

About Anchorage

Southcentral Alaska is the ancestral home of the Dena'ina Athabascan people, but the city of Anchorage did not exist until the early 1900s, when it was built as the headquarters for the Alaska Railroad construction. Jesuit Volunteers (JVs) have served here since 1985.

Anchorage is the sprawling urban center of Alaska, and over half the state's population lives here. It has the largest concentration of Alaska Native peoples, refugees, and immigrants in the state. As the largest city in Alaska, Anchorage holds the bulk of the state's legal, medical, and social services. Even so, the city lacks resources to meet the needs of a rising population impacted by the opioid epidemic, displacement, and homelessness.

As more people flock to the city, the more crucial it is that agencies have the support and assistance JVs provide.



Anchorage, Alaska

Joys of Anchorage

Between university activities and groups, festivals, speakers, shows, concerts, and many free and affordable events, Anchorage offers a variety of options for JVs to pursue their interests. JVs enjoy lots of opportunities for hiking, biking, skiing, camping...you name it! Anchorage has a very active outdoor recreation community. The JV house is a walk from the Campbell Creek Trail, which offers great access to green space amidst an urban setting. JVs can run, bike, cross-country ski, and snowshoe along this trail to many parts of the city—even sometimes to their service sites! The JV house is also within walking distance of a gym, pharmacy, university, and a 24-hour donut shop.