

CRS University Chapters Overview

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is building a network of *CRS Chapters* to mobilize Catholics and others of goodwill to advance our shared mission to end global poverty. These chapters are part of a national network and formed across ages, audiences, and settings, including:

- CRS High School Clubs
- CRS University Chapters
- CRS Chapters (young adults, adults, parishioners, etc.)

The goal of **CRS University Chapters** is to partner with colleges and universities to equip university students as leaders and advocates for the global common good through CRS. Staff Advisors, Chapter Leaders and Chapter Members become champions for the families and communities that CRS serves and take action that contributes to CRS' mission to create transformational change in collaboration with our global human family.

What do CRS University Chapters do?

ADVOCACY: Chapters put their values into action by working to address the root causes of global poverty and injustice. This includes developing relationships with their members of Congress, visiting their members' offices, writing letters to the editor, and hosting campus events to raise the profile of pivotal campaign issues like forced migration and global hunger.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNITY BUILDING: Chapters are invited to annual Fall Launch & Training Opportunities and national events to develop leadership skills and put them into action. Within a CRS University Chapter and across the network of CRS University Chapters, Leaders and Members create community that sustains the work of faith and justice.

CHAPTER GIVING: Chapters are invited to support the immediate needs of our brothers and sisters around the world by organizing community giving opportunities on campus, like CRS Rice Bowl and fundraising events. This allows CRS to respond quickly to emergencies as well as to leverage additional funding to reach more people.

What are the benefits of joining a CRS University Chapter?

- Participate in ongoing training and skill-building opportunities and receive relevant resources and support from CRS Staff.
- Learn about current global issues as well as the root causes of global poverty and injustice.
- Connect to a national network of CRS champions during your time in college and beyond.
- Develop leadership skills and experiences that can apply to a future career.
- Put your faith into action and make a difference on campus and around the world.

How does a CRS University Chapter get started?

- Email university@crs.org if you're ready to get a CRS University Chapter started on your campus!
- Identify a Staff Advisor, Student Chapter Leaders and some Chapter Members who can participate in either a [Fall Launch & Training Opportunity](#) or utilize the [DIY Training Resources](#).
- After the training, recruit more Chapter Members to take action together as well as to host events on campus. See our [Leadership & Action Resources](#) for an annual planning calendar and monthly action guides.
- Plan to meet regularly as a chapter and to participate in CRS monthly national conference calls.
- Receive on-going support from a CRS Volunteer Manager in your region, including campaign resources and opportunities for Staff Advisors and Chapter Leaders to participate in monthly Leader calls with other Chapter Leaders across your region.
- Learn more at <https://university.crs.org/> and [sign up to receive regular email communications](#).