**Buck-I-SERV**

**The Alternative Break Program at Ohio State**

**Winter Break: December 14-21, 2013**

## Faculty/Staff/Graduate Advisor Information

**Buck-I-SERV Overview:**

Buck-I-SERV, through Student Activity Fee funding, will be sponsoring eighteen (18) alternative break trips during winter break. The locations for the trips are all listed below and online at [buckiserv.osu.edu](http://www.ohiunion.osu.edu) Participants on each trip will work with a different social justice issue including, affordable housing, education, international poverty, HIV/AIDS, etc. All participants will travel via a 12-passenger van, unless otherwise noted, and will lodge at a Youth Hostel, church, hotel or other volunteer housing center.

**Buck-I-SERV Mission and Goals:**

Buck-I-SERV is a weeklong, substance-free program centered on community service and civic engagement, and held during the university’s breaks. Buck-I-SERV is a program planned through the Office of Student Life and supported in part by the Student Activity Fee. The mission of Buck-I-SERV is to provide students with a challenging and fun opportunity to lead and learn through direct service experiences. Students will learn the importance of reflection, social justice, and civic engagement while gaining new perspectives through working in diverse environments. They will also be meeting community needs, building on community assets, and bringing their experiences back to campus. Students will also be able to create new and lasting friendships by participating in a Buck-I-SERV trip over winter, spring, or summer break.

**Advisor Role Description:**

* **Represent University**-Faculty/Staff/Graduate Advisors will serve as a university representative on all Buck-I-SERV trips sponsored by the Student Activity Fee. Advisors will ensure the positive representation of The Ohio State University throughout the duration of trip among all constituencies, including but not limited to service agencies, housing staff, community members, and alumni.
* **Assist Trip Leaders**-Student Trip Leaders will arrange and facilitate the majority of the trip components. Advisors, however, should be knowledgeable about all aspects of the trip, assist the student Trip Leaders as needed, and encourage student participants to connect their service to academic topics related to their projects and/or host cities. We will make every attempt to match Advisors with a city or social issue related to their work or interests.
* **Connect Students with Alumni**-It is our hope that each trip will have the opportunity to interact with Ohio State Alumni in the city in which each trip is located.  The advisor will be expected to help coordinate and maintain contact with alumni in the area who would be willing to meet/host our students for an event during the trip.
* **Manage Trip Finances and Documentation**-Advisors will be responsible for managing trip funds, including an allotted $200 for a group activity during the trip. Upon selection, advisors will work with Coordinator of Community Service Administration to apply for a Group Extended Travel (GET) Card to access Buck-I-SERV funds while on trip. The advisors will be trained and expected to adhere to all purchasing rules for spending and reconciling group expenses incurred on the trip.
* **Document Trip Experience**-Advisors will assist with documenting the trip experience by taking specified photos, encouraging group journaling, and maintaining contact information of relevant individuals in the service city.

**Advisor Expectations:**

While no previous experience with Buck-I-SERV is necessary to serve as an Advisor, we ask that the following expectations are met in order to best support our students before and during trips.

* Attend Advisor Orientation & Expectation Meeting, Kick-Off Event, and Pre-Departure Meeting.
* Attend semester participant meetings (to be determined by trip leaders based on group availability).
* Coordinate meeting between trip participants and OSU Alumni in the service city/area.
* Attend Buck-I-SERV trip with student leaders and student participants and assist with transportation needs (driving a 12-passenger van).
* Participate in all service and reflection experiences during the trip, while remaining open minded throughout all experiences and accommodations.
* Allow students to take on a leadership role. Advisors are NOT expected to “lead” the trip, rather advisors are expected to serve as a resource and provide support when necessary.
* Maintain a professional relationship with students before, during, and after trip experience.
* Adhere to all purchasing and reconciliation rules and regulations for trip related expenses.
* Take advantage of the opportunity to contribute an educational component to trip, based on your own expertise.

**Faculty/Staff Advisor Benefits:**

Advisors are critical to the success of all Buck-I-SERV trips; however, we hope to create a mutually beneficial relationship with our faculty, staff, and graduate student advisors. Advisors can expect to reap the following benefits with full participation.

* Gain the opportunity to participate in extended community service experiences alongside students
* Increase interaction with a small group of students from a variety of college departments and interest areas across campus.
* Participate without incurring personal expenses related to transportation, lodging, and meals throughout the trip experience
* Share personal expertise or research interest with a group of students in real-life setting.

**Dates**

If selected as an advisor, attendance at the following meetings and events is required. Please mark your calendars for the following dates.

* Advisor Orientation & Expectation Meeting- Wednesday, September 25th from 5:30-6:30pm (Ohio Union- Lower Level Meeting Room)
* Winter Break Kick-Off Event- October 4th at 6pm (Ohio Union- Performance Hall)
* Pre-Departure Meeting- November 24th from 5-7pm (Ohio Union- Cartoon Room 1)

***To apply to serve as an advisor for a Buck-I-SERV trip, please complete the form below.***

***Please return forms in hard copy or electronically by Sunday, September 15, 2013.***

***Completed forms may be emailed to buck-i-serv@osu.edu or returned 2095 Ohio Union- Resource Room.***

**Buck-I-SERV**

**Faculty/Staff/Graduate Advisor Application**

Please fill out forms by Sunday, September 15, 2013. Thank you for your interest in serving as an Advisor for Buck-I-SERV! No previous experience with Buck-I-SERV is necessary to participate as an Advisor.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**NAME: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**OSU ID #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**DEPARTMENT/COLLEGE/UNIT: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**T-Shirt Size: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ OSU EMAIL:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**CELL PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**CAMPUS ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**ARE YOU A GRADUATE OR PROFESSIONAL STUDENT? YES** **NO**

**By signing this form I understand and agree to uphold the expectations of serving as an advisor for Buck-I-SERV.**

Signature:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Are you willing to help drive a 12-passenger van to and from the service city and project site? Drivers must be 21+ years of age with a valid driver license.

**YES** **NO**

Please submit a brief response to the following questions (please attach an additional sheet if necessary):

1. Why are you interested in serving as a Buck-I-SERV Trip Advisor?
2. What will you contribute to the trips for which you have indicated preference below (academic or personal interest, relevant research, experience in the community, etc.)?
3. Please describe your approach to advising students in an extracurricular setting.
4. If interested in advising an international trip, please describe your experience with international travel.

Advisors are required to attend weekly group meetings in addition to the following events. Please indicate your availability during the following dates:

Advisor Orientation & Expectation Meeting (Sept. 25, 2013 from 5:30-6:30pm): **YES** **NO**

Winter Kick-Off Event (Oct.4, 2013 at 6pm): **YES** **NO**

Pre-Departure Meeting (Nov. 24, 2013 from 5-7pm): **YES** **NO**

**TRIP INFORMATION**

Please rank your trip preferences below (with 1 being your top preference). You do not need to rank all choices but we recommend ranking ANY that you would be willing to advise. We make every attempt to place advisors within their top choices; however, please understand you may be placed at any site you rank based on need.

\_\_\_\_ **Arc of Baltimore:** Arc of Baltimore is dedicated to bringing advocacy and support to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The Arc provides services to over 6,000 men, women, and children. Programs are provided for both adults and children in areas such as employment, behavior, community integration, supportive family programs, high school transition programs, and resource awareness. Students will be learning about what advocacy looks like and assisting with their programs and other projects they need completed in order to reach more people. Located in Baltimore, Maryland. **Housing:** Hostel

\_\_\_\_ **Food and Friends:** Food & Friends is the only organization in the Washington, DC, area providing specialized, nutritious meals, groceries, nutrition counseling and friendship to people living with HIV/AIDS, cancer and other life-challenging illnesses. Food & Friends' staff of professional chefs and community dietitians design meals that meet the special dietary needs of persons living with a broad range of illnesses. Our confidential services are free of charge to individuals and their families and caregivers living throughout Washington, DC, 7 counties of Maryland and 7 counties and 6 independent cities of Virginia. The service area encompasses approximately 5,300 square miles. In 2010, Food & Friends served more than 975,150 meals to more than 2,759 individuals. Students will be packing and delivering meals to clients around Washington, D.C. from 9am-12pm and then serving with various other organizations around D.C. Located in Washington, D.C. **Housing:** On-site

\_\_\_\_ **Greater Boston Food Bank:** Volunteers will inspect, sort and repack donated grocery products that are then distributed to hunger relief agencies. All volunteers are trained in food safety at the beginning of the shift. Volunteers work together as a team on an assembly line, and may be working alongside other groups. Some volunteers load boxes onto conveyer belts, other volunteers inspect products, others sort products, and others check and label boxes. A few of these assignments require the ability to lift a box of about 30 pounds, but the majority of positions simply require that a volunteer can stand and inspect products for a few hours. **Housing:** Hostel

\_\_\_\_ **Greenville Humane Society:** As the folks at Greenville Humane Society say, love is a four-legged word. Founded in 1937, the Humane Society is Greenville, South Carolina’s, largest no-kill shelter for cats and dogs. Every year, 25,000 animals are served thanks to Greenville Humane Society’s award-winning facilities, educational outreach, and widespread community of volunteers. This winter break, you could be a member of the first group of volunteers from Ohio State to work hands-on with the animals at the Humane Society through their programs such as Puppy Patrol and Pet Therapy. Located in Greenville, South Carolina. **Housing:** TBD

 \_\_\_\_ **God’s Love We Deliver:** The mission of God's Love We Deliver is to improve the health and well-being of men, women and children living with HIV/AIDS, cancer and other serious illnesses by alleviating hunger and malnutrition. Volunteers prepare and deliver nutritious, high-quality meals to people who, because of their illness, are unable to provide or prepare meals for themselves. God’s Love also provides illness-specific nutrition education and counseling to our clients, families, care providers and other service organizations. All of services are provided free of charge without regard to income. Located in New York, NY. **Housing:** Church

\_\_\_\_ **Guadalupe Center:** This trip is designed for those who wish to immerse themselves into the culture of Immokalee. In a community where 40 percent of the people live below the poverty level, the Guadalupe Center is dedicated to serving the disadvantaged poor of Immokalee. Your group will be working with the children of migrant workers in the Early Childhood Programs at the Guadalupe Center. The center has been running for more than 25 years and it also includes a soup kitchen, clothing center, and a shower center for those in need. The Coalition of Immokalee Workers is an organization that focuses their efforts on bettering the lives of migrant workers in the area. Your group will meet with the Coalition to learn more about the issues migrants face, as well as taking a tour of Immokalee and experiencing a day in the fields of migrant workers. This will better educate you on what families go through on a day to day basis and give you a better understanding of those you will be serving. Dinners will be provided at the shelter. Located in Immokalee, Florida. **Housing:** TBD

\_\_\_\_ **Habitat for Humanity Birmingham:** Habitat for Humanity Birmingham was established in 1987 and serves Jefferson, Shelby, St. Clair, and Walker Counties in Central Alabama.  The organization is dedicated to making quality, affordable housing solutions to low-income families through constructing, rehabilitating and preserving homes  Habitat for Humanity Birmingham is ranked 4th among all Habitat affiliates in the United States and completes a minimum of 40-45 new houses each year; to date more than 350 homes have been completed to encourage family stability and promote self-sufficiency, educational achievement, and responsible citizenship. Located in Birmingham, AL. **Housing:** Volunteer Center. **Note:** This is a 50 person trip and will travel by coach bus.

\_\_\_\_ **Habitat for Humanity of the Mississippi Gulf Coast:** Habitat for Humanity of the Mississippi Gulf Coast has completed more than 400 homes or under construction in many communities, including Biloxi, D’Iberville, Gautier, Gulfport, Long Beach, Moss Point, Ocean Springs, Pascagoula, Pass Christian, Saucier and St. Martin. They welcome all volunteers with different skill levels. Volunteers do not need to know any construction knowledge. Volunteers will work on the rehab of homes in Harrison and Jackson & Stone counties. **Housing:** Volunteer Center.

\_\_\_\_ **Habitat for Humanity Pensacola:** Habitat for Humanity Pensacola was established in 1981 and is dedicated to the elimination of poverty housing.  Habit for Humanity Pensacola provides home ownership opportunities to low income families in Pensacola, Milton and Gulf Breeze by builiding simple decent homes with family partners.  Have fun engaging in service while also enjoying the many attractions of the Pensacola Bay Area, including the beach!  Located in Pensacola, Florida. **Housing:** On-site

\_\_\_\_ **Habitat for Humanity Pinellas County, FL:** Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County serves the whole of Pinellas County, Florida from main offices in St. Petersburg to the cities of Clearwater, St. Petersburg, Pinellas Park, Tarpon Springs, Dunedin, Palm Harbor, Safety Harbor, Oldsmar, and Ozona. Putting faith into action, Habitat for Humanity of Pinellas County promotes family stability by providing innovative and affordable housing solutions to qualified individuals and families with the ultimate goal of eliminating substandard housing throughout the county.

**Housing:** Volunteer Center

\_\_\_\_ **Habitat for Humanity Cleveland County, OK:** Cleveland County Habitat For Humanity’s mission is to eliminate substandard housing in Cleveland County and to make adequate housing a matter of conscience and action. The group is working toward the goal of eliminating substandard housing in Cleveland County, including Norman, Moore, Lexington, Slaughterville, and Noble. **Housing:** Volunteer Center

\_\_\_\_ **Medici Project:** Medici Project serves to educate and expose individuals to the terrible realities of poverty for Atlanta’s inner city youth and what is being done to fight against that poverty. While in Atlanta, your primary job is to build relationships with at-risk urban youth through personal interaction. You will do hands-on service with the Medici Project and other organizations who are seeking to make an impact in the lives of at-risk children and youth, but much of what we do is relational. A staff member expert will accompany your group and provide education and guidance as you work with the at-risk urban youth of Atlanta. This particular trip will focus on the sexual exploitation of youth in the area. Located in Atlanta, Georgia. **Housing:** On-site. **Note:** This is a 20 person trip and will travel by two 12-passenger vans.

\_\_\_\_**Once Upon a Time in Appalachia:** Volunteers work to assist both the Cherokee people and the environment while challenging themselves in a mentally and physically manner. This amazing trip will give volunteers an inside perspective on Native American Cherokee culture in the area. The trip will take place between the idyllic Great Smokey Mountains National Park and Cherokee National Forest in East Tennessee. Come join Ed and Arlene and see what it feels like to be a part of their family; this is a trip you will not forget! Located in Maryville, Tennessee. **Housing:** On-site

\_\_\_\_ **One Heartland:** One Heartland creates community, offers respite, and builds lifelong skills by providing an accepting environment for youth and their families facing social isolation so that they may lead healthier and more fulfilling lives. These include children who are identify as LGBTQ, those who are affected by HIV/AIDS, those who have diabetes, and those who live in transitional housing. Past groups have carved signs, painted, and done projects to improve the grounds for the children before the summer. This trip has consistently received incredible feedback about the staff whom volunteers work with and the knowledge gained in regards to the communities served. Many participants go back to the camp during the summer as counselors because their experience is so impactful. There are no children present while volunteering. Located in Willow Creek, Minnesota. **Housing:** On-site.

\_\_\_\_**Operation Breakthrough:** Operation Breakthrough is a community center located in the heart of Kansas City, serving children from 8 months to 18 years as well as their parents. Daycare, a food pantry, “dress for success,” and music therapy are just a few of the wonderful programs that are put on in a relentless effort to improve the lives of impoverished local families. The volunteers spend most of their time with the children and teachers in the morning and then help maintain the center in the afternoon while students are napping. Please be prepared that as part of this trip you are required to have a tetanus shot and a doctor signature confirming your health. Be prepared for your heart to “breakthrough” with love for the people at the center! **Housing:** Church

\_\_\_\_ **Pinellas County Sea Grant:** Students will learn in the classroom and in the outdoors about coastal and marine ecosystems of Florida, responsible environmental stewardship, and hands on Fishing Skills. In turn, students will help with environmental restoration projects and community outreach. This year we are adding a brand new component- OSU students will help to teach a fishing clinic to local underprivileged children! No experience is necessary. All training will be provided. Much of the work will be outdoors in Florida. December in Florida can vary a great deal. Temperatures can range from 50s to upper 70s during the day. Students will use hand tools to remove exotic plants, canoes to perform a coastal cleanup. If the weather cooperates, we will take a boat to one of our island preserves to work on exotic plant removal and trash pickup. There is also an option to camp overnight on the island, weather depending. You will definitely get dirty, you will absolutely work hard, there is no doubt that you will have tons of fun and feel immense rewards from the work that you accomplish! Located in St. Petersburg, FL. **Housing:** Cabins

\_\_\_\_**Project Lazarus:** Project Lazarus was founded out of compassion and service to all people. Project Lazarus provides services to people with AIDS who can no longer live independently, or whose family can no longer take care of them. The primary purpose of Project Lazarus is to provide continuity of care in a homelike environment and to enhance the quality of life of those it serves. Volunteers will be working closely with the residents of Project Lazarus to create a fun filled week of activities. Located in New Orleans, Louisiana. **Housing:** On-site

\_\_\_\_ **Rafiki AIDS Ministry**: Marafiki Global AIDS Ministry’s Mission is to provide food, shelter, medical care, education, a safe Christian living environment and loving support to children worldwide who have been orphaned by HIV/AIDS.  Local ties to this organization began in Central Ohio in 1995 as a faith-based volunteer workforce trained by medical and pastoral care professionals to provide HIV/AIDS families with spiritual support and life-care assistance. Located in Nairobi, Kenya.

**Note:** This international trip requires a valid passport at the time of application.

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