Hope Serving Registration Bulletin
Summer 2018

Purpose
The Hope Serving: Service Learning Experience offers Delta Gammas the opportunity to develop as leaders on a local, regional and (inter)national level. The Hope Serving program encourages learning and critical thinking through hands-on service, community involvement, civic and social justice education. These trips can be extremely transformative experiences for women.

As a result of the Hope Serving experience, each participant will be able to:
- Describe and emulate the Service for Sight mission.
- Engage in lifelong service endeavors.
- Create a cullmnae relationship.
- Assess how Service for Sight impacts her as an individual.
- Convey a rich understanding of the population served, and how this understanding parallels her sisterhood experience.
- Develop and articulate a deeper understanding of herself.

Service Sites
There will be three Hope Serving trips held during summer 2018.

Through a partnership with the U.S. Association of Blind Athletes (USABA), participants will be volunteering at the Goalball National Tournament in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The trip will begin with an on-site orientation on Wednesday, June 20, 2018 and will conclude early Sunday, June 24, 2018. Hope Serving participants will serve as minor goalball officials, shot clock operators, timers, score keepers and team liaisons during the 2018 USABA Goalball Nationals, USABA’s largest event of the year. Applicants must attend the entire length of the program.

This summer, CNIB (Canadian National Institute for the Blind) will welcome hands-on help from Hope Serving volunteers to support the day camps offered free of charge to children and youth who are blind or partially sighted living within the Greater Toronto Area (GTA). The CNIB Day Camps provide children and youth a learning, recreational and social experience. In addition to fun and play through crafts, sport and recreation, the week-long camps offer a chance to meet and interact with their vision loss peers, learning crucial life skills including social interaction, and how to maintain a healthy and physically active lifestyle. The trip will begin on Sunday, July 8, 2018 and conclude on Saturday, July 14, 2018. Applicants must attend the entire length of the program.
Hope Serving will be visiting **OWL Camp** for the third year in a row. The trip will begin with an on-site orientation on Saturday, July 14, 2018 and will conclude Sunday, July 22, 2018. Oklahomans Without Limits (OWL) is NewView Oklahoma’s free summer camp for youth ages 8-18, who are blind or visually impaired. Going into its 19th year, OWL Camp now accepts more than 40 kids who are blind or visually impaired from across Oklahoma! Camp activities are carefully planned and designed to encourage collaboration, improve confidence and self-esteem, improve independence and challenge societal and self-imposed limits through a variety of activities in an accessible environment. The focus is on capability rather than disability. The program will be held at Camp Classen in Davis, OK. Participants are not permitted to miss portions of the program. **Applicants must attend the entire length of the program.**

*Please note that depending on the service site you are placed in, you may be required to have a valid passport, complete a background check and/or fill out additional paperwork.*

**Program Considerations/Participant Expectations**

We hold high expectations for participants and also ask them to have high expectations for themselves. If selected, you will be part of a group of 8-10 Delta Gammas who will have the opportunity to participate in a remarkable service experience. Applicants should consider the following when applying:

1. While rewarding, you may experience situations that are unfamiliar and possibly uncomfortable for you. You will work hard, get your hands dirty, sweat a lot and be challenged physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.

2. The Hope Serving program puts service at the forefront of everything we do. This is not a vacation. Facilities can be less than what you are used to at home, with limited access to showers and private bathrooms. You should expect limited comforts. Lodging is provided at all of the sites.

3. The Hope Serving program requires all participants to fundraise $490 for the program. This will cover all travel expenses. $245 must be raised by April 30, 2018 and the remaining $245 needs to be raised by May 30, 2018. If a participant does not meet each of the fundraising deadlines, they may be removed as a participant and another participant selected. The money collected is non-refundable.

4. Service activities may involve an element of risk.

5. Delta Gamma will provide team leaders for each trip; however, participants are empowered to make wise decisions in regards to their own safety and the safety of others.

6. Pre- and post-trip meeting attendance is mandatory, and absences will not be accepted. Many more Delta Gammas will apply for this program than we are able to accommodate, and it is expected that you will fully participate in all components of the Hope Serving program, including virtual meetings and trainings. If you miss any virtual meeting, we reserve the right to replace your spot with another applicant. Once participants are selected, the pre- and post-trip meetings will be scheduled.

7. Hope Serving is an alcohol- and drug-free program for all participants (regardless of age). Once selected, participants will sign a substance-free policy statement. Failure to follow the substance-free policies of the trip may result in the participant being asked to leave the trip at her own expense.
8. Your actions on this trip will not only reflect on you, but also the team, your chapter, Delta Gamma Fraternity and Delta Gamma Foundation.

**Applicant Requirements**
The Hope Serving program is open to all initiated Delta Gammas in good standing.

Participant selection criteria is as follows:
- Initiated Delta Gamma member in good standing. For collegians, this means good standing in your chapter. For alumnae, this means paying per-capita dues for the fiscal year.
- Motivation to serve, but not necessary to have previous service experience.
- Physically able and willing to complete the service work needed by the service site.

**Selection and Participation Process**
1. Participants must complete the Hope Serving application. A completed application includes both the Hope Serving application and for collegians, the Application Certification, which is completed by the advisory team chairman (ATC) and vice president: social standards. Completed applications are due **February 15, 2018**. Late applications may not be accepted.
   - **Click here** to complete the Hope Serving Application.
   - **Click here** to complete the ATC Application Certification (collegians only).
   - **Click here** to complete the vp: social standards Application Certification (collegians only).

2. Due to the high number of applicants, the Hope Serving leadership team will review and evaluate all the Hope Serving applications and then select teams. Applicants will be notified by February 23rd if they qualify for a phone or skype interview. Phone or skype interviews will be conducted starting the week of February 26th.

3. Participants for the Hope Serving team will be selected, and notified, the week of March 12th.

4. Additional details regarding transportation, logistics and attire will be shared upon selection.

5. The Hope Serving program requires all participants to fundraise $490 for the program. This will cover all travel expenses. $245 must be raised by April 30, 2018 and the remaining $245 needs to be raised by May 30, 2018. If a participant does not meet each of the fundraising deadlines, they may be removed as a participant and another participant selected. The money collected is non-refundable.

6. Participants must participate in five pre-trip orientation virtual meetings. These will be scheduled based on the selected participants’ schedules. If you miss any meeting, we reserve the right to replace your spot with another applicant.

7. Participants must attend the entire length of the program.

8. We ask that all participants complete the following post-trip requirements:
   - Participate in one post-trip virtual meeting to continue education on related topics. Topics and presentations will be developed by participants. This meeting will be scheduled based on participants’ schedules.
   - Continue service work with a local Service for Sight organization.
   - Write testimonials of their experience for both marketing and personal reflection purposes.
• Complete a post-trip assessment.

Team Leaders
Each service trip will be lead by one collegiate team leader and one alumna team leader. The selection criteria for the team leader is as follows:
• Previous alternative break/service learning/mission trip experience.
• Delta Gamma member in good standing.
• Ability to foster group dynamics and serve as a mediator.
• Experience in leading or facilitating group conversations.

The role of the team leader is as follows:
• Communicate with service site contact.
• Foster group dynamics.
• Lead pre-trip orientation, on-site orientation, on-site daily meetings/reflection activities and post-trip meetings. Curriculum will be provided.
• Mediate conflicts.
• Organize on-site group activities.

If interested in serving as a team leader, mark this choice on your application.

Service for Sight Hour Credit
Each collegiate participant will receive 50 service hours for completing the program. The 50 service hours for each collegiate participant will include an exemption the following academic year from their 10 required service hours/per academic year. We are also requiring the collegiate participants to return to their chapter after the program is complete, and present to their chapter about their Hope Serving experience. This will be part of the Anchors Away with Foundation Awareness annual event, which each collegiate chapter is already required to do per academic year.

Each alumna participant will receive 50 service hours for completing the program. We are encouraging the alumnae participants to make a presentation to their alumnae chapter/association at a meeting following their experience with Hope Serving.

Costs
The Hope Serving program requires all participants to fundraise $490 for the program. This will cover all travel expenses. $245 must be raised by April 30, 2018 and the remaining $245 needs to be raised by May 30, 2018. If a participant does not meet each of the fundraising deadlines, they may be removed as a participant and another participant selected. The money collected is non-refundable.

Cancellation Fee
The cancellation fee is $300. It may be assessed to any participant who cancels after March 23, 2018. No replacements are permitted.

Travel and Event Policy
See the Travel and Event Policy for more information regarding attendance, transportation and cancellations. The Travel and Event Policy applies to this event.

Deadline & Submission
The completed application, including Applicant Certification by the ATC and vice president: social standards (collegians only), must be submitted by **February 15, 2018**. Late applications may not be accepted.

- [Click here](#) to complete the Hope Serving Application
- [Click here](#) to complete the ATC Application Certification (collegians only)
- [Click here](#) to complete the vp: social standards Application Certification (collegians only)

**Questions**

Please contact assistant director of education & development for programming Crystal Sutton at [crystal@deltagamma.org](mailto:crystal@deltagamma.org) with any questions.