La Puente Home offers one-year commitments for its applicants. At the end of one year, volunteers may recommit for an additional 6-month or one-year period. Are you fully able to commit to a one-year program? Are there any pending family, financial or personal obligations that might interfere with a full year of service?

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Volunteers with La Puente Home are typically placed within one or two programs of the organization. Some placements are five-day placements, while others are divided between two different programs. Please indicate two choices of interest:

- Adelante**
- PALS**
- Community Education**
- Emergency Food Bank**
- Gleaning Program and Community Gardens**
- Job Readiness Training**
- Milagros Coffeehouse**
- Outreach and Homeless Prevention**
- Rainbow's End Thrift Store**
- Shelter**
- Volunteer Coordination**
- Rainbow's End Monte Vista Special Project Placement**

***Information regarding each program can be found on our website (www.lapuente.net). We strongly encourage applicants to contact us with any questions. While we keep in mind applicants' main interests when placing volunteers, please know it is not always possible to give everyone their top choices.**

Please provide information for your three references. Choose people who know you well and are able to speak of your general character, work style, and personality, as well as your education and professional skills. A copy of the attached reference form should be sent to each person listed below. Tell your references our office may call them for further comments. Please do not include relatives.

Employer/Supervisor

Address

Phone

City

State

Zip Code

Advisor, Counselor, Professor

Address

Phone

City

State

Zip Code

Other (Employer, Professor, Clergy, Coach, Peer)

Address

Phone

City

State

Zip Code

We are interested to hear about your personal life experiences. The following essays are a continued means to help both you and La Puente Home in examining your commitment. Attached are the values of the La Puente Home Volunteer Program. Please respond to the following questions keeping these values, as well as your own, in mind. Please attach answers to the essays to this application and limit total response to four pages. *Respond to at least two essays in written form, but feel free to use pictures, art, or some other form to respond to the others.*

Please answer all three:

- 1. Please describe your motivations for volunteering at La Puente Home. List any specific experiences that have led you to apply for a year of service.**
- 2. What do you consider to be a simple lifestyle? What exposure have you had to simple living?**
- 3. What are the positive contributions that you would bring to a community living experience? What past experiences, if any, have you had living communally?**

Please answer one:

- 1. What exposure have you had to people of other cultures than your own?**
- 2. If there were no restrictions upon you, what would you most like to do in your life and why?**
- 3. Tell us about someone you admire. How has this person shaped your values, outlook, etc.?**

One more thing... (Optional but definitely recommended)

Draw a picture of one of your dreams...

La Puente Volunteer Values

Community

La Puente volunteers experience community on many different levels as they form relationships with their housemates, co-workers, and the community as a whole. Volunteers experience intentional community living, working cooperatively to create a lifestyle that reflects their shared core values. United by commitment to a shared vision, group households renew and encourage each other while challenging one another to form honest and open relationships. This means respectfully confronting tensions and addressing and celebrating differences. Volunteers are also encouraged to practice community in a larger sense as they immerse themselves in the culture of Alamosa and the San Luis Valley.

Simplicity

La Puente volunteers live on a small stipend and strive to practice voluntary simplicity. This commitment is more than attempting to live within a monthly budget; it is a shift of focus that comes with thoughtful analysis of your lifestyle and values. Spending a year centered less on money and consumption and more on deeper sources of satisfaction can free volunteers to experience the value of simple pleasures, conversations, and their own creativity. Voluntary simplicity should not be thought of as doing without, but rather as having enough, and this awareness provides volunteers with an opportunity to discover healthy and sustainable lifestyles.

Social Justice

Through their direct work at La Puente Home, volunteers are exposed to the daily struggle for justice, dignity, and human rights. In their various placements, volunteers provide essential services to the poor and marginalized, and are encouraged to search for creative, long-term solutions. Volunteers are challenged to work within themselves to promote compassion and respect for those whom they serve. In forming relationships with the poor, volunteers are open to understanding causes of injustice. Consequently, volunteers are changed by their experiences.

Spirituality

La Puente Home is a service-oriented organization comprised of many different faiths and traditions. Similarly our volunteers represent a diverse array of spiritual backgrounds, and therefore, respect of one another's traditions is a crucial part of the volunteer community. Many volunteers express their faith and traditions through their work, their community, their personal lives and embracing a simple lifestyle. La Puente volunteers are encouraged to seek connections between their personal beliefs and the values of compassion, respect, and nourishment that are part of our mission.