

# The Global Outreach Contract

Global Outreach is a service program of the Office of Campus Ministry. Inspired by Ignatian Spirituality and the mission of Saint Peter's College participants strive to: work for justice; serve with those who welcome our company; learn through mutual sharing of cultural experience, understanding and identity; grow personally, spiritually and intellectually in the Jesuit tradition. GO Ecuador lives out its mission by preparing a community at Saint Peter's throughout the winter and spring to work with poor and the marginalized people in Ecuador. We hope that upon returning, the team and its individuals share their experience and new insights with communities at home. To live the mission and achieve the goals of the program we ask each individual to adopt and respect the five pillars of Global Outreach, which have been created for this purpose. They are:

## **Simplicity of Life/Cultural Sensitivity**

We ask that you:

- Seek to live the richness of life more simply focused on people and their needs rather than material things.
- Strive to remain open to differences of opinion and behavior as they present themselves in encounters with those of another culture.
- Strive not to impose North American values and customs; respect the cultural priorities, modesty, religious values, communication and customs of the Ecuadorian people.

## **Quest for Justice**

We ask that you:

- Work with the poor in pursuit of solidarity toward the goal of making change in the world.
- Strive to become just in your own thoughts, language, and actions so that your work for justice will have credibility.
- Seek to discern the truth and meaning in situations and conditions in which people live, rather than relying on your own prejudices and biases.
- Upon return, make others aware of the need, suffering, and hope in the Ecuadorian communities which you visit. Your mission is not complete until you spread the knowledge you have acquired and convey the stories of Ecuadorian families that have been passed on to you.

## **Community Living**

We ask that you:

- Be open and honest with other community members and be willing to share part of your life with them.
- Take part in the projects/activities including its meetings both before and after the project.
- Do not make decisions that affect the group or the program independently of the project group and Global Outreach.

## **Spirituality**

Global Outreach seeks diversity of faiths and spirituality. We welcome any religion or lack thereof. However, we require that you are open to the beliefs of others and are willing to share your own. Regardless of your degree of spirituality, we ask you:

- to participate in the community time of prayer and reflection
- to respect ideals as articulated in the Catholic Jesuit tradition

## **Desire to Learn**

As “men and women for others” and members of a college community, we seek to join faith with reason; understanding of the heart with critical analysis; good will with grounded training. Throughout our preparation, we will be engaged in formal learning: reading, lectures, research and reflection. These prerequisites to Global Outreach service are intended to support your understanding of culture, history, current events and challenges of social justice specific to your site(s) of service. We undertake these efforts to help you raise critical questions; for the preparedness of our participants; and as an essential act of respect for the cultures into which we are welcomed. In doing so together, we share with one another the solidarity we hope to practice with the people in Ecuador. We understand that it is very difficult to be truly “prepared” for the experience of immersion and service in Ecuador.

**Acceptance to the Global Outreach team is both an honor and a responsibility. Please review the following list of regulations prior to applying to the program.**

### **Pre-Project Expectations**

- Participants are required to have a 2.5 GPA or higher in order to be accepted as part of the Global Outreach team. However, if there are extenuating circumstances, please contact program advisors.
- Global Outreach demands commitment and reliability. It is important to work together as a team before the trip since you will depend on one another in Ecuador. Upon acceptance to the Global Outreach team, participants will be expected to participate fully in weekly meetings, two over-night retreats, group fundraisers and occasional special projects. These are mandatory and serve to strengthen the team dynamic.
- If accepted, individuals are personally responsible for raising \$750.00 towards the cost of their trip; expenses for mandatory medical exam, tetanus shot, optional vaccinations and any medical expenses incurred in Ecuador. It is the

responsibility of the GO participant to secure travel documentation: passport, visa, up-to-date residency papers. You will be provided with a fundraising plan and contract upon acceptance to the Global Outreach team. In the event that a participant is unable to travel to Ecuador, s/he still must pay all non-refundable expenses incurred on his/ her behalf. Exceptions will be made at the discretion of program directors.

- Travel to and in Ecuador will be physically and mentally demanding. You will not be as effective in your service if you are not physically fit. This may mean that in the months prior to the trip, certain changes in lifestyle (re: eating habits, exercise, and consumption of alcohol) may be necessary.
- Brush up on your Spanish! Once the Global Outreach team has been formed, you will want to make a concerted effort towards learning the basics of the language.

**Remember that all actions of participants reflect upon the larger Global Outreach Program of Saint Peter's College. Therefore, all participants are expected to incorporate the above pillars into their daily practice to the best of their ability, and consider pre-project expectations seriously. In addition, all Global Outreach members are bound by the rules and regulations of the NET both here and in Ecuador. This includes the consumption of alcohol, illegal substances and behavior which discredit the integrity of the Global Outreach Program. In the event that a participant chooses not to abide by these guidelines and regulations, s/he will be unable to participate in Global Outreach.**

By signing below, participants accept the pillars of Global Outreach and agree to follow the rules, regulations, and behavioral expectations of the program.

\* I have read and understand the above terms and agree to accept them \*

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

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Leader Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Source: Adapted from Fordham University, GO Global Outreach Application