

Alternative Break Program

The Alternative Break program allows College Students the opportunity to volunteer their time providing services to communities during their Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter breaks. These service minded groups are given the opportunity to immerse themselves in an extended volunteer program, providing all manner of services to the Washington DC homeless and needy. While their friends are in Florida, these groups are spending their time volunteering with us, and many of the other service providers in the area.

These groups are provided with accommodation at CCNV. They are housed in the Volunteer Dormitory. They have full access to the Staff Area, where they are able to interact with our staff on a daily basis. This area includes a fully equipped kitchen, a lounge area, shower facilities, and laundry room.

These groups are also involved in many of the same opportunities provided in our other volunteer programs. Additionally, these opportunities often include assisting our staff in duties not available to other groups, which may include serving meals, distributing clothing, assisting the elderly or handicapped, or other interactive meet and greet opportunities. These experiences often demonstrate that there is great diversity in any population, and that there are no specific criteria for becoming homeless.

Scheduling

The Alternative Break Program Schedule is open the entire year, to all colleges, universities, and service minded groups, usually between 8 to 12 people, both national and international. The minimum age requirement for this program is 18 years, unless special arrangements are made prior to arrival. The length of stay may range from a single weekend, to a week, or longer. There is also an opportunity for these groups to interact with other like-minded people, as they're schedule may overlap with that of any other group.

Program

The program schedule includes an orientation program, which includes some of our history, viewing of the PBS documentary Promises to Keep, a Question/Answer and general discussion session. Although we will always have some available volunteer opportunities at CCNV, it is advised that your group contact other local service providers for service opportunities to fill up your schedule first. It is easy for us to work around your schedule.

Available Schedule: Although the program is available year round, there are times, especially during Semester Breaks, when there may be several groups requesting registration for the same time period. Registration is accepted on a 'first come, first served' basis.

Registration

We ask that groups requesting accommodation for the Alternative Break Program initiate contact with us at least 45 days prior to the date they would like to come. This is to provide ample time for all parties involved to determine program availability, and to make other

arrangements if necessary. We are limited to the number of persons we can house at one time. Please note: this is not a free service.

Fee Calculation

Registration Fee: \$250.00 The Registration Fee is required to ensure that the dates and times requested by a group is locked. This means that, allowing for minor schedule changes, the group is assured accommodation space in the Volunteer Section for the requested dates.

Accommodation Fee: \$144.00 per day. The Accommodation Fee is the monetary amount that we charge for an entire 24 hour period. Partial days are prorated as to arrival and departure times. This fee is per day/per group, not per person. It covers full facility usage, including kitchen, showers, lounge, parking, and 24 hour security provided by CCNV Staff Personnel.

Payment Options

Currently, the only manner in which we are able to accept payment is through *check*, or similar options, through the US Postal Service. The Registration Fee, as well as the Group Registration Form, should be sent as soon as possible to assure scheduling. The Registration Form may be sent via facsimile. The Accommodation Fee must be received no later than two (2) weeks prior to the arrival of the group.

Registration Confirmation

You may call, or request to be called, for confirmation of receipt of any payment or other necessary paperwork. You may call us at any time with questions or concerns, Monday through Friday, 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. Our contact information is listed below.

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Phone: (202) 393-1909 or (202) 393-4409
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