

BREBEUF JESUIT

MEN AND WOMEN FOR OTHERS

Spring Break Urban Immersion Trip, 2019 – Chicago

When: Sunday, March 31-Thursday, April 4, 2019

Place: Chicago, Illinois

What: A variety of experiences ranging from soup kitchens to urban gardening programs. We will also take time to explore significant cultural landmarks and neighborhoods of Detroit.

Who: The trip is open to all Brebeuf students.

Accommodations: We will be staying at the Br. David Darst Center in Chicago (see next page for more details about the Darst Center).

Cost: \$400 per person. This includes transportation, lodging, the cost of volunteer service, and most meals. This does NOT include meals during travel days or spending money.

Process: Pick up an application packet from Mr. Klingler in the Community Service Office. Submit completed application form with non-refundable deposit of \$100 to Mr. Klingler beginning Friday, January 11. The first twelve (12) students to turn in their applications and deposit money will get spots on the trip.

Questions: Contact Mr. Klingler at 317.524.7005 or (nklingler@brebeuf.org).

What to expect from the Darst Center's Urban Immersion Experience:

Your time at the Darst Center may be unlike anything else you've experienced before. We ask that you don't arrive with too many expectations of what the trip will be like, but rather keep an open mind and be present to the time we spend together and the people you'll meet. A crucial component to every retreat we have at the Darst Center is our site visits. The Br. David Darst Center has around three dozen partner agencies that we work with. A handful of these are visited as frequently as every other week—if not more often. We see service-learning as the vehicle for education and relationship building. For this reason, often we won't engage in typical charity service, i.e. painting a fence or building a school. Rather, our 'service' often entails interacting with the staff and clients of our partner agencies. Many times, our only labor is one of love and care: engaging in dialogue with people with whom we may not normally be associated.

St. Vincent DePaul is attributed to saying "service without reflection is just work," and we take that to heart. In addition to visiting various partner organizations and learning from staff and clients, another important aspect of a Darst Center retreat is reflection. We will spend a good amount of time together getting to know one another, unpacking things we learn, and asking deeper questions about social justice issues. We encourage you to come into this experience willing to share your thoughts and learn from others.

At the Darst Center, you will be living in community with others in your group and the staff of the center. What does this mean? Essentially that we are looking out for each other and not just ourselves so that we can be compassionate, vulnerable, and able to build deeper relationships with one another. Arriving on time, putting away our cell phones, and being respectful of one another are simple ways to be in community. As a community, the Darst Center also tries to be mindful of the impact we have on the environment. During your stay, we invite you to do the same

by turning off lights, limiting water usage, composting, and eating vegetarian meals.

Potential Immersion Experience Topics we will cover:

- Food Insecurity/ Food Waste
- Homelessness
- The Education System in Chicago
- Mass Incarceration
- Immigration
- Racism and Segregation in Chicago
- Catholic Social Teaching
- Environmental Justice

Some of these topics you may be familiar with and some may be brand new to you. Before your arrival to the Darst Center, we encourage you to spend some time learning more about the topics we will be covering.

SPRING BREAK URBAN IMMERSION TRIP

Chicago – Sunday, March 31-Thursday, April 4, 2019

QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: _____

DOB:_____ **Year in School:**_____

1. Briefly state why you are interested in participating in the Spring Break Service Trip.

2. What are the gifts and strengths that you will contribute to the group?

3. In what ways do you hope this experience might challenge you?

4. What do you know about Chicago and why does it interest you?