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a new way to

serve

FrancisCorps

a newsletter of ideas and support for lay volunteers

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BELOW LEFT TO RIGHT:
 JOHN WITH ONE OF THE KIDS AT
 THE NORTHSIDE CYO, THE 8TH GROUP OF
 FRANCISCORPS VOLUNTEERS ON THEIR ORIENTATION
 RETREAT, JOCELYN IN THE CLOTHING ROOM AT THE
 DOROTHY DAY HOUSE AND ANNA WITH ONE OF HER
 STUDENTS AT CASA MARIA IN COSTA RICA.



GO WITHOUT ANXIETY, MY SOUL, FOR YOU HAVE A GOOD GUIDE FOR YOUR JOURNEY. -St. CLARE OF ASSISI



ABOVE LEFT TO RIGHT:
 ADAM AND CO-WORKER OUTSIDE FRANCISCAN
 NORTHSIDE MINISTRIES; LIESL WITH JENNY
 FERNANDEZ AT ST. FRANCIS IN COSTA RICA;
 COURTNEY WITH ONE OF THE KIDS FROM VINCENT
 HOUSE AND CHRIS TUTORING AT ASIAN APOSTOLATE.

*J*oy is something that our world is in desperate need of today. Fear and anxiety, poverty, hunger, homelessness and injustice creep into our lives daily, distorting our perceptions of reality and limiting our belief in ourselves and one another. Hope and joy become buried in mistrust. Sadness overcomes.

JOY FOR FRANCIS AND CLARE OF ASSISI however, flowed from their commitment to radically respond to the injustices of their day by living the Gospel of Jesus Christ simply and directly. Their joy-filled movement of *spirit and life* quickly flourished in Assisi and beyond, and has continued to flame up, empower and burn in the hearts of people throughout the world today. Their lives combined prayer and action in a way that



modeled the Gospel and brought joy and hope out of darkness and despair. Francis and Clare inspired lives of service and other-centeredness and their lives continue to inspire. Joy, peace and reconciliation follow naturally. FrancisCorps volunteers are responding to this Franciscan gospel movement today. Their witness encourages all of us to take the path of prayer and gospel service to those we encounter. Together our actions will bring joy to those who need it most ... and hope to us all.

