

2017 AFB Trip Descriptions

- Food Injustice & Insecurity
 - Food insecurity has become an epidemic in the United States over the past decades. The USDA defines food insecure as a state in which “consistent access to adequate food is limited by a lack of money and other resources at times during the year.” An eighth of the United States’ population struggles to feed themselves and their family. A large portion of those who are food insecure are children who are more likely to develop depression, anxiety, and behavioral problems. Our trip will be serving in a region that has been estimated to need about \$50 million to meet the nutritional needs of its residents. We will be working with a variety of organizations that seek to provide healthy and frequent meals to thousands of struggling families.
- Human Trafficking
 - One significant issue this metropolitan area suffers from is Human Trafficking. According to a study done at Emory University in 2016, “There are 10-30 million modern day slaves (Taneeru, 2011), with 80% of the transnational victims being women or girls who are sex trafficked (Pollaris Project 2010).” Our trip location’s booming business and large population attract a large majority of the human trafficking in the US and about 9% of trafficking in the state happens in the airport. The city’s high rates of poverty, illiteracy, substance abuse, homelessness, unstable family life, and other factors make young women targets traffickers believe they can easily take advantage of. Our goal for this trip is to learn more about the issues facing victims of human trafficking and serve with several organizations working to combat human trafficking as well as help victims with issues they face post-trafficking.
- Gender Identities & Modern Inequalities
 - Participants can expect to partake in a variety of activities, including working with LGBTQ+ advocacy, in a women’s shelter, with folks in halfway homes after being incarcerated, and homeless populations. Participants can also expect to engage on issues related to multiple gender identities, including women’s issues, masculinity, and issues for trans and gender nonconforming folks as well. Thoughtful reflection and engagement in group discussion and activities is an essential part of this trip, and participants will also complete indirect service alongside various communities directly affected by gender identities and inequalities.
- Issues in Intersectionality & Inclusion
 - On our Alternative Fall Break Trip, we are focusing on issues in intersectionality and inclusion! We will be working with various organizations to better serve the people in this community. One day we will be working with a group of young girls who are learning entrepreneurship skills and gaining confidence. Another day we will be serving dinner to three groups of people who are in need and recovering from less than ideal situations. We plan to learn more about this community through local museums, and have a group dinner at a local restaurant! The ultimate goal is to understand and

enhance a community that is different than ours, but come home and see the similarities in disparities between our service city and our home, Knoxville.

- Marginalized Youth
 - This Alternative Fall Break Trip will work hand in hand with youth that have lived in the margins of their communities. You will have the opportunity to work hands-on with the youth and our community partners, taking you out of your comfort zone and motivating you to spark change. Our goal is to educate participants about the obstacles millions of children are facing in urban areas throughout the country. Chiefly, we aim to foster personal, intellectual, and social growth for both our community partners and ourselves. Through this, our hope is that participants leave with a deeper understanding of servant leadership and the desire to continue service in Knoxville. The trip is equal parts rigorous and rewarding. Will you take the risk?
- Civil Rights Within Marginalized Populations
 - Across the United States, the rate of children in poverty continues to be significantly high; when kids' basic needs fail to be met, it causes a multitude of problems in their everyday lives. This trip will travel to a city in which homeless youth are often marginalized from the rest of society because of their socioeconomic status, gender identification, and/or ethnic/cultural background. This trip will place emphasis on the social factors and burdens placed on youth and their families which lead to a life of poverty and homelessness. Homelessness can become a harsh reality for many youth and this trip will help to enrich students' understandings on the societal standards that often force youth to make choices that won't benefit their lives.
- Wealth Distribution Awareness
 - Even after decades of technological advancement and policy changes, America's struggle against poverty persists. In 2014, forty-five million Americans were trapped underneath the poverty line. Changes in policy and infrastructure only go so far; volunteers are needed to end the vicious cycle that disenfranchises much of America's urban population. On this trip, we will take on both direct and indirect forms of service in helping the homeless and those affected by poverty. To understand how these wealth inequalities formed over time, we will investigate this city's history of poverty throughout the decades. The economy, education, and justice system all play crucial roles in America's wealth distribution. Each of these will be discussed to better understand the problems we will be seeing firsthand. Through service learning and reflection, members will develop informed opinions and take such lessons home with them. By bringing awareness to socioeconomic inequities, we can make a difference, one person at a time.