

Section 7- Final Preparations

Section Overview

It's almost here! The time is drawing near and hopefully you and your team are excited. This part will sum everything up including commissioning, last minute preparations and packing lists. Please make sure you contact City on a Hill immediately if there are any diet or activities restrictions we need to be aware of.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, feel free to give us a call at 414-931-6670 or email us at info@cityonahillmilwaukee.org.

Being Commissioned

We highly encourage all teams and team members to be commissioned by their church, prior to coming to City on a Hill. This will bring awareness about the trip and also allow the congregation to pray and “send you off” just like Christ did to his disciples in Matthew 28. The Sunday before you leave for the trip, gather the whole team at the front of church to participate. Have a member read the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-19) and another read Matthew 5:14-16. Have the church leaders or members gather around you to pray and commission you to the mission field of Milwaukee.

Here are some additional great ideas!!

1. Ask each team member to give a quick statement about what they're expecting God to teach them while on the trip.
2. Ask a couple team members to give their testimony and why they're looking forward to the trip.
3. Ask a team member to share something they've learned during the training process and discussions.
4. Prepare post cards addressed to City on a Hill and pass them out to your congregation or have them set up on a table at the back. Encourage members from your congregation to write a few words of encouragement to the whole group and mail the cards the day the group leaves for the trip. The cards will be delivered to your team while on the trip.
5. On a card, list the names of all of the team members. Pass them out to the members of the congregation as a reminder to pray while you're on your trip.

Gearing Up

Arrival Time & Departure Time

Our program begins on Tuesday at 1pm with welcome & orientation (no lunch provided). Groups will depart on Sunday no later than 2:30 pm. If you have special requests regarding these times, please contact the Urban Missions Coordinator.

Confirm Group Numbers

Each group should confirm their numbers **at least two weeks prior** to the trip. The number of people attending does affect the plans that are made. Please be sure to keep City on a Hill informed of any last minute changes.

Establish Prayer Partners

If you haven't already done so, remind your team members to establish a prayer partner for each day they are on the trip. Do this during the commissioning service.

Emergency Procedures & Numbers

Please give all family members/guardians the number for City on a Hill for emergency purposes only (**414-931-6670**). They can leave a message for Brooke and the message will get passed on to the necessary person. Please make sure it's communicated that only team leaders will have cell phones during the trip, therefore calling team member cell phones, will not be an effective way to speak their family member.

Mail

Family, friends, or prayer partners can also send mail to participants at City on a Hill, 2224 W. Kilbourn Ave. Milwaukee, WI 53233. Please make sure they know the exact dates when team members will be at City on a Hill. If mail is received after the team member has left, it will be returned to the sender.

Electronic Devices

It's important for team members to remember that they're on a mission's trip, not a vacation. Therefore cell phones, iPods, video games, and CD players will not be allowed during the trip, unless for ministry purposes. These items will be put away during the trip and will be returned upon departure.

Background Checks

City on a Hill requires a current background checks on all adult leaders/sponsors on youth missions trips. If the church has not already done a background check, City on a Hill will required the individual to have one done in order to attend. Any college students or adult participant that are not registered through a church are required to have a background check completed through City on a Hill during the registration process.

Packing List

(One suitcase, small bag, and sleeping bag per person...it's only 5 nights)

- Sleeping bag or bedding for twin bed
- Pillow
- Bible
- Training materials
- Notebook and pen/pencil
- Snacks(optional)
- Modest swimsuit
- Bottle for water
- Bathroom items/deodorant/shampoo etc..
- Towel(s)
- 2 nice outfits for church (dress pants/skirts)
- 3 casual outfits (day to day, nothing fancy)
- 2 outfits for service projects
- Toothpaste/toothbrush
- Socks and comfortable shoes
- Undergarments
- Light jacket
- Alarm clock
- Camera
- Sun block
- Medication, if necessary
- Money for one meal- \$12
- Spending money (Optional- \$20-\$30)

Gifts for City on a Hill: (Optional)

- ◆ Toys from \$1 store
- ◆ Wrapped candy
- ◆ Small plastic or paper cups

Things NOT allowed during trip:

- ◆ Short shorts or skirts
- ◆ Spaghetti strap tank tops
- ◆ Expensive jewelry or items
- ◆ Video games/ DVD Players/I pods/Cell phones

Preparation & Expectations

The best way to prepare for the trip is to pray!!! Here are some specific things to pray for:

- ◆ the people you will be ministering to
- ◆ an open heart to what God wants to show you through this trip and see people as God does
- ◆ safety for everyone and wisdom for the trip leaders and unity in the group

Safety Precautions

Even though Milwaukee may be an unfamiliar place, always remember that God is our protector. Below are a few safety precautions that you should take while on the trip. We will also review additional guidelines on the first day the trip.

1. Stay with your group or leader
2. Use common sense and street smarts
3. Most importantly... Always follow the instructions of the leaders!

It is expected...

- ◆ You will be on time, all of the time.
- ◆ You will have a servant attitude all the time
- ◆ You will be flexible and know this is not vacation time
- ◆ You will follow the instructions of the leaders and be respectful too all
- ◆ You will not laugh if you see something different.
- ◆ You will be on your best behavior at all times.
- ◆ You will work to the best of my ability at all times.
- ◆ You will leave all valuables at home or in your dorm room
- ◆ You will be challenged and enjoy your experience in Milwaukee.
- ◆ You will leave a changed person
- ◆ You will not be a spectator but an active participant.
- ◆ You will stretch yourself and make an effort to get out of your comfort zone and try to learn new skills
- ◆ **You will take a fast from your IPOD, cell phone, or videogames, and CD players during the trip.**
- ◆ You will not see this trip as a time to spend more time with your “special someone”.
- ◆ You will consider yourself “unattached” during the trip.
- ◆ You will not be scouting for your next boyfriend/girlfriend while on the trip