

The HOMES of ETHNOS360

Summer 2024

Serving Those Who Have Served

Like much of the rest of the country, we've been experiencing an exceptionally hot summer. It's made me wonder who, in their right mind, would ever have considered moving to Florida before the invention of air conditioning! But God knew what He was doing, and this place has been a blessing for many years for many people. Coming Soon: The next issue of the Ethnos360 magazine will feature the development of and ministry at The Homes!

Most of you know that much of the maintenance of this place is done through two main groups, our staff and the snowbirds who come each winter, most of whom live in their own RVs in our RV Court. The snowbirds, whom we refer to as *Royal Volunteers*, more than double the size of our maintenance team while they are here. I am so thankful for the faithfulness of our maintenance team and their wonderful spirit. But, alas, their ranks are thinning. It has been very difficult to attract new missionaries to this ministry, and this makes the ministry of our volunteers ever more important.

The last couple of years has seen the emergence of two new sources of help, even though they may be temporary.

The first is the growth of the intern program at the Ethnos360 Bible Institute. For years, select students who have completed that program have remained another year to serve at EBI. Now ministry opportunities are also available to them at other Ethnos360 facilities including here at The Homes of Ethnos360. The Homes has been blessed to have interns who have served in the kitchen, in housekeeping and as a part of our maintenance team. The intergenerational aspect of this partnership means that we get some strong, healthy backs, feet and hands for the work and they rub shoulders with those who have been there and done that – hearing stories of the Lord's work and the Lord's provision for those who trust Him. It has been an encouragement and a blessing to all.

Second, and this was totally unexpected, the Lord seems to be sending more and more Christians from Germany to volunteer here at the Homes. This could be spreading by word of mouth or by seeing opportunities posted on the web. We've begun working more closely with Ethnos360 Germany to process these wonderful young believers, each of whom has been a blessing (notice a theme here?) and a joy to have around.

If you know of any college-age young people who would relish an opportunity to spend a gap year serving at The Homes of Ethnos360, please contact [Internships - Ethnos360](#). If you or anyone you know would be interested in serving in our nursing office or on a team in the kitchen, in housekeeping or on our maintenance team, please [contact our volunteer coordinator \(ethnos360.org\)](#). This is a great place to serve (especially after the summer heat passes!)

In His grace,
Brian Shortmeier

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