



Learning Partner Interest Form

Website: <http://sites.lafayette.edu/asb/>

Our Vision: To create a just society.

Our Mission: To empower the Lafayette College community to create positive change and foster passion for civic engagement through alternative break experiences.

The Role of ASB Learning Partners: Each trip is led by a student team leader who has been trained to handle responsibilities such as contacting the community partners and sharing logistical information with the team. It is our vision the Learning Partner will not serve as another leader, but as an active participant who will:

- Add educational value to the trip by contributing their life and professional perspective
- Serve as a mature influence to encourage students to make wise choices
- Act as a resource for team leaders and other team members by providing advice and support
- Build relationships with the students while in a non-traditional role
- Encourage long term relationship between the ASB Club and other Lafayette offices

The Learning Partner will also be expected to act on behalf of the College in the event of an emergency, as well as handle the finances in relation to the travel advance. The Learning Partner can have as little or as much involvement with the group as appropriate, but more interaction with the team leads to stronger relationships. The teams meet approximately 5-7 times prior to the trip. While attendance of Learning Partners at the meetings is not required, it will aid in trip preparation and group building.

Accommodations/Amenities: Please be aware that ASB operates on a limited budget which requires us to seek free and discounted housing and low-cost meal options. Our housing arrangements often require our participants to sleep on cots in group facilities with shared kitchen and bathroom space. In addition, we often purchase groceries and cook our own meals on a limited daily food budget. With that being said, part of the ASB experience is to step outside our comfort zones to enter into the difficult work of service. For many of the people with whom we are serving, the week-long ASB-like living arrangements are the reality of daily life.

Lafayette College * Alternative School Break Club * Learning Partner Interest Form

Please return your completed form to Amber Zuber
(zuber@lafayette.edu or 115 Farinon College Center) by October 1st.

Name: _____

Department/Office: _____

Email: _____ Campus Address: _____

Campus Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Are you willing to become an approved college driver to help transport students to/from your service site: _____ Yes _____ No

Please provide brief responses to the following questions.

1. What motivates you to be a part of an ASB trip as a learning partner?

2. How will you contribute to ASB's goal to enhance learning for our participants?

Trip Selection

Each trip and its dates are listed below. Please rank your preference of trip (1-5; 1-most preferred/ 5-least preferred). If you have any questions please feel free to contact Amber Zuber (zuber@lafayette.edu).

INTERIM TRIPS:

___ "Foundations for the Future" - Homelessness and Housing Conditions

Home is where the heart is. In cities all over the U.S., this expression isn't always realistic due to substandard housing conditions. We will explore the root causes of homelessness in a community by learning about different housing policies and talking with community members. We will help build stability and independence for low-income families. Our team will assist in eliminating substandard housing through constructing, rehabilitating and preserving homes, by learning about fair and just housing policies; and by providing training and access to resources for families in need.

January 20-26, 2019

Team Leader: Danielle Bellefeuille, '20

___ **“Team Si, Se Puede” - Destigmatizing the Elderly and the ill**

Being elderly, diagnosed with an illness or simply having lost your way in society comes with a stigmatized expectation of being incapable to work or provide for oneself. However, this is often not the case. On this trip, we will take a closer look at how to comprehend and de-stigmatize this issue and get familiarized with efforts being made to help people live on their own. We will focus on the societal interactions with people categorized as incapable of being independent while working with an organization that provides resources for people to be able to refocus themselves. Participants may not necessarily be in direct contact with the people, however, they should be ready to be understanding and ready to learn how such a stigma does more harm than illness or age.

January 20-26, 2019

Team Leaders: Blossom Jiang '19 and Elbert Savinon '20

SPRING TRIPS

___ **“Hope in Humanity” - The Refugee Experience in America**

The UNHCR defines a refugee as “someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war or violence.” The world is witnessing the highest number of displacement ever recorded in history. Currently, there are 68.5 million people forcibly displaced, 25.4 million of them being refugees. Less than 1% of world refugees are resettled annually into another country. Now more than ever, the issue of displacement and refugee crisis calls for our attention—and in particular attention to how the United States’ has or has failed to respond effectively to the crisis at hand. We hope to learn more about the root causes of the crisis, previous humanitarian actions to fight this, and ways we can currently help remedy this issue as well as bring light to how Lafayette as a campus can aid. The trip will focus on education, advocacy, and work with an organization that responds to the world’s worst humanitarian crises and helps resettle refugees in the United States. Participants will assist ESL classes, women’s literacy and childcare programs and youth education classes. Participants should be ready to be flexible in what areas they would like to volunteer and be ready to learn the best ways we can be advocates for refugees.

March 16-23, 2019

Team Leaders: Olivia Grigaux '19 and Maria Ahmed '20

___ **“Knowing the New Jim Crow” - Mass Incarceration**

Forty percent of children detained in juvenile detention centers end up in prison by the age of 25. We will focus on providing direct service to the children and teens within a juvenile justice facility in hopes to influence positive change in their lives. We will prepare various educational materials so we can develop background knowledge of mass incarceration and its problems in our country. In our direct service, we will travel to a prison community to volunteer with currently incarcerated individuals and provide education, support, and recreational activities. This trip will aim to increase awareness of the school-to-prison pipeline, and the culture of incarceration, within an educated, privileged, and capable population of young adults. We also aim to assist in disrupting the of cycles of incarceration for the children and teens we’ll meet.

March 16-23, 2019

Team Leader: Rachael Broder '20 and Abigail Williams '19

___ “All of us are Related” - Native American Communities and Rights

Native Americans are consistently some of the most impoverished people in America. They have significantly higher rates of alcoholism and suicide than the nation’s average. On this trip, we will be travelling to a Native American reservation that is one of the most impoverished areas in the United States. We will be helping where we are needed, whether it is rebuilding a house, building a community garden, or some other project. Additionally, we will build relationships with the people who live there and learn about the culture and history of the tribe. The goal is not only to provide aid through work projects, but also to begin to mend a long history of mistrust and mistreatment by having positive interactions.

March 16-23, 2019

Team Leader: Adriana Pero '19 and Trisha Agarwal '20