

## Buck-I-SERV Summer 2016 Trips

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## **\*\*Physicality Level Ratings:**

**1** = no more than casual daily activity level

**2** = more than daily activity, you'll sleep well at night!

**3** = you will come back with muscles you didn't know you had!



## American Hiking Society: York River State Park

**Location:** Williamsburg, VA

**Housing:** Lodge

**Price:** \$315

**Trip Price includes:**

- **Transportation**
  - **participants will travel by a 10 person van to the destination, this vehicle will be used throughout the week for local transportation**
- **lodging and all program fees**
- **tools/supplies needed for service**

**Social Justice Issue:**  
**Environmental**

**Physicality Level:** 2

The American Hiking Society is the nation's leading hiking organization dedicated to maintaining and improving foot trails and their surrounding natural areas. Through their conservation work, AHS strives to promote healthy living and a greater appreciation for nature. Participants on this Buck-I-SERV trip will be staying in a lodge/cabin at York River State Park in Virginia, located in the rolling hills of Buckingham County, Virginia along the York River. Potential projects include implementing two trail reroutes, building two new trails (both are short, but provide access to exceptional views), and performing trail restoration on approximately 7 miles of trail. Volunteers can expect to hike up to 4 miles each working day to complete these projects. Volunteers groups will have access to activities such as archery, wagon rides, guided "night owl hike", and other park programs.

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## Once Upon a Time in Appalachia

**Location:** Maryville, TN

**Housing:** On-Site Camp

**Price:** \$400

**Trip Price includes:**

- Most Meals
- Transportation
  - Participants will travel by a 10 person van to the destination. The van will be used throughout the week for local transportation
- lodging and all program fees
- tools/supplies needed for service

**Social Justice Issue:** Native American Issues/  
Environmental

**Physicality Level:** 2

Volunteers work to assist both the Cherokee people and the environment while challenging themselves mentally and physically. This amazing trip will give participants 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. You will get a chance to work with invasive plants at the Nature Preserve. Students will have the chance to go hiking in the nearby mountain and enjoy the beautiful sights, all around them. 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!



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## Boston Urban Outreach

**Location:** Boston, MA

**Housing:** Church

- Limited shower and bathroom facilities, so expect quick showers
- Air mattresses and bedding will also be needed

**Price:** \$365

**Trip Price includes:**

- Transportation
  - The group will travel by a ten person van to the region
  - upon arrival the group will use local transportation
  - subway passes included in trip price
- lodging and all program fees
- tools/supplies needed for service

**Social Justice Issue:** Hunger

Founded in 1816, City Mission Society of Boston is the oldest multi-service social justice agency in New England. Their services reach over 35,000 people each year, both directly and through other volunteer efforts. The City Mission's purpose is to meet the educational, economic, social, and advocacy needs of impoverished residents in the Boston neighborhoods. Boston Urban Outreach brings together groups of youth and adults from all over the country to perform service projects and learn first-hand about social justice issues. Community Events such as the Christmas Shop, Martin Luther King Day of Service and Learning and others bring together participants from all over Greater Boston to meet and work with our neighbors. This trip of 50 participants will break into smaller groups and rotate through different service sites each day.



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CITY MISSION SOCIETY OF BOSTON  
Uniting Communities ∞ Transforming Individuals  
Founded 1816



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OFFICE OF STUDENT LIFE  
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**Location:** Chicago, IL

**Housing:** Hostel

**Price:** \$250

- This trip price is reduced by \$100 through an extra activity fee allocation for 2015-16. The listed price accurately reflects this price reduction

**Trip price includes:**

- **Transportation**
  - Participants will travel by a 10 person van to the destination. The van will be used throughout the week for local transportation
- Lodging and all program fees
- Tools/supplies for service

**Social Justice Issue:** Disabilities

**Physicality Level:** 1

## Misericordia

Misericordia offers a community of care that maximizes potential for persons with mild to profound developmental disabilities, many of whom are also physically challenged. By serving society's most vulnerable citizens, Misericordia also serves the families who want the best for them, yet cannot provide it at home. Through a spectrum of residential options on its 31-acre Chicago campus and in the community, and with a wide variety of programs, Misericordia currently serves more than 600 children and adults from diverse racial, religious and socio-economic backgrounds. Twenty percent of Illinois's residents come from impoverished families or have no families and are wards of the State.



*"The residents are beautiful inside and out, and their positivity rubs off on all of us."*  
-Buck-I-SERV participant to Misericordia



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## City of Refuge

**Location:** Atlanta, GA

**Housing:** On-Site

**Price:** \$275

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**Trip Price Includes:**

- **Transportation**
  - participants will travel by a 10 person van, which will be used throughout the week for local transportation
- lodging and all program fees
- tools/supplies needed for service

**Social Justice Issue:** Women and Homelessness

**Physicality Level:** 1

The City of Refuge is a non-profit organization dedicated to community development efforts that lead to the stability and sustainability of the local community. The community the organization serves in is a community in crisis but also a community with hope and resilience. The mission of City of Refuge is to bring light, hope and transformation to Atlanta's last, lost and least. For volunteers, it is place to know firsthand the challenges of the "last, lost and least." For any who pass through the gates of City of Refuge, it is a community that provides shelter from the storm, warmth from the cold, an oasis from the desert. City of Refuge provides services such as a food bank, internships, and early childhood/ youth programming. Students will embark on a "spiritual retreat" volunteering with the City of Refuge. City of Refuge is located in downtown Atlanta where there are many historical sites that the participants will have the opportunity to visit while on this weeklong trip.



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## Florida's Aquatic Preserves

**Location:** St. Petersburg, FL

**Housing:** Cabins

**Price:** \$300

**Trip Price includes:**

- **Transportation**
  - participants will travel by a 10 person van, which will be used throughout the week for local travel
- **lodging and all program fees**
- **tools/supplies needed for service**

**Social Justice Issue:**  
**Environmental**

**Physicality Level:** 2

Much of Florida's distinctive character lies in the beauty of its coastline. The best of the coastal landscapes have been set aside for protection as aquatic preserves. This natural beauty has always been one of Florida's major attractions for both tourists and residents. Ironically, the very features that have drawn people to Florida are potentially endangered by the increased population pressures. Aquatic preserves protect the living waters of Florida to ensure that they will always be home for bird rookeries and fish nurseries ... freshwater springs and salt marshes ... sea grass meadows and mangrove forests. The week is busy, but students go home with many valuable experiences to pass on to their own communities. Here, students have the ability to engage in community service activities while enjoying Florida's wonderful weather and coast, the best of both worlds. You will get a chance to work with invasive exotic plants, such as the Brazilian pepper, and to remove debris from spoil islands (including but not limited to cutting down trees).

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## Focus Hope

**Location:** Detroit, MI

**Housing:** Hostel

**Price:** \$335

**Trip Price includes:**

- **Transportation**
  - participants will travel by a 10 person van that will be used throughout the week for local travel
- **lodging and all program fees**
- **tools/supplies needed for service**

**Social Justice Issue:**  
Multiple

**Physicality Level:** 1

This trip to Detroit Michigan will work with Focus Hope. In 1968, Father William Cunningham (1930–1997) and Eleanor Josaitis (1931-2011) co-founded Focus: HOPE, an organization dedicated to intelligent and practical solutions to the problems of hunger, economic disparity, inadequate education, and racial divisiveness. The organization has become a nationally renowned civil and human rights organization diligently working to bridge the racial divide in southeast Michigan through their food program, career training programs, and their HOPE Village Initiative. Participants on this trip will work with the food program and with the adult education program.

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**Location:** Immokalee, FL

**Housing:** Church

**Price:** \$280

- This trip price is reduced by \$100 through an extra activity fee allocation for 2015-16. The listed price accurately reflects this price reduction

**Trip Price includes:**

- **Transportation**
  - participants will travel by a 10 person van, which will be used throughout the week for local transportation
- lodging and all program fees
- tools/supplies needed for service

**Social Justice Issue:** Poverty/Immigration/Children

**Physicality Level:** 1

## Guadalupe Center

Located in Immokalee, Florida in a community where over 40 percent of the population lives below the poverty level, the Guadalupe Center is dedicated to serving the 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, college prep center and a shower center for those in need. Most of the children at the Guadalupe Center come from homes where Spanish is their home language. While in Immokalee, some group will have the chance to work with The Coalition of Immokalee Workers (CIW). CIW 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. 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.

**Guadalupe**  
Breaking the cycle of poverty through education

Early Childhood Education ■ After-School Tutoring ■ Tutor Corps

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## Lower Nine

**Location:** New Orleans, LA

**Housing:** On-Site Housing

**Price:** \$345

**Trip Price includes:**

- **Transportation**
  - participants will travel by a 10 person van, which will be used throughout the week for local transportation
- **lodging and all program fees**
- **tools/supplies needed for service**

**Social Justice Issue:**  
Homelessness/ Poverty

**Physicality Level:** 2

Lower Nine is an organization that works with residents of the Lower Ninth Ward of New Orleans to help rebuild the area after it was devastated by Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita. Because the Lower Ninth Ward was an area hit hardest by the hurricanes, Lower Nine takes a holistic approach to healing the community; volunteers will be rebuilding and constructing houses, working in urban community gardens, providing social and emotional support as well as community outreach to the New Orleans community. Lower Nine is committed to providing sustainable economic solutions.



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## Medici Project

**Location:** Atlanta, GA

**Housing:** Hostel

**Price:** \$320

**Trip Price Includes:**

- **Transportation**
  - Participants will travel by a 10 person van, which will be used throughout the week for local transportation
- **Lodging**
- **Any Medici Project program fees**
- **Tools/Supplies for service**

**Social Justice Issues:**  
Homelessness/Hunger/Poverty

**Physicality Level:** 1

Medici Project serves to educate and expose individuals to the 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. The 30318 zip code, where Medici Project serves all throughout the year, is one of the neediest areas in the country. 50% of the youth in this area will not finish high school. The average household income is just under \$11,000 a year, less than 1/3 of the national average. In one community, 60% of the residents are HIV positive. A staff member expert will accompany your group and provide education and guidance as you work with the at-risk urban youth of Atlanta. Participants on this trip will work at various sites throughout the week.



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## Michigan Urban Farming Initiative

**Location:** Detroit, MI

**Housing:** Hostel

**Price:** \$250

**Trip Price includes:**

- transportation
  - participants will travel by a 10 person van, which will also be used for local transportation upon arrival
- lodging and all program fees
- tools/supplies needed for service

**Social Justice Issue:**  
Community Gardening

**Physicality Level:** 2

The Michigan Urban Farming Initiative was founded in 2011 by Co-Founders Tyson Gersh and Darin McLeskey, who both saw the need for agriculture in the city of Detroit. Their mission states that “using agriculture as a platform to promote education, community, and sustainability, we seek to reduce socioeconomic disparity.” Detroit, which although recently has made many steps in a positive direction, is a community that is still plagued with vacant land, poor diet, nutritional illiteracy, and food insecurity. These challenges present a unique opportunity for community-supported agriculture to make an impact and empower Detroit’s urban communities.

During this trip, participants will be engaging in primarily three different projects. These include deconstruction of a building to potentially make more land available for farming, reparation of another nearby building that will serve as intern housing and office space, and garden preparation for the growing season. Participants should also expect to perform manual labor, both indoors and outdoors.



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## North Carolina Coastal Federation

**Location:** Newport, NC

**Housing:** Cabins

**Price:** \$340

**Trip Price includes:**

- **Transportation**
  - participants will travel by a 10 person van to the destination, this vehicle will be used throughout the week for local transportation
- **lodging and all program fees**
- **tools/supplies needed for service**

**Social Justice Issue:**  
**Environmental**

**Physicality Level:** 2

Located in Newport, North Carolina near the Outer Banks and for more than 30 years, the North Carolina Coastal Federation has worked with people to safeguard the coastal rivers, creeks, sounds and beaches of North Carolina. The N.C. Coastal Federation has been able to preserve more than 10,000 acres of threatened coastal land since its establishment and has received multiple prestigious Pelican Awards that honor groups that exhibit exemplary performance in improving environmental quality on the N.C. coast. Service will consist of mostly environmental work, including wetland restoration, oyster habitat restoration, clean up, and other project maintenance. There will also be an opportunity to partner and serve with Hammocks Beach State Park in additional environmental work.

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## One Heartland

**Location:** Willow River, MN

**Housing:** On-Site Camp

**Price:** \$330

**Trip Price includes:**

- **Transportation**
  - Participants will travel in a 10 person van to their destination and use that vehicle for local travel
- lodging and all program fees
- tools/supplies needed for service

**Social Justice Issue:**  
Homelessness/Poverty and HIV/AIDS

**Physicality Level:** 1

Located in Willow River, Minnesota, 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 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, built outdoor furniture, and done projects to improve the grounds for the children before the summer. This trip has consistently received incredible feedback about the staff 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.



oneheartland®

Where belonging begins.



## Operation Breakthrough

**Location:** Kansas City, MO

**Housing:** Church

**Price:** \$265

### **Trip Price Includes**

- **Lodging and all program fees**
- **Tools/supplies needed for service**
- **Transportation**
  - **Participants will travel by van to the destination and use that vehicle for local travel throughout the week**

**Social Justice Issue:**  
**Children**

**Physicality Level:** 1

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!

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## Partner's for Care

**Location:** Atlanta, GA

**Housing:** Private Home

**Price:** \$350

**Trip Price includes:**

- **Transportation**
  - Participants will travel by a 10 person van, which will be used throughout the week for local travel
- **lodging and all program fees**
- **tools/supplies needed for service**

**Social Justice Issue:** Poverty

**Physicality Level:** 1

Partner's For Care has a mission to decrease the number of children dying from preventable diseases (such as malaria, HIV/AIDS, waterborne illnesses, and malnutrition) by supporting Kenyan nationals as they engage in this prevention work. Based in Georgia, Partner's for Care embraces the philosophy of building capacity in Kenya in sustainable ways. The organization implements a variety of programs including education programs, sustainability programs, medical clinics and more. Participants will have the unique opportunity to work closely throughout the week with the Founder and President of the organization, Connie Cheren.



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**Location:** St. Petersburg, FL

**Housing:** Cabins

**Price:** \$340

**Trip Price includes:**

- **Transportation**
  - **Participants will travel by a 10 person van, which will be used throughout the week for local transportation**
- **lodging and all program fees**
- **tools/supplies needed for service**

**Social Justice Issue:**  
**Environmental**

**Physicality Level:** 2

## 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, and they 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. Students will use hand tools to remove exotic plants and canoes to perform a coastal cleanup. Depending on weather, students will take a boat to one of the Pinellas County island preserves to work on exotic plant removal and trash pickup. There is also an option to camp overnight on the island, weather depending.

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## World Relief Nashville

**Location:** Nashville, TN

**Housing:** Hostel

**Price:** \$325

- This trip price is reduced by \$100 through an extra activity fee allocation for 2015-16. The listed price accurately reflects this price reduction

### Trip Price Includes

- Lodging and all program fees
- Tools/supplies needed for service
- Transportation
  - Participants will travel by a 50 person motor coach to the region with other Buck-I-SERV trips
  - Upon arrival the group will pick up rental cars for local transportation

**Social Justice Issue:** Refugees

**Physicality Level:** 1

World Relief Nashville: Situated just outside the vibrant downtown area of Nashville, World Relief Nashville has the mission to embrace refugees who have been forced to leave their country, culture, friends, and families for safety. They actively resettle refugees from various war torn areas from over 24 different ethnic backgrounds. World Relief seeks to empower volunteers to help meet their physical, relational, and spiritual needs. As a participant on this trip, one will have an opportunity to work with their Journey Afterschool Youth Program. Additionally, participants will be able to engage in educational trainings on refugees, cultures, and religions.

