

In Solidarity
With All God's Children



Ohio Wesleyan University

Spring Break
Interfaith Service Week
Celebration 2017

Celebration 2017 Program



Welcome and Opening Remarks
Chad Johns

Team Member Reflection
Dalia Lorenzo

Team Member Reflection
Shashank Sharma

Team Member Reflection
Elizabeth Urbanski

SBISW 2017 Photo Montage

Team Member Reflection
Matt Kurk

Team Member Reflection
Larynn Cutshaw

Acknowledgements and Closing Remarks
Chad Johns

Spring Break Interfaith Service 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.

Let There Be Light: OWU-Muslim Service Together in Columbus, OH

Team Vision

The abusive rhetoric toward and subsequent mistreatment of Muslim citizens and Muslim refugees in the United States is rampant - not only in public discourse, but also in social encounters, state and local legislation, and economic and employee interactions. Much of this abuse is fueled by ignorance, but also by a lack of interpersonal connections between Muslims and non-Muslims in daily, common life experiences. By partnering with the Noor Islamic Center in Columbus, OH, this mission team seeks to address the problems and concerns of interfaith conflicts in an urban, Midwestern setting by experiencing first-hand the community service outreach programs of a mosque to its urban neighbors of all faiths, and the subsequent impact such an outreach program has on the healing of such conflicts.



Team Members

*Olivia Lease**
Elizabeth Urbanski
Jennifer Bennett
*Mark Shipp***

Mollie Marshall+
Julianne Zala
Armando Polizzi
*Jon Powers***

Dominic Mejia
Ainsley Metayer
Charlotte Gross

** Team Leader*

+ Reflection Leader

*** Faculty/Staff Advisor*

Gender, Sexuality, and Immigration: Navigating Overlapping Realities in San Diego, CA

Team Vision

Lately, our news has been filled with the struggles of both LGBT and Latinx communities across our country. Yet rarely do we discuss the intersection points where these communities become one and the same. This team will be working with the San Diego LGBT Community Center and Border Angels to learn the stories of and serve with both documented and undocumented members of the LGBT Latinx community.



Team Members

*Lissette Gonzales**
Quenton Stokes-Brown
Audrey Castaneda Walker

Dalia Lorenzo+
Anderson Molina
James Murphy
*Jim Mendenhall***

Emma Nuiry
Ryan Bishop
*Jen Owens***

** 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.



Team Members

*Annie Spink**
Julie Muhl
Malory Wolfe

Cindy Huynh+
Izzy Taylor
*Karen Poremski***

Alyssa Clark
Julia Anne Caple
*David Soliday***

** 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

*Dominique Garrett**
Stephen McGrath
Claire O'Keefe

Wyatt Hall+
Emma Beale
Leslie Alton
*Chad Johns***

Theresa Schluchter
Abigale Lyon
*Kathy Gruber***

** 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

*Areena Arora**
Trent Williams
Hanna Cordes
*Meredith Dixon***

Sashane Williams+
Christine Pinder
Alexandria Niemeyer
*Matt Kurk***

Sophia Bien
Greg Margevicius
Raissa Kanku

** 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

*Larynn Cutshaw**
Annapurna Pakrasi
Abigail Horvat
Sarah Watt

Jude Fahoum+
Emma Wong
Anna Burkhart
*Susie Long***

Alexis Lease
Jess Choate
Rosa Escobar
*Chris Mickens***

** Team Leader*

+ Reflection Leader

*** Faculty/Staff Advisor*

Connecting with the Community: Bucerias, Mexico

Team Vision

In any kind of cross-cultural experience, the power of direct, respectful contact between two different groups can't be overestimated. This team will be working with Human Connections, an organization that specializes in cross-cultural immersion with an eye towards growth and learning for all involved, in the town of Bucerias, Mexico. Together, they will explore the economics of social responsibility and sustainable practices as well as serve with community members as needed. Past projects have included construction, education, art, clean-up, and more, but the exact tasks of this team will depend on the expressed needs of the people in the community as the year progresses.



Team Members

*Shashank Sharma**
Jacquelynn Everetts
Avianna Carmoega

Blake Andrews+
Sarah Rooney
*Dana Behum***

Sydney Quinn
Truman Haycock
*Bob Wood***

** 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 Off-Campus Programs Staff

The Motor Pool Staff

The Residential Life Staff

The Chaplain's Office Staff

WCSA



And to Donors like you...

52% of our overall budget was contributed from donors, fundraising,
and student payments

28% was contributed by Ohio Wesleyan University Funds

20% was contributed by WCSA



Next Year's SBISW 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 10 at 4 p.m. in HWCC 311.

Tips for putting together a successful proposal will be shared!



Proposal forms for next year's SBISW Projects

will be available soon in the Chaplain's Office (HWCC 3rd floor) and online at chaplain.owu.edu/interfaithservice! 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 interfaith service teams are welcome. We look forward to working with you to make your vision a reality!

Proposal forms are due Wednesday, May 17.



We are in special need of creative domestic proposals.