

Service Retreat Information

Inner City Mission offers a unique chance for your church to minister to the homeless. We would like to invite you to be a part of our Service Retreat Weekend. We will give your group a chance to really understand why people are homeless. We will give you a chance to hear stories from either current or former residents who are moving in a positive, forward direction. Your group will have a chance to directly affect the lives of broken people with the love of Jesus.

We believe that the cost of the weekend is very reasonable for those who come to serve. We ask only that you provide the food for about 50-60 people (this number includes your group), and cook all the meals that you plan to eat with us. We have about 35 people who live with us, and we can handle up to 20-25 people on your end. We do take groups of smaller sizes as well. We would love to have your group come for a weekend, or any time that we can find a date that works on both ends.

The only other cost involved would be if you want to do something special with our residents (i.e. a fun activity for our kids). You will need to bring sleeping gear, toiletries, and changes of clothing. You will most likely be sleeping on the floor. If you are interested in planning a Service Retreat Weekend please contact Caleb Payne at caleb@innercitymission.net or 217-525-3940. Please have two or three alternate dates in mind when you call. We average about two to three groups per month and the weekends fill up quickly, so call soon. A tentative schedule is listed below:

Service Retreat Schedule

FRIDAY EVENING

8:00 pm: Arrival at ICM (This time is flexible—whatever works for your group is OK with us)

8:15 pm: Unpack and Orientation

9:00 pm: Challenge Session I (or grocery shopping if needed)

10:00 pm: Free Time with the residents

11:00 pm: Bedtime (This too is flexible)

SATURDAY

7:30 am: Breakfast preparation

8:30 am: Breakfast

9:00 am: Cleanup

9:30 am: Work Projects

12:30 pm: Lunch

1:00 pm: Cleanup

1:30 pm: Finish Work Projects

3:00 pm: Fun activity with mission kids

4:30 pm: Supper preparation

5:30 pm: Supper (This is flexible depending upon afternoon schedule)

6:00 pm: Clean up

7:00 pm: Praise & Worship

8:00 pm: Snack Time

8:30 pm: Challenge Session II

10:00 pm: Free Time

SUNDAY MORNING:

7:30 am: Breakfast preparation

8:30 am: Breakfast

9:00 am: Cleanup

9:30 am: Prayer Time

11:00 am: Worship (Your group will be in charge of worship service on Sunday morning. We can help you with any or all aspects of the service)

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

Technically the Service Retreat is concluded after the morning Worship. However some groups like to stay and cook lunch and hang out with our residents. Other groups like to go have lunch on their own and use it as a time to debrief about the weekend. We are able to have most groups on the road back home between 12:30-1:00 pm.