



HOWARD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

You Can Get There From Here.

ALTERNATIVE
WINTER BREAK
APPLICATION

2010

**HOMELESS
AND
THE CITY** 



**2010 ALTERNATIVE
WINTER BREAK**

NEW YORK CITY ■ January 10—15

Everybody
can be Great because
Everybody
can Serve”

- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

Greetings!

Thank you for your interest in Howard Community College's Alternative Winter Break trip!

This Winter Break we will be traveling to New York City! While in New York we will work with Youth Service Opportunities Project (YSOP) and HELP USA.

YSOP is committed to helping young people become part of the solution to societal problems by showing them how even their smallest actions can make a difference in the lives of others. YSOP prepares future service leaders through a unique method- YSOP Workcamps. The Workcamp begins with a discussion about volunteering and preparation for serving. Each participant shares what he or she will bring to the service work for the day. Then the Workcamp group is divided into smaller teams, each with an AWB advisor. The teams travel on foot or public transportation to service sites in neighborhoods throughout the city.

YSOP volunteers prepare and serve meals at soup kitchens; they help at clothing and furniture banks; they provide recreational activities and companionship to young children; they distribute food and supplies at food pantries; they socialize and bring snacks to people in drop-in centers. On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the teams go to a different service site each day so that, by the end of the week, the teams have seen a variety of different services provided in the city and different neighborhoods in that city. On Tuesday evening, the YSOP Workcampers prepare a meal for homeless people who sleep in a shelter nearby. The shelter guests and YSOP'ers come together for a relaxing dinner and social time. This relatively brief service project gives all Workcampers a common experience and begins to break down stereotypes about homeless people. For more information on YSOP check out www.ysop.org

On Friday, the final day of the trip, we'll work with HELP USA. HELP USA's mission is to provide housing and the supportive services necessary for the homeless and people in need to become and remain self reliant. As a part of our service with HELP USA we will get to meet and work with their Street Soccer Team. HELP USA uses soccer to empower homeless men, women and youth to achieve their goals. For more info on Street Soccer check out www.streetsoccerusa.org/

Please take the time to thoroughly review the application. I am available if you have any additional questions.

Yours in service,

Carol Parreco
Director of Service Learning

Got Questions?

What is an Alternative Winter Break trip?

Alternative Winter Break trips work with national and international communities by training and immersing students in a purposeful week-long service experience designed to connect students and community members while enhancing personal growth, mutual awareness and life long learning.

What do these trips do?

All trips expose students to social issues and provide students with experiences they cannot find on the college campus. Students have volunteered in soup kitchens, planted trees, repaired trails, constructed playgrounds, and most importantly, built relationships with those whom they are helping.

How much does the trip cost?

The cost for the trip is \$200. This cost covers transportation (bus and subway), meals, room and board. The group will be required to fundraise—if enough funds are raised the price of the trip may be reduced.

Is there an advisor?

English professors Rick Leith and Stacy Korbela. They serve as participants, contributing to group discussions and decisions like everyone else. Advisors add a unique perspective based on their life experience and academic discipline.

Why are these trips "alternative"?

These trips are drug and alcohol free, offering students an alternative to the more "traditional" winter break. This experience allows students to be immersed in environments that enable them to interact with diverse communities and understand social issues.

How will we get there?

We will travel by bus to New York. While we are in New York we will travel using the subway system.

What do we eat and where do we sleep?

We will stay at the L-Hostel. They will provide us with bunk beds and linens. We will prepare and eat our meals there.

Who can go on the trip?

Students enrolled in a Fall semester course at HCC. We will be taking 10 students. You must be at least 18 to participate in this trip.

Do you have a waiting list?

Yes! Deposits are not required to be put on a waiting list. You will be contacted if a spot opens up.

Who can I contact if I have additional questions?

Carol Parreco

CParreco@howardcc.edu / 410-772-4432

Important Dates to Remember:

Friday, November 6, 2009

Applications due to DH 339!

Wednesday, November 11, 2009

Notification of Acceptance

Monday, November 16, 2009

\$100 deposit due to the Cashier

Week of November 16th

Orientation

Week of November 30th

Team meeting

Wednesday, December 9th

Remaining balance (\$100) due

Week of January 4th

Team meeting

Sunday, January 10, 2010

Depart from Baltimore

Friday, January 15, 2010

Arrive in Baltimore

Week of January 25th

Team meeting

✓ Checklist:

- Pages 5—8 Completed
- AWB Application Cover Completed
- Typed Essay Questions
- AWB Participant Responsibility Agreement
- Entire AWB Packet turned in by
Friday, November 6th

Howard Community College Alternative Winter Break Policies and Procedures

SELECTION PROCESS

Only Howard Community College students may participate in this trip. Participants must be at least 18 years old. To receive full consideration all applications must be:

- Completed in full
- Submitted to the Center for Service Learning, DH 339 by the deadline.
- Applications will be accepted until 5 pm on **Friday, November 6, 2009.**
- *Participants will be selected based on their responses to the essay questions.*

Applicants will be notified of acceptance November 11, 2009 via email.

FEES

The cost of this trip is \$200.

- A \$100 non-re-fundable deposit is due five days after notification on November 16, 2009.
- The remaining balance of \$100 is due on December 9, 2009.

FUNDRAISING

Participants will be required to participate in fundraising. The group will determine the fundraising project with assistance from the Director of Service Learning.

FINAL CONFIRMATION

No participant spot is secure until the balance of the AWB participant fee has been paid in full.

DRUGS & ALCOHOL

All AWB participants agree to remain free of alcohol and illegal substances from the time they leave Baltimore until they return. Any participant who uses or possesses any of these substances during the trip will be required to leave their site immediately and WILL NOT be able to participate in future Alternative Break programs or functions. All transportation expenses from the site will be the responsibility of the offending participant and NO fees will be reimbursed. The incident will be referred to the Vice President of Student Services.

TRAVEL

All AWB participants must leave from and return to Baltimore with their entire group, regardless of the location of the site.

ACCOMODATIONS

All participants will stay at L-Hostel located at 1961 7th Avenue New York, New York. Two rooms have been reserved. It may be necessary to share a room with a member of the opposite sex.

PRE-BREAK

All AWB participants are required to attend orientation (the week of November 16th) and participate in the team meetings the week of November 30th, and the week of January 4th.

POST-BREAK

All AWB participants are required to attend the final team meeting the week of January 25th.

GAMBLING & GAMING

All AWB participants agree not to participate in any gambling activities or patronize any gaming establishments during the trip.

HEALTH INSURANCE

All AWB participants are required to have medical insurance.

SAFETY

All AWB participants are required to follow all safety procedures established by the worksite. All participants will be required to wear hard sole work shoes when engaging in construction work.

2009 Alternative Winter Break Application Cover

Please be sure to print clearly and use blue or black ink. Return Application Cover, typed essay questions, signed Participant Responsibility Agreement, signed Waiver and completed schedule (pages 5-8) to The Center for Service Learning, Duncan Hall room 339 by 5 p.m. **Friday, November 6, 2009.**

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____ Email: _____

Have you ever participated in a Service Learning Project? Yes No

Application Questions:

Listed below are the required application questions. Answers should be typed, double spaced and stapled to the AWB Application Cover Sheet. Respond to the questions in the order that they appear. *Participants will be chosen based on their responses to the questions below.*

1. What do you want to get out of this experience?
2. What do you have to offer to the team and the community (skills, strengths, knowledge, etc.)?
3. Describe any experiences you have had with diversity and explain how you felt about it and what you learned from it.
4. Describe an event or situation that demonstrates your work ethic and a high level of commitment.

The Center for Service Learning Use:

Date Received: _____

Application Cover:

Essay Questions:

Part. Respon. Agree:

Waivers:

Schedule:

AWB Participant Responsibility Agreement

Selection:

I understand that all applications are considered for acceptance and that those applications that clearly demonstrate a commitment to service and to being a part of team will be selected.

Team Meetings:

As an AWB participant, I will attend orientation (the week of November 16th) and participate in the team meetings the week of November 30th, the week of January 4th, and the week of January 25th

AWB Participant Policies:

I understand that I am required to depart and arrive from Baltimore with my group. I understand that personal trips to see friends, family or other reasons during the trip are not permitted and that I must participate in all planned group activities.

I will complete and submit all required forms two weeks after notification. Required forms include, but are not limited to, an emergency information form, a substance abuse form, and a waiver of indemnification. I understand that AWB is a substance free experience and I will not use illegal substances or alcohol between departing from and returning to Baltimore.

I understand that not following these policies could result in being required to leave the site immediately at my own cost and WILL NOT be able to participate in future Alternative Break programs or functions.

Payment Policy:

I understand that I am required to pay a \$100 non-refundable deposit five days after notification of acceptance, effectively committing myself to participating in my assigned trip and reserving my position on the team. I also understand that the remaining balance of \$100 is due on December 9, 2009.

I understand that if I must withdraw from the trip at any time, I will forfeit any and all payments that I have made.

By signing below, I indicate that I have read and fully understand the policies above, as well as those stated on page 4 of this packet, in their entirety. I agree to the terms of this contract. I understand that failure to abide by these policies can result in expulsion from the trip and exclusion from all future Alternative Break programs.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print Name: _____



HOWARD
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

You Can Get There From Here.

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Columbia, MD 21044-3197
410-772-4800
TDD: 410-772-4822

www.howardcc.edu

WAIVER OF RESPONSIBILITY
Howard Community College 2010 Alternative Winter Break

In connection with my participation in the Alternative Winter Break trip to New York, New York on Sunday, January 10, 2010 through Friday, January 15, 2010 sponsored by Howard Community College (HCC), I understand and voluntarily assume all risks inherent in the nature of this activity. I waive all claims, costs, liabilities, expenses, and judgments against HCC and Howard County government and release HCC and its trustees, officers, agents, representatives, and employees and Howard County government from all claims, costs, liabilities, expenses, and judgments arising out of my participation in the activity. I further agree to abide by all rules and regulations of HCC.

Signature

Print Name

Date

Help us schedule the team meetings...

Please fill out your general availability (for 1.5 hours) during the following weeks:

Week of November 16th

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

Week of November 30th

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

Week of January 4th

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday

Week of January 25th

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday