Winter Service Week 2020 Application

Completed applications are due in Campus Ministry (OM 207) or via email at buehlmak@canisius.edu by **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2019**

A completed 5-page application includes:
Your site preference, typed essay questions, initialed requirement sheet and signed covenant

Check the boxes that apply:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site*</th>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Cost**</th>
<th>This is my first choice. (Check one)</th>
<th>I am interested in being considered for this site.</th>
<th>I am not interested or able to go to this site.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Erie Benedictines, Erie, PA</td>
<td>January 5-11</td>
<td>$200</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grow Ohio Valley, Wheeling, WV</td>
<td>January 5-11</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rust Belt Reimagined: Flint Water Crisis, Flint/Detroit, MI</td>
<td>January 5-11</td>
<td>$350</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*See page 2 for descriptions of Service-Immersion Sites

**Cost covers all transportation, lodging, and food

Name:________________________________________________________     ID#:_______________________________________

Current Year:   Freshman   Sophomore   Junior   Senior   Grad (circle one)      Gender: ___________

Local address:_____________________________________________________________________________________________

Cell phone:______________________________________     Dietary Restrictions: _____________________________

Email address:_____________________________________________________________________________________________

Please provide us with a **typed** response to the following questions on a separate sheet:

- Briefly describe your involvement with service-oriented trips or projects at Canisius College or in high school.

- Where do you spend most of your time at Canisius (student organizations, a job, internship)? What activities do you partake in that you are the most passionate about?

- What is your academic major? What are your plans upon graduation?

- What is your involvement like, if any, in your faith community? How would you describe your relationship with God?

- Sites include the Erie Benedictine community, Grow Ohio Valley, and Rust Belt Reimagined.
  - Why do you want to participate in Winter Service Week?
  - Why do you feel called to go to the particular site you identified as your first choice?
  - What type of population do you feel most called to serve?
  - Would you be open to going to a different site other than the one you selected as your first choice? If so, which one(s) would you be interested in and why?
Winter Service Week Sites

**Erie Benedictine Community, Erie, PA**

*Dates: Sunday, January 5-Saturday, January 11, 2020*

*Cost: $200*

The Benedictine Sisters of Erie are a group of Catholic, religious women who live together in a monastery in Erie and have committed their lives to presence and witness by working for sustainability and justice. Students on this trip will stay at the monastery and experience the sisters’ daily life of prayer while participating each day in their ministries throughout the city of Erie, Pennsylvania. Volunteer opportunities include education centers for adults and children, a community center for disabled adults, after-school programs for underprivileged children, a children’s art house, soup kitchens, a food bank, and endless opportunities to help the sisters at the Mount. Evenings will be spent reflecting with the Sisters on the experiences of the day.

**Grow Ohio Valley, Wheeling, WV**

*Dates: Sunday, January 5-Saturday, January 11, 2020*

*Cost: $350*

Grow Ohio Valley’s Food Justice Immersion provides an alternative break experience to build social awareness around food justice. With a blend of experiential learning and solutions-oriented service, students explore food justice through the prism of poverty, disability, food subsidies, social services, food deserts, nutrition, health, urban agriculture, food industry economics, and family food insecurity. Students will explore food justice issues by meeting with healthcare professionals, farmers, soup kitchens, beekeepers, community gardeners, and others working to create a just and sustainable food system. Because we are traveling in January and out of the growing season, the focus of this food justice immersion experience will be on hunger and homelessness. We will spend time getting to know members of the community experiencing homelessness, build relationships with them, and learn more about social service agencies in the city.

**Rust Belt Reimagined: Flint Water Crisis, Flint/Detroit, MI**

*Dates: Sunday, January 5-Saturday, January 11, 2020*

*Cost: $350*

Since April 24, 2014 Flint, MI has been without clean water. On this immersion, you’ll learn more about the history of the water crisis and where things stand today. Then, we will continue our exploration of the Rust Belt by traveling to Detroit. This immersion is a mix of learning from community partners about the realities of life in the Rust Belt and direct service in sites such as food pantries, after school programs and other non-profits. We will also spend time with volunteers participating in a year of service with Mercy Volunteer Corps in Detroit and gain an inside look at post-grad service. Participants can expect to explore how history, race, and income have all influenced the development of these cities and discover the resilient spirit that defines the Rust Belt region and its residents today.

***Please note that participants on this immersion must have a passport or an Enhanced Driver’s License, as we will be traveling through Canada***
Requirements for Winter Service Week 2020
Please initial the following statements to signify that you have read and understand them.

**MONEY**

____ I understand that each participant is responsible for securing the full cost ($200-350) of WSW.

____ I understand that although Campus Ministry will help me fundraise, I am ultimately responsible for the full cost of this trip.

____ I understand that the balance of the trip costs is due by Friday November 22.

____ I understand that if I am struggling to raise money and need to work out a payment plan, it is my responsibility to be pro-active and approach Kaitlyn to learn about my options. My silence threatens my chances of receiving help.

**Scholarship Policy:**
In utilizing our limited scholarship funds and working out payment plans, Campus Ministry wants to prioritize assisting as many students as possible in participating in our programs. When we must choose, our preference is to offer scholarship help to new students instead of to students who we have already assisted financially. Moreover, students are not eligible to receive financial aid from Campus Ministry for more than one service-immersion experience during the same academic year. (i.e. a participant going to both WSW and Poland can only receive scholarship assistance for one of these trips.) Unfortunately, there is no guarantee of scholarship help for any of our programs.

____ I understand that all money turned in to Campus Ministry is **non-refundable**. Money cannot be refunded due to illness or dropping out of the trip.

**PREPARATION**

____ I understand that, if selected, I am **required** to attend the following preparatory meetings:

For ALL WSW sites:
- **Kickoff** – Sunday, November 3rd from 1-4:00pm in Regis
- **Team Bonding Event** – either a team dinner or a service event before Thanksgiving, scheduled by leaders
- **Explore Your City** – Sunday, November 10th from 2-4pm in Old Main 204, 205, 208
- **Last Minute Details Meeting** – Sunday, November 24th from 12:00pm-5:00pm in OM 219

____ I understand that if I fail to participate in the preparation process leading up to this trip, I may be dismissed from my team by Campus Ministry and none of my fundraising money will be refunded.

Placing your name after this statement indicates that you have read, understood, and agreed to abide by all of the above.

Name: _________________________________________  Date: ___________________________
Covenant of Participation and Behavior
2020 Domestic Service-Immersion Experiences

Although you are signing up voluntarily for this experience, the preparation process is lengthy and demanding. This is a 2-month process when we require participants to actively learn about their travel destination, their teammates, a variety of social justice issues and our four cornerstone values via events and reflections. This is also the time when you might consider fundraising. These preparatory events are mandatory and your ability to travel with us is contingent upon you joining us.

Once you leave, remember that you are not on vacation—these kinds of trips are stressful! We will be eating new foods, sleeping in tight quarters, being at the whim of someone else’s schedule, and have limited contact with our families. All of these factors will be a challenge to you staying rested, positive, flexible, and focused. However, that is exactly what we will expect from you. While participating on one of Campus Ministry’s Service-Immersion Experiences, we, as Canisius students, need to be responsible for our conduct. We need to be culturally sensitive, careful about our safety, willing to settle for less than the comforts we experience at home, flexible about our needs, willing to live by standards of behavior that perhaps are higher than in our home culture, and at all times remain focused on our reason for being on-site. The success of our programs depends on a high degree of personal maturity and responsibility on the part of its participants. Therefore, every participant will be held accountable to the following:

Our Cornerstone Values
Our service-immersion program is centered on the following cornerstone values:

1. **Social Justice**: Social Justice is not only working alongside the underserved—it is committing to explore the causes of injustice and oppression and to take action on behalf of the common good. A commitment to justice involves challenging our acquired ways of thinking and feeling. It challenges us to allow the pain, anger and helplessness of others to have an impact on us. As privileged members of our society, we have a responsibility to seek to understand and help to change the structures that create poverty and oppression:
   - I will listen to and work with those who are more disadvantaged than I and will pursue solidarity with them.
   - I will strive to become just in my own thoughts, language and actions.
   - I will seek to know the truth of situations, rather than relying on my prejudices and biases.
   - I will strive to explore the spiritual side of poverty and injustice.

2. **Simplicity**: While traveling, you will be forced to live without a lot of the comforts you rely on here at Canisius. To get the most out of this experience, we ask that you shed your desire for material comforts and the use of technology as a crutch for communication in favor of embracing the richness of a simpler lifestyle that focuses on building face-to-face relationships with others. Living the simple life is liberating and energizing because you become centered less on things and more on people and relationships.
   - I will seek the richness of life focused on people and their needs more than on my comfort or my acquisition of things.
   - I will strive to remain open to differences of opinions and behaviors as they present themselves in the encounters with those of another culture.
   - I will not seek to bring my ways, my food, my language or my mentality to the people I encounter, but rather seek to experience the richness of what is theirs.
   - I will cultivate a positive outlook, realizing that cultural conditions may be harsher and less comfortable than those I am used to at home.

3. **Solidarity**: When we are in solidarity, we are pursuing what is best not just for ourselves but for the common good. Solidarity is not a feeling of vague compassion or shallow distress you might feel abroad when witnessing the misfortune of so many. Rather, it is the firm and persevering determination to act in favor of the well-being of all, especially those who are most poor and marginalized. This is a Gospel value and essential in working towards lasting peace. Solidarity demands openness, flexibility, tolerance, deep compassion and sustained action for justice for all.
   - I will be open and honest with other community members and willing to share part of my life with them.
   - I will actively participate in the team’s activities from beginning to end with an attitude of respect and working together for a shared goal.
   - I will seek to accompany the people I meet as a companion on their road to justice and liberation.
   - I will not seek to “accomplish” so much as to listen, learn and patiently plant seeds that may not bear fruit until long after I am gone.
4. **Spirituality**: This experience is an opportunity to interface your real world experiences with your faith. You will see and hear things that will make you feel uncomfortable – startling poverty, people living without hope because they are living without access to the basic necessities of education and health. Living the value of spirituality means living as “contemplatives in action”, reflecting on God’s presence in all the gritty complexities of the world.
   - I will allow the reality of my experiences to sink deeply into my heart and challenge my assumptions and will commit to growing in spirituality together with my team.
   - I will attempt to find God in all things, especially the gritty complexity of the world.
   - I will use our reflection sessions each night as a time to ask what my faith has to say about the situations I am witnessing and the people I am meeting and I will not shy away from bringing a critical awareness to the situation.
   - I will willingly pray with my team when the spirit moves us and respectfully attend any religious services my team is asked to go to.

**Personal Conduct**

Having a safe and respectful experience is our goal; therefore, the following are very important:

- **I will not make decisions that affect the group or the program independently of the team leaders.** Rather, I understand that I am just one part of a larger team and that following the rules and guidelines set forth by my leadership team will keep our entire team safe and healthy.
- **I will not go off-site on my own** for extended periods of time. Rather, I will always be with at least one other team member, and if we are going to depart from the group, I will check with the team leaders to make sure they know where we are going and for how long.
- **I will not drink alcoholic beverages.** I understand that this is not a vacation. We are here to learn and serve.
- **I will neither bring, buy, nor use illegal drugs at any time.** I understand that if I violate this policy I will be sent home at my own expense.
- **I will not engage in sexual behavior.** I realize that engaging in sexual behavior could: 1) risk alienating those that we have come to visit, 2) raise questions about my motives to participate in this exposure trip, 3) jeopardize the integrity and future of Campus Ministry trips, 4) potentially cause division among those of the group, 5) potentially have lasting legal ramifications that I am not aware of, 6) and would not be consistent with the values of our Catholic, Christian college. Therefore, I will conduct myself with integrity in regard to my sexual behavior. I will not physically “couple-up” with another member of this group or with a local. I understand that if I violate this policy I will be sent home at my own expense.

**Financially Responsibility**

Although Campus Ministry will do our best to help you in the months leading up to your immersion experience, ultimately you are responsible for the cost of the trip.

- I understand that if I am struggling to raise money and need help, it is my responsibility to be pro-active and approach Kaitlyn to learn about my options. My silence threatens my chances of receiving help.
- If students are actively traveling on one trip during the academic year, they may not receive scholarship for a second Campus Ministry trip during the same academic year. (i.e. A participant going to both WSW and Poland can only apply for scholarship to one trip). There is no guarantee of scholarship help for any of our trips.
- I understand that all money turned in to Campus Ministry is **non-refundable**.

**Placing your name after this statement indicates that you have read, understood, and agreed to abide by all of the above:**

Name: _____________________________  Date: ___________________________