

# If you could send your students on a life changing trip next year, would you?

We know you would. You want to see spiritual growth, maturity, and transformation in the lives of your students, and your ministry is already providing an environment for that to happen. Serving others is a humble practice, essential to spiritual growth. We want to help you help your students to hear God speaking and to lean into where he is leading. Perhaps these tips will help you to plan the best mission trip that your students have ever been a part of.

## **STEP 1** DISCERN WHAT YOUR STUDENTS NEED

What types of service have they done in the past? Are you interested in serving with relational ministries or engaging in service projects? Keep location in mind. How far will your team be willing to travel to serve?

## **STEP 2** DIG INTO YOUR OPTIONS

How many youth do you anticipate signing up? Will it be a junior or senior high group? How many leaders will you need to bring? What other events are going on this summer that may interfere with participation? Choose a week or two that will work best for your team.

Putting together a trip from scratch can be time-consuming and difficult if you don't have the proper resources. There are lots of organizations out there with years of experience that are ready to help. Look for the one that can accommodate the type of trip you're looking for.

## **STEP 3** DECIDE WHERE TO GO & COMMIT

Now that you've committed to a time and location, put down a deposit! Read through the organization's policy and understand the guidelines. Research the area and take advantage of pre-trip planning resources. Keep an eye on payments and other deadlines.

## **STEP 4** DEVELOP AN ANTICIPATION

Time to tell your students! Get them excited about where you'll be serving. Share why you're looking forward to the trip. Hold parent and student meetings. Keep track of interest & sign ups. Put together a payment plan and create deadlines. Start praying for the people on your team and the people and communities you'll be serving! Come expecting God to meet you there.



CSM hosts short-term mission trips in 9 major US cities, year-round. Our full-time staff in each city are equipped with the resources and partnerships to create a customized trip to fit your group type. Trips include housing, meals, and a member of our staff that will be dedicated to your team the entire time you are serving with us.