



IGNITE PEACE

S. Louise Akers Fellowship

through Mercy Volunteer Corps
2025-2026



OVERVIEW

The Ignite Peace S. Louise Akers Fellowship through Mercy Volunteer Corps is an opportunity to spend a year educating and advocating for social justice. This position was created to honor the legacy of S. Louise Akers, SC, co-founder and first director of Ignite Peace, tireless advocate for social justice and integrity of creation. The fellow will inspire and engage communities to create change through analysis and action. Over 11 months, the 2025-2026 fellow will advance their expertise in nonviolence and anti-racism through hands-on training, utilizing the knowledge they gain to support educational programming and advocate for systemic changes to our criminal justice and immigration justice systems.

FELLOWSHIP BENEFITS

- Training: Leadership development, nonviolence, peace and justice, activism and advocacy, etc.
- Connection: one-on-one mentorship, learning from the life of S. Louise Akers, and community engagement opportunities
- Support from Mercy Volunteer Corps: including housing, monthly stipend, health care, transportation, educational discount, and quarterly retreats ([Full benefits list](#))
- Professional development: opportunities to network in social justice and nonprofit circles in Greater Cincinnati

FELLOW EXPECTATIONS

- Work 40 hours per week (9AM-5PM, Monday-Friday, with flexibility for evening and weekend events/programming)
- Work collaboratively with Ignite Peace team
- Attend weekly staff meetings and 1-1 supervision
- Embrace and uphold the values of MVC and Ignite Peace
- Participate in required MVC and Ignite Peace programming, including trainings and retreats

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Apply through Mercy Volunteer Corps [here](#). Applications accepted on a rolling basis
- Interview with Ignite Peace as selected site
- Confirm placement
- Commitment: August 2025-July 2026

FELLOW QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants should be dedicated to the pursuit of peace and justice. The fellow will need to meet the qualifications for Mercy Volunteer Corps, [read more](#).

Additionally, applicants should be:

- A critical and creative thinker
- A problem-solver
- A strong communicator
- Able to collaborate with others, especially those of differing backgrounds, experiences, and views
- Able to lead, teach, and inspire others
- Able to manage their time effectively while working on multiple projects
- Independently motivated
- Innovative and adaptable
- Knowledgeable about historical movements and principles of peace and nonviolence
- Knowledgeable of concepts of privilege and power
- Open to challenging themselves and their assumptions

Questions? Visit www.IgnitePeace.org or Email Hayley@IgnitePeace.org