

CRS and NFCYM Invite Catholic Youth Ministers to Travel to Bolivia with the 2010 CALLED TO WITNESS PROGRAM

"Our faith calls us to work for justice; serve those in need; to pursue peace; and to defend the life, dignity and rights of all our sisters and brothers."

- Renewing the Vision: A Framework for Catholic Youth Ministry" U.S. Bishops 1997

Called to Witness, an overseas program co-sponsored by [Catholic Relief Services](#) (CRS) and the [National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry](#) (NFCYM), is designed to provide a short-term, firsthand experience of the developing world for adults serving and working in Catholic youth ministry. Through the *Called to Witness* program, CRS provides youth ministry professionals and volunteers with an opportunity to enhance their ministry to young people and strengthen their ability to promote global justice in the Catholic educational community.

Called to Witness participants visit a variety of CRS project sites and begin to build solidarity with our brothers and sisters overseas all within a spiritual context, reflecting on Catholic social teaching and specific teachings on global solidarity. Effort is made to emphasize CRS' work that aids young people, as well as providing an opportunity to interact with staff and partners in the host country. The *Called to Witness* experience does not aim to be a direct service program, but rather an opportunity for meeting people, developing relationships with them, learning about CRS programs, and gathering information.

The 2010 *Called to Witness* trip will take place **August 20-30, 2010**. These dates include a one day orientation at CRS headquarters in Baltimore, and travel to/from **Bolivia**. The trip will focus particular attention on the situation of poverty with an emphasis of its impact on families and youth, health, and food and water security. Special focus will be given to church partnerships within the region of La Paz in the effort to foster relationships rooted in solidarity.

For more information, contact Ted Miles via phone (410-951-7475) or email (tmiles@crs.org). Visit the CRS Education website (<http://education.crs.org>) or the National Federation for Catholic Youth Ministry website (<http://www.nfcym.org/programs/ctw/index.htm>) to download an application. **Applications are DUE no later than Friday, June 4, 2010.**