



RADIANT LIFE CHURCH

REAL RELATIONSHIPS | LIFE CHANGE | COMMUNITY

New York Dream Center Missions Trip Information

Where are we going?

New York Dream Center
333 W. 17th St
New York, NY 10011

When is the trip?

June 26 through July 2
Ministry will take place from Wednesday, June 27 through Sunday, July 1.
Tuesday, June 26 and Monday, July 2 will be travel days.
We will do some site seeing on Sunday, July 1 after the morning service.

What is a mission's trip all about?

A mission trip is an opportunity to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of others. The primary purpose of a short-term mission trip is to assist the organization (Dream Center NYC) with whatever ministry responsibilities necessary. A mission trip is an opportunity for us to take time from our busy routines to serve others. "When he saw the crowds, he felt compassion for them, because they were distressed and dejected, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is abundant, but the workers are few. Therefore, pray to the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into his harvest.'" Matthew 9:36-37 CSB

What will we be doing?

Adopt a Block: engages people living in public housing by throwing block parties and free community markets. Providing much needed household goods while showing respect and maintaining their dignity. Focus is on building relationships and erasing the stigma of guilt-ridden handouts.

Restore: need based program geared towards the homeless and underserved people of New York. Temporary relief stations are set up throughout the city to provide meals, clothing, personal hygiene items, blankets, and referrals to emergency shelters and other programs.

Visits Program: connects volunteers to people throughout the city to visit their homes. Serves predominantly elderly communities at no cost to them. Ranges from sitting and having a conversation to deep cleaning their home.

Where will we be staying

We have the option of either reserving hotel rooms or staying in Dream Center housing. Both options will cost about \$50/day. The determining factor will be how many people we take on the trip and how close the housing is to our locations of ministry.

What is the age limit

While New York City can be a rough place, this is a relatively safe trip. However, no one under the age of 12 will be permitted to attend and any person 18 years of age and younger must be accompanied by a guardian.



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How much will this trip cost and when is the money due?

Due to the church:

Approximately \$750/person (not including spending money)

\$150 to Dream Center (covers cost of ministry, shirts, nametags, etc.)

\$300 for hotel (6 nights at \$200/room split between 4 people)

\$32 Metro Card

\$50 travel ****subject to change****(approximated \$500 split evenly among 10 team members)

Additional Cost:

\$210 for food (\$30/day for 7 days)

Spending money

Due Dates

March 25: \$180 (secures spot on the trip)

April 29: \$180

May 27: \$180

June 27: \$210 food money plus spending money

Trip Requirements

Monthly meetings that will be determined at a later date for the purpose of praying for our trip, discussing required reading, and team building.

Required reading

When Helping Hurts by Steve Corbett and Brian Fikkert

Radical by David Platt

Spirit Rising by Jim Cymbala

Fundraising:

At RLC we believe in being strategic about fundraising and in such the number of and types of fundraisers we will do for the trip will be determined by the pastoral staff. You are welcome to reach out to family and friends in person or with support letters. Here are 10 tips for preparing your support letters:

1. Keep it short. One page is plenty. Two pages should be your maximum. Quality trumps quantity.
2. Make it look good. First impressions matter. If designing documents isn't your cup of tea, find a friend who can help. Including a picture of you or your team is an easy win.
3. Proofread it. Errors are fairly noticeable... and often avoidable. Have someone help you by reading your letter for any errors before you hit PRINT.
4. Be interesting. Share about what you are doing, the place you are going and the people you will be with, but don't drag out your letter with tons of minute details. (YouthWorks provides a Community Info Sheet for each of our communities; you might include some of those details about the community you're headed to in your support letter.)



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5. Make it personal. People want to support you! Don't send a generic letter from the team when you can send a personal letter from you. While you might share some details about your team, also include what your hopes, fears and needs are.

6. Don't forget the details. Where is the trip? What are the dates? What will you be doing? Is there a send-off service beforehand? How much money are you trying to raise? If they want to donate money, where do they send it and who are checks made out to? A great way to ask for money is to suggest a couple options for dollar amounts (e.g. "I recommend a gift of \$50, \$100 or \$150, but of course, any amount is more than welcome.")

7. Don't just write a "fundraising letter." Support is so much more than people's money. At the same time, there is nothing to be ashamed about when offering people the opportunity to be generous. If asking for money is part of the support you need, make it secondary to asking for prayer. Even if people can't contribute financially, they can certainly still support you.

8. Ask for prayer. And be specific when you do. Give them 4 or 5 things they can pray for, for example: the community and ministries you are visiting, your team, your travels, etc. (If you wrote a team covenant, there is probably some great things to pray for in there!)

9. Be humble and respectful. Don't make the place you're headed seem destitute in an effort to make your trip sound more significant. Remember that Jesus is the hero, not your team. Use language that honors what God is already up to in the place you are headed. Use phrases like, "serve alongside," "partner with" and "learn from."

10. Say thank you. A great way to end your letter is with gratefulness for the people you are asking to partner with you in this mission trip. Thank them in advance for whatever way they choose to support you.