

SUMMER SERVICE~LEARNING TRIP APPLICATION

GOD & THE CITY

July 30 – August 5, 2017

APPLICATION DEADLINE: SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2017

INTRODUCTION:

God loves the city. God told the Israelites, through his servant Jeremiah, to “seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.”

Cities were designed by God to be places of refuge, cultural development and spiritual seeking. Sadly, cities often become characterized by racism, classism and violence; pride, excess and exhaustion; and places of spiritual restlessness.

To seek the peace and prosperity of the city might feel like a daunting task. But God still has a dream for the city.

Etched on Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s tombstone in Atlanta are the riveting words from the book of Genesis, “Behold, here comes the dreamer...Let’s kill him and see what becomes of his dream.” We know what happened to that dreamer—and we know the mark his dream has left on our country.

God has a dream for the city. You might have a role to play in the building of that dream. But more importantly, as you lend yourself to that dream, God might turn you into a dreamer.

PURPOSE:

To seek to understand the unique challenges and opportunities of ministry in an urban context and to work to build God’s Kingdom by seeking the peace and prosperity of the city of Camden through the ministry of Urban Promise.

COST:

\$450 (does not include spending money)

OUR PARTNER: URBAN PROMISE USA – CAMDEN, NJ (in their own words)

Camden New Jersey is the poorest city in America. *What kind of challenges do Camden’s youth face?*

Per Capita Income:	Camden--\$9, 815	US Avg--\$21,587
Children Living Below Poverty	Camden—46%	US Avg—16%
Births to unwed mothers	Camden—80%	US Avg—34%
Graduated from High School	Camden—51%	US Avg—80.4%
Graduate from a 4 Year College	Camden—Less than 1%	

“28 years ago a small community of God’s people dreamed a dream. We dreamed of creating a ministry to inspire a new generation of Camden’s young people to reach their God-given potential—academically astute, hope-filled, visionaries who would be grounded in Christian faith and desiring to make a difference in Camden and the world.” -Bruce Main

What does Urban Promise do?

Urban Promise's mission is to equip Camden's children and young adults with the skills necessary for academic achievement, life management, spiritual growth and Christian leadership. This is accomplished through:

The **CamdenForward School** (K-8) and the **UrbanPromise Academy** (9-12) use low student/teacher ratios, a family style learning environment, personal accountability, community service and Bible classes to prepare kids for life. 100% of Urban Promise High School students graduate (compared with 51% for the rest of Camden). 75% of the cost for students to attend is subsidized by Urban Promise.

SIX **After School Programs** around the city that serve 300 children (ages 6-14) daily

NINE 6-week long **Summer Camps** that serve 450 children (ages 6-14) daily

Urban Trekkers (outdoor and exploratory program), **Urban Boatworks** (in partnership with the Camden Shipyard and Maritime Museum), **UrbanChef Program**, **Fine Arts Program** and **Camden Step Team** provide exciting, well-rounded opportunities to students to leave Camden and develop their scientific, athletic, engineering, artistic and kinetic skills.

Serving the city of Camden (roughly 7,200 **Volunteer Hours** per year)

A **StreetLeader Program** which provides training, mentoring, paying jobs and leadership opportunities for nearly 100 teens every year. *Streetleader Alumni have graduated from or attend Eastern, Cornell, Princeton, Bennett, Rutgers, Rowan, Virginia, Kean & others.*

In addition: Over the past 26 years, 1,655 college-age **interns** have devoted a summer or a year of service in the community of Camden. *(Intern alumni have initiated urban ministries in Vancouver, Malawi, Buffalo, Aberdeen and a host of other cities around the world.)*

Urban Promise attracts over 800 **volunteers** every year to serve, love and learn.

Today, graduates of UrbanPromise are teaching in Camden Public Schools, working at the Department of Youth and Family Services as social workers, attending seminaries, studying for Master's degrees, starting careers in the work-force, and planting urban youth ministries.

"Young people are fulfilling their dreams. Young people are fulfilling God's dreams for their lives." – Bruce Main

FIND OUT MORE: www.urbanpromiseusa.org

What have others said about Urban Promise?

"Without a doubt, UrbanPromise is one of the best urban ministries in the United States." --Tony Campolo

"UrbanPromise is on the cutting edge of urban ministry. The quality of students they send to our university is remarkable and has enriched our academic community." –Dr. David Black, President Eastern University

What does a typical Work Group day at Urban Promise look like?

Early Morning: Breakfast & Devotions

Late Morning: Summer Camp Assignments *(Bible Studies, Arts & Crafts, Music, Sports & Activities, Field Trips & more)*

Afternoon: Lunch & Campus and Community Work Projects *(IE: construction and renovation, maintenance, landscaping, neighborhood clean up projects, etc.)*

Evening: Dinner & Evening Activities designed to stretch you culturally, interpersonally and spiritually *(IE: Movie Night with discussion, Social Justice Workshop, Round-table discussion with Camden teens and young adults, Cultural, Urban and Historical tours through Metro-Camden, etc.)*

ELIGIBILITY & REQUIREMENTS:

- You must be a current eighth grader, high school student or an adult of any age.
- You must be:
 - Flexible, teachable, responsible, cheerful and willing to follow directions
 - Willing to sacrifice a week of your summer vacation to pay to be a slave to others
 - Willing to abandon your agenda for the sake of the mission of God
 - Willing to take a flying leap outside of your comfort zone, to be stretched, and to grow
 - Willing to serve others, no matter how different, no matter the task—without complaining
 - Willing to be part of an inter-dependent, inter-generational team & to put that team ahead of your self
- You must raise at least \$200 of the total trip cost, on your own, through work that is fairly paid for. You can raise over \$200, but not less. Group fundraisers or support letters do not count toward this \$200.
- You must commit to participating fully in all of the following (unexcused absences* will not be tolerated):
 - Team Fundraising & Team Building Event in Partnership with Urban Promise (TBA)
 - Urban Ministry Immersion & Team Building Day (Details: TBD)
 - Book Discussion: Why Jesus Crossed the Road by Bruce Main, Sunday, June 26, 1:30pm
 - Packing Party, Saturday July 29, 6pm @ College Church
 - Mission Team Commissioning: Sunday, July 30, Morning (exact time: TBA)
- You must make every effort to attend the following:
 - Mission Team Testimonies: Date – TBD (August)
 - Mission Team Reunion: Date: TBD (August)

TRIP COSTS (DETAILED)

- The cost of the trip is \$450 and must be paid in full by July 15, 2017.
- A \$50 non-refundable deposit must be paid upon submitting your application (*this will be applied to your total trip cost*)
- You must raise at least \$200* of the total trip cost, on your own, through work that is fairly paid for. You can raise over \$200, but not less. Group fundraisers or support letters do not count toward this \$200.
- Every team member has the option of cashing in on his/her share of team fundraising—which will be raised primarily from the Team Fundraiser and from free will offerings.
- Each team member has the option of applying for 25% of the total trip cost (\$112) through the Missions Committee of College Church. This is the individual's responsibility and does not count toward the \$200 that you must raise on your own.

TRIP ITENERARY (BASIC)

- Depart Sunday morning, July 30 (time: TBD)
- Return to College Church on Saturday afternoon, August 5th.

APPLICANT INFORMATION

* An unexcused absence is anything that could have been prevented by more careful planning and more stringent priorities. Unexcused absences would include: sleeping in, going to a friend's house, forgetting, not having a ride, having too much homework, etc. Excused absences would include: a non-negotiable family vacation, an illness, a family emergency, a non-negotiable work day. *It is expected that you will put these dates on your calendar and, insofar as it depends on you, avoid scheduling vacations and work shifts on top of these dates. Translation: ask you boss for the day off or switch shifts with someone; if you parents ask for your input, let them know that you would prefer not to miss one of these events.*

NAME _____ GRADE _____ DOB _____
ADDRESS _____ TOWN _____ STATE _____
PHONE NUMBER _____ E-MAIL _____

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

****DISCLAIMER:** THERE ARE NO RIGHT OR WRONG ANSWERS TO THESE QUESTIONS. THEIR PURPOSE IS TO HELP YOU AND THE TEAM PREPARE FOR THE TRIP. WE ASK SIMPLY THAT YOU BE HONEST AND THOUGHTFUL IN YOUR RESPONSES.

ATTACH EXTRA PAPER IF NECESSARY.**

1) Why are you interested in going on this trip?

2) What spiritual gifts, skills and strengths might you bring to the team, and those we serve?

3) What challenges do you anticipate a trip like this will create for you personally? How can you, and how can the team prepare to meet those challenges?

4) What questions do you have?

FOR APPLICANTS:

I have read through this packet and understand what will be required of me during this Mission Trip and also during the months leading up to it. I have counted the costs, and desire to learn and serve in this way.

Applicant's Signature

Date

FOR PARENT(S) OF MINORS:

I / We have read through this packet and talked to our son/daughter about the demands and requirements leading up to and including this Summer Mission Trip. We have counted the costs as family, and support our son/daughter's decision to apply.

Parent / Guardian's Signature

Date

Phone # (day / eve)

Parent / Guardian's Signature (if applicable)

Date

Phone # (day / eve)

*****REMINDER: THE DEADLINE TO APPLY IS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5th. YOU MUST RETURN THIS COMPLETE APPLICATION, PLUS YOUR \$50 DEPOSIT -(made out to College Church, memo: CAMDEN), BY FEB. 5!*****



UrbanPromise
believe. become. belong. be promise.

Mission/ Service Trip Disclaimer, Assumption of Risk and Waiver

(NOTE: this form should be signed and returned to the WorkGroup Program Office before arriving at UrbanPromise Ministries (UPM) to begin a mission trip)

I agree that my application/registration may be denied for any reason, or no reason, and UPM reserves exclusive right to determine the fitness of its volunteers. I agree that the UP may deny my application, or terminate my service at any time with or without cause, and is under no obligation to disclose its reasons for doing so.

In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in UPM's programs, activities and events, the undersigned acknowledges, appreciates, and agrees that:

1. Certain programs, activities and events (including, but not limited to work groups and construction projects, sports activities, games, travel, hiking, biking, swimming, kayaking, climbing, sailing, boating, science classes/demonstrations, theatrical productions, etc.) of UPM involve risk, including the potential for permanent injury, paralysis and death; and
2. I knowingly and freely assume all such risks, both known and unknown, even if arising from the negligence of others, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
3. I willingly agree to comply with the conditions of participation in any particular program, activity or event. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately; and,
4. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, hereby release and hold harmless the Urban Promise Ministries, Inc., their officers, officials, agents, and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event, with respect to any and all injury, disability, death, or loss or damage to person or property, to the fullest extent permitted by law, whether arising from negligence or otherwise.

I HAVE READ THE ABOVE DISCLAIMER, ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND WAIVER AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE TERMS SET FORTH THEREIN. I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY MY SIGNING THIS FORM AND AGREEING TO THESE TERMS, AND I SIGN THIS FORM AND AGREE TO THESE TERMS FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY AND WITHOUT INDUCEMENT FOR MYSELF. IF UNDER THE AGE OF 18 THIS DOCUMENT MUST BE SIGNED BY PARENT/GUARDIAN

Participant: _____

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Date: _____