

Project Portland Missions Trip Director's Letter



First & foremost, we want to say how excited we are for your Junior Higher to be able to go on an amazing Missions trip to the Downtown Portland area. This is not only an opportunity to serve like Jesus, but an opportunity to experience what full, sacrificial service to others can do to a student's faith.

Our heart and vision is that this would be a trip that would open the eyes of students to what serving others like Jesus can do for their faith. In a world that is built around building ourselves up, self-fulfillment, and consumption, it's not a surprise that often times the same thinking can be applied to a student's faith in Jesus. More often than not, faith can only be extended as far the thought "what can I get out of this?" or "what is this going to do for me and my faith?"

When Jesus came to earth, he not only showed the full extent of his love for us, but he also set an example of what it means to be a part of God's kingdom; this was shown greatest in the way he served and laid down his life for others. Jesus even said himself that he came not to be served, but to serve others (Matthew 20:28). Not only that, but the Bible would even go as far as to say if you want to value others above yourselves, the best way to do that is to have the exact same attitude and mindset of Jesus (Philippians 2:3-5)

This leads us to our Mission trip at hand. Our heart is that being missional would become a staple in developing student's faith, which begins when we give students something to serve and work for in their faith. We pray that the work that they see Jesus do through their service would simply be the catalyst in their faith to serve and love others with all their heart in every circumstance. We are so excited for it and are glad you get to be a part of it.

Below there is more information about the trip as a whole and a tentative schedule for the week.

Structure of Trip and Numbers:

We will be bring a maximum of 40 students and 10 Volunteers. (We will need at least 15 students to come) We will be breaking up the teams into Groups of 10 Students maximum with 2-3 Leaders (One Adult able to drive a Passenger Van). The number of groups will depend on the total numbers of students who sign up!

We will be staying together when it comes to where we are staying and eating, but throughout the day we will break up into our groups to serve at different locations Kaleo has relationship with. With the smaller groups of 10 students, this will allow for much more hands on ministry than if we were to serve as a large 40 person group. We will re-gather as a large group at the end of the day for debriefs/hangout/etc.

Sample Daily Schedule:

7:30am – 8:45am – Breakfast/Devotionals:

- We provide breakfast for your team and give you the opportunity to either do devotionals as a group or for your students to do devotionals individually.

8:45am - Team Break off into their Groups and head to their Service Location

9:00am – 12:00pm – Downtown Homeless Ministry:

- Serve alongside one of our ministry partners that reaches the homeless all throughout the city of Portland. This might include serving a meal, sorting and preparing hygiene kits or visiting with the homeless in the day room.

12:15pm – 12:45pm – Lunch at Kaleo Housing Location

12:45pm – 1:45pm – Bible Club Preparation Time

2:00pm – 5:00pm – Bible Club with a Family Homeless Shelter

Your group would have the opportunity to lead all aspects of the club including arts/crafts, Bible time, games, and a literacy/reading time.

6:00pm – 6:30pm – Dinner at Kaleo Housing Site

6:30pm – 7:15pm – Evening Debrief/Service

9pm - Go to Salt n Straw!

10:15pm - Return to prep for Bed

11pm - Lights Out

**Please note this is a sample schedule and does not reflect specific times and ministry activities for your team.*

Pricing, Deadlines, and Fundraising

We will fundraise as a team and individually in order to reach our total goal. We are open to hear about your ideas and know that it will be a team effort!

The trip's total cost - \$375 per person

Payment Deadlines:

- \$100 by February 3, 2018
- \$250 by March 1, 2018
- \$375 by March 20, 2018

February 3rd will be the Deadline to Sign up for the Trip!

Fundraising Ideas:

- Write Letters to family and friends
- Hosting Bingo Night (Charge entry fee)
- Hosting Movie Night (Charge entry fee)
- Parents Night out (Charge per child)
- Applebee's Pancake Breakfast (Percentage of income)
- Bottle Deposit (collect and get change)
- Sell Poinsettias and wreaths
- Part-time job/saving money
- Christmas present-idea

Packing List:

- 1. Donations** – Shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, toilet paper, feminine products, men hygienic, diapers, baby wipes, baby product, socks, underwear, shoes, clothing, hair brushes, fans, blankets, sleeping bags, twin size beds and anything else you would like to donate. Please be aware of what will be allowed/not allowed on flights.
- 2. Personal Hygiene Items** - We **will** provide 1 towel per person and bedding set (sheets, 1 blanket and 1 pillow) per person. But Please bring anything else you might need.
- 3. Daily Clothing** – Shorts, (please make sure they are a modest length), jeans, sweatshirt or jacket, (it may get cold at night) and T-shirts. Also, bring a pair of closed toe shoes for the ministry and flip flops for the showers.
- 4. Bible, pen & note paper** – You will have the opportunity to participate in our services.
- 5. Spending Money** –
- 6. Willing hearts** – Be prepared to give of yourself and serve others.

Dress Code:

It is very important that all team members dress modestly and in such a way that does not draw attention to themselves.

- 1. No spaghetti strapped, midriff, or low cut tops.**
- 2. Shorts or skirts MUST be at modest length. Basketball shorts are fine.**
- 3. Closed toe shoes must be worn on outreaches and campus work assignments.**

How to Signup and Add Funds:

1. Go to **Add link** Where you will register for the trip like a normal event, you will have to make a deposit of \$25 which will be put towards your total .
2. Once you have registered you will receive an email to join the Project Portland page. This will allow you to see the rest of the team, receive updates, see how fundraising/payments are going, make payments, etc.
3. Save the page & login information and keep it on your bookmarks so you can keep regular team updates.

Team website use:

- Making donations (for team member and other supporters)
- Tracking progress singularly and as a team
- Keeping team up to date with information

Meetings Leading Up to Trip

There will be a few meetings in the next few months regarding the trip; most of the meetings will happen closer to the actual trip itself in March giving info about how to prepare, etc. Here are the dates and times of the meetings...

Sunday, January 6th, 1-2pm: Information/Interest Meeting

Sunday, February 3rd, 1-2:30pm: Team Lunch & Meeting

Sunday, March 17th, 1-3pm: Team Lunch & Prep Meeting

We will continue to get more information to you over the coming months, but for now, the greatest preparation you can make is prayer. We know that Jesus is going to do a mighty work while we are there, and with all the preparation we could ever do, all that matters is that God is present and moving.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask myself or Cassandra Dieterich.

Take care & God bless,

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