

In Solidarity
With All God's Children



Ohio Wesleyan University

Spring Break Mission Week
Celebration 2016

Celebration 2016 Program



Welcome and Opening Remarks

Chad Johns

Team Member Reflection

Sharon Hayes

Team Member Reflection

Luke Waters

SBMW 2016 Photo Montage

Team Member Reflection

Jen Owens

Team Member Reflection

Lizzy Wynn

Acknowledgements and Closing Remarks

Chad Johns

Spring Break Mission Week: Four Essential Pillars



Restorative Justice

We seek to gain awareness of, show respect for, and build relationships with people and cultures with whom we interact. We seek to stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in a way that honors and restores the human dignity and sacred worth of all involved. We seek to become agents for justice on our campus and in our world.

Transformative Reflection

We seek to intentionally and thoughtfully reflect on our experiences and interactions. We seek to bring our authentic spirituality to bear on what we learn. We seek to be changed by our exposure to people and ideas beyond our own. We seek to reflect as individuals and as a team, to learn and grow intellectually, socially, and spiritually.

Substantive Community

We seek, as a team, to develop into a close-knit community of mutual support. We seek to learn to work together as a whole, to be greater than the sum of our parts. We seek to bring what we learn and experience back to OWU for the enrichment of the whole campus community.

Conscientious Leadership

We seek to call out the innate gifts and talents of each member of our team. We seek to hone and develop those gifts and talents for the betterment of ourselves and each other. We seek to learn how and where each of us is called to lead, how we might each add something unique and positive to our team's experience.

Gender, Sexuality, and Poverty: Navigating Overlapping Realities in Chicago

Team Vision

We often hear people talking about the challenges faced by gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people in our country and across the world. We also hear about the challenges of urban poverty and access to resources. But how often do we hear about the people who inhabit both of those worlds? This team will work with various organizations across the city of Chicago who serve at the intersections of these overlapping realities, as well as the realities of race, religion, and more.



Team Members

Alyssa Clark+
Genevieve Hankins
Kevin Rossi

Amanda Barry
Rhiannon Herbert
Ariel Brune
*Jim Mendenhall***

Shannon Bermingham
Cindy Huynh
*Jen Owens***

** Team Leader*

+ Reflection Leader

*** Faculty/Staff Advisor*

From Haiti to Little Haiti: Miami, FL

Team Vision

Sometimes, mission teams don't go as planned. While this team originally planned to return to Pwoje Espwa, the boys' home in Haiti with which we've had a multi-year relationship, security concerns made that impossible. Instead, they turned towards an intersection of Haiti and the United States. This team partnered with FANM (Haitian Women of Miami) and explored issues of gentrification and poverty in the heart of Little Haiti in Miami, Florida.



Team Members

Alyssa Rhinesmith*
Christine Pinder

Kristen Nooney+
Robyn Madrishin
Amy Kaple**

Harang Jung
Haley Barber**

** Team Leader
+ Reflection Leader
** Faculty/Staff Advisor*

Building and Rebuilding: Lakota Nation, SD

Tzam Vision

This intentionally interfaith team will engage in the long-term mission to rebuild Lakota-Anglo relationships through respectful conversation, deep critical reflection, and dedicated service. We will work with Re-Member, a non-profit dedicated to working with the Oglala Lakota people in both construction and cultural education and immersion. With an open mind, an open heart, and a desire to learn from perspectives far beyond our own, we will thoughtfully examine both the damage done by Christian missionaries in this place, and the powerful potential for healing between our broken cultures.



Tzam Members

*Annie Spink**
Kelly Johnson
Jennifer Bennett

Lizzy Wynne+
Jill Scribner
Greyson Goodwin
*David Soliday***

Raina Graham
Quenton Stokes-Brown
*Colleen Byers***

** Team Leader*
+ Reflection Leader
*** Faculty/Staff Advisor*

Re-New Orleans: Hurricane Katrina Recovery

Team Vision

Years after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina, the city of New Orleans still struggles to recover! Many people have yet to restore their homes or rebuild from their loss. This team will be part of the ongoing effort by OWU students, faculty, and staff to remember and continue to stand in solidarity with those whose lives have been so irrevocably altered by this disaster. Team members will spend the week working with the St. Bernard Project (a non-profit formed specifically by an OWU alum to assist with hurricane recovery). The team also will explore the greater issues of community building, as well as national and global responsibility for disaster restoration (not only in New Orleans, but world-wide).



Team Members

*Jess Choate**
Doug Gibson+
*Chad Johns***
Wyatt Hall

Zafir Hayat
Mollie Marshall
Rosa Escobar
Alesha Showman

Dominique Garrett
*Kathy Gruber***
Trenton Williams

** Team Leader*

+ Reflection Leader

*** Faculty/Staff Advisor*

Repair the World: Pittsburgh, PA

Team Vision

Do you ever take for granted the ability to go to the grocery store to get food? How about your access to education? For some people, neither of these needs are easy to meet. This team will work with Repair the World, a Jewish-based service organization, to address issues of food and education inequality in the city of Pittsburgh, PA. In their own words, Repair the World is all about “GSD-ing Humbly,” that is, “getting stuff done” in a way that respects the dignity of all of the people and communities involved in the process. As an added bonus, the team will get to work with Rachel Vinciguerra, an OWU alumna from the class of 2014.



Team Members

*Emma Keller**
Abigail Connell
Alex Widman

Ronnie Gwinn+
Ainsley Metayer
Sarah Rooney
*Cole Hatcher***

Areena Arora
Shashank Sharma
*Kim Eckart***

** Team Leader*
+ Reflection Leader
*** Faculty/Staff Advisor*

Crossroads of the Powerful and Powerless: Washington, DC

Team Vision

Who is Washington, DC? Legislators with bills. Lobbyists with agendas. Politicians with ambitions. Activists with causes. Homeless men and women with needs. Immigrants with dreams. All people with lives to live. Our nation's capital is all this and more. Team members will explore the many facets of power as it relates to the equally diverse dimensions of poverty. They will spend time both with the poor and those working on the grassroots level to alleviate poverty as well as lobbyists and politicians who strive to reduce poverty.



Team Members

*Shellí Reeves**
Cierra Cresanto
Courtney Dunne

Luke Waters+
Larynn Cutshaw
Rene Garcia
*Chris Mickens***

Emily Burns
Jude Fahoum
*Lisa Ho***

** Team Leader*
+ Reflection Leader
*** Faculty/Staff Advisor*

Cuba Immersion: Ciego de Avila, Cuba

Tzam Vision

This Cuba Immersion team was part service and part relational exploration as we sought to discover what partnership our two communities could create together. The team served through tutoring local community members with varying levels of English proficiency, through immersing themselves in maintenance at the Community Center, through daily work in the immense garden that supplied fresh produce to the local markets and residents of Ciego de Avila, and through sewing, crafting and laughing with the women of the Ciego de Avila Baptist Church. Friendships and strong bonds were created between our team and the Cuban residents. We acquired a better understanding of their culture, history and language as well as a strong desire for a continuation of improved relations between the United States and Cuba.



Tzam Members

*Mary Jefferies**
Sharon Hayes
Emma Sampson**

*Blake Andrews
Sarah Kennedy*
Nadya Sotnychuk+
Mark Shipps***

*Ashley Espinoza
Kelsey Morrison
Evan Snapp*

** Team Leader*

+ Reflection Leader

*** Faculty/Staff Advisor*

A Special Thank You

To those who worked behind the scenes, giving much of their time and talent.
Without this special community, this endeavor would be impossible.

Public Safety

Dr. Rock Jones

Marsha Tilden

The Accounting Staff

The Purchasing Staff

University Development and Alumni Relations Staff

The Motor Pool Staff

The Residential Life Staff

The Chaplain's Office Staff

WCSA



And to Donors like you...

51% of our overall budget was contributed from donors, fundraising,
and student payments

22% was contributed by Ohio Wesleyan University Funds

27% was contributed by WCSA



Next Year's Mission Projects

*Were you inspired by one of this year's teams?
Did you participate in a project that you think needs to happen again?
Have you heard rumors of past years' projects
that you would like to see revived?
Do you have a new idea?*



Proposal Workshop

*A proposal workshop will be held on April 11 at 4 p.m. in HWCC 311.
Tips for putting together a successful proposal will be shared!*



Proposal forms for next year's Mission Projects

will be available soon in the Chaplain's Office (HWCC 3rd floor) and online at chaplain.owu.edu/missionweek! All teams must go through this formal proposal process. Any student, staff, or faculty member is welcome to submit a proposal. Proposals for previous and new mission projects are welcome. We look forward to working with you to make your vision a reality!

Proposal forms are due Friday, May 13.



We are in special need of creative domestic proposals.