



# IGNITE PEACE

## S. Louise Akers Fellowship

through Mercy Volunteer Corps  
2026-2027



### 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, a tireless advocate for social justice and the integrity of creation. The fellow will inspire and engage communities to create change through analysis and action. Over 11 months, the 2026-2027 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 2026-July 2027

### 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](http://www.IgnitePeace.org) or Email [Kelly@IgnitePeace.org](mailto:Kelly@IgnitePeace.org)