

# Barry Service Corps Member Samentha Calixte Has a Passion for Service



By Amanda Gonzalez Garcia

## **Samentha Calixte appreciates the mission of the organization that she has been serving as a member of the Barry Service Corps.**

“Amor en Acción’s mission is to seek ways to share that love ... experienced in Christ with those living in poverty and suffering oppression,” she notes.

Calixte serves as an administrative assistant and marketing/media assistant. Her role allows her to connect with people in Haiti and the Dominican Republic on the Caribbean island of Hispaniola.

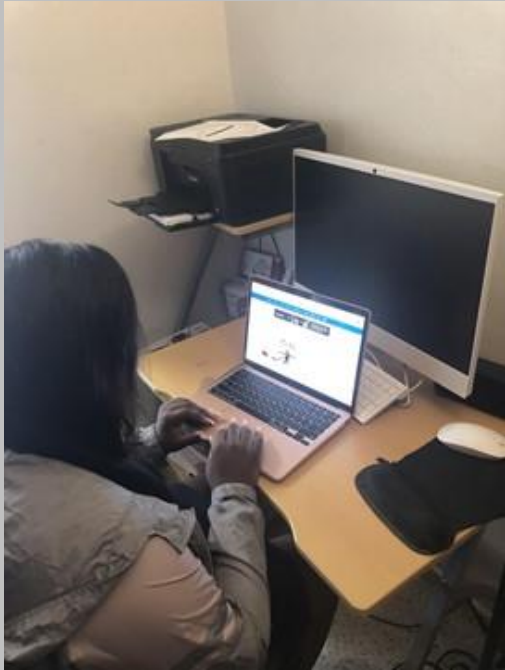
Growing up in Haiti, Calixte tells us, she did not have everything she wanted but she had everything that she needed. Calixte mentions this to explain how difficult it is to see others struggling in poverty without her trying to do something about it. Surely, she knows how important it is to do something—to give back to her community.

A passion to help others is what inspired Calixte to join the Barry Service Corps. Her passion has also caused her to work hard towards her nursing degree—“so I am able to help more people.”

A pre-nursing major, Calixte has completed nursing practicals and, at the time of writing, was studying for her nursing school entrance exam. She aspires to be a travel nurse so she can assist many people in many places.

Amor en Acción was formed in 1976 by a group of young immigrants, who were inspired by the biblical principle that “faith without action is dead.” The organization provides assistance with education, nutrition and access to fresh water, and disaster relief and recovery; and it also prepares groups for short-term missions to Haiti and the Dominican Republic.

In Haiti, the nonprofit organization serves over 400,000 people; in DR, its projects serve over 800 children and 70 families. And, in the Archdiocese of Miami, the organization provides educational support to over 5,000 children in parishes and schools while its retreats and presentations benefit over 1,000 adults.



*Amor en Acción provides assistance with education, nutrition and access to fresh water, and disaster relief and recovery.*

Calixte's role at this organization includes assisting with administrative tasks as well as supporting communication and service provision with the countries Amor en Acción serves. In addition, she handles tasks related to Amor en Acción's social media—specifically by creating videos and infographics. She has worked closely with Amor en Acción Mission Coordinator Janelle Jay, who, Samentha says, is "very passionate about helping the families in Haiti and the Dominican Republic."

Calixte finds her civic engagement rewarding. She recalls a specific experience: "My supervisor [sent] me pictures and videos ... so I [could] create a video. I was so excited to create the video because I could see the little kids' faces smiling in the pictures and how happy they were."

She adds: "I wish more people knew about the Amor en Acción organization and how they work very hard to help serve communities in need. They are always trying to find a new way to reach more people and give back to impoverished communities."

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