



CITY CENTER

Short-Term Missions Packet

If you are hungry for a life full of passion and purpose, if you're ready to use your specific gifts and abilities to make a mark on the world, and if you're eager to be reminded that God loves you and has a plan for your life... The City Center Short-Term Missions Experience is for YOU!!

The City Center was founded in 2016 and its mission is to bring relief and restoration to lives in Oklahoma City. Led by Pastor Jed Chappell and his wife Julie, The City Center was birthed out of their great love for Oklahoma City. Pastor Jed has a powerful life story as a reckless youth living as a drug dealer and criminal, to becoming a pastor committed to seeing lives in Oklahoma City, the same city he helped poison, fully restored.

If you make a mission trip to The City Center, a few opportunities your team will take part in is playing with neglected and abused kids in gang-infested neighborhoods, busing people to church from drug-infested neighborhoods, homeless shelters, and drug rehabs, and handing out food and other items to people experiencing homelessness.

Along with us, you will be working hard, praying loud, and returning home exhausted. And with us, you will be an important part of the miracle for which we can take absolutely no credit.

- Short Term Mission CREW

Outreach Assignments

Your team will meet with The City Center Outreach Leader right before heading out to the outreach site. This is your time to receive information about the outreach, get to know the leader, ask questions, and be challenged and inspired.

Mornings and afternoons your team will be sent out on various ministries and outreaches. Your team will most likely be staying together, depending on the size of your group. The City Center's daily operation schedule might be subject to change, depending on larger events launched by The City Center, such as Back-to-School, Thanksgiving, or Christmas Outreaches.

As you come here to serve alongside us and to be a part of the inner city miracle God is unfolding before our eyes, we trust Him with using all of your ability and will do our very best to give you a great experience.

Description of Ministry Opportunities

Adopt a Block

Adopt a Block is the heartbeat ministry of The City Center. Adopt a Block serves the community in any way possible. "See a need and meet it" is the philosophy behind everything we do. This ministry exists to build relationships and stay consistent in the community. Volunteers with Adopt a Block have the chance to help with food distribution, going into areas where people are experiencing homelessness and intense poverty. This ministry also does random acts of kindness in the community, as well as picking up trash, painting, sweeping the streets; basically any way that we can help change the atmosphere of the community.

After School Program

The City Center offers a safe environment for kids from kindergarten through high school as an alternative to being home alone or on the streets. You will have an opportunity to minister by interacting through games, serving a meal, and helping with homework/tutoring.

Mobile Shower Truck

Volunteers will be assigned to various parts of this ministry in the most poverty stricken areas in Oklahoma City. You will provide a basic need through the offering of a shower, handing out shower kits, distributing clean socks/underwear, washing/folding towels, and cleaning the truck between showers.

Community Service

The City Center partners with other non-profit organizations in our community, such as City Rescue Mission, to meet the needs of the homeless and poor. Volunteers will spend time preparing/serving meals and cleaning at the largest homeless shelter in Oklahoma City. Other community service projects may be assigned based on need and number of volunteers available.

What incoming teams need to know.

Cost involved:

Our Short-Term Mission program is designed for your team to arrive on Monday and depart either Sunday or Monday.

We offer 6-7 night stays at the City Center that include on-site housing and all meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner.) The cost for this short-term mission trip is \$450 per person.

When can I check in?

All teams check in on Monday between the hours of 1:00pm-3:00pm. Check-out times are on Sunday or Monday (see note above.) We can be flexible and accommodate what works best for your team. We always recommend that teams stay until Sunday and leave after one of our three services so that they can have the full City Center experience. Each team member also receives one free t-shirt.

Accommodations:

During your stay at City Center, you will share a dormitory room with 6 to 18 people. None of the rooms have individual showers. A community shower, which is two shower stalls (one shower room for men and one shower room for women), is located on the floor you are housed. During construction, the mobile shower truck will be utilized to provide hot/individual showers, and it will be the responsibility of the group leader to assign shower times. Unfortunately, we do not have couple housing or private individual rooms. There is Wi-Fi available on campus. City Center will have a classroom area provided for team meeting space. There is also a kitchen in your building that your team will have access to at all times. City Center will provide breakfast/lunch/dinner; however, we strongly encourage teams to bring their own drinks/snacks if desired.

Facilities:

- 24 Hour Security
- Breakfast, Lunch, and Dinner Included
- Housekeeping
- Linens and Towels

Policies:

- No Smoking/No Alcohol/No Drugs
- No Weapons

How do I book a trip?

First, call the Short-Term Missions office at 405-921-8227 to check availability on dates, then fill out the application online at www.OKCity.center. If you fill out the application before calling us to check availability, you'll need to wait for a phone call/email from us to confirm the dates you are requesting. As soon as everything is confirmed we can make your booking. We will write and send you a contract agreement that needs to be signed and sent back to us, along with a deposit of \$100.00 by the requested date on the contract. As soon as we've received this, your booking is confirmed, and you are set to come! Monthly payments should be made on the remaining balance of your trip with balance due in full 14 days prior to arrival. Our missions Coordinator can work with you on payment-plan arrangements.

Team members:

Due to the character of the program, we must stress that *no one* under the age of 14 is allowed on this trip unless their parent is in attendance. Younger youth are often not ready for the challenges of the City Center's environment and outreaches. We understand you may have a very mature 13-year-old, but please, we ask that only those 14 years and older attend. Thank you! If coming as an individual, you must be 18.

Transportation:

We ask that you provide your own transportation the entire time you're in OKC. You'll need transportation to get to each Outreach Site; a leader will help direct your team to each Site. You can either follow them, or if you have space in your van, they'll be happy to ride along. We've provided a list of recommended rental companies below.

Church Services:

City Center strongly encourages all team members to attend Wednesday evening and Sunday morning services at Victory Church-OKC Campus, located at 4300 N MacArthur Blvd,

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73122. Trust me, you are not going to want to miss it! Service times are on Sundays at 8:15am, 10am, and 11:45am, and Wednesdays at 7pm.

Dress code:

City Center sends outreach teams into the neediest areas of Oklahoma City. While you are here, you are representing City Center and a Christian lifestyle. It is very important that all volunteers and visiting team members dress modestly and in such a way that does not draw attention to themselves.

1. No spaghetti strapped, midriff, or low-cut tops.
2. Shorts or skirts MUST be at modest length. Basketball shorts are fine.
3. Closed-toe shoes must be worn on outreaches and on campus work assignments.

In the Streets:

Your team will be able to experience several different areas of ministry. At City Center, a typical week will include outreaches that involve ministering to people and prep work. Have your team get ready to give their testimony and pray with many people. Also, learn some Spanish!

Age limit:

We ask that you PLEASE respect this rule we have set up. Remember this is a lot of on-the-field missions work - going to largely populated areas with people who are experiencing homelessness and working in gang communities. Our Outreach Directors really care about the volunteers they take out with them. Thank you!

How safe is the neighborhood?

The neighborhoods in which you will be ministering and working are not safe. During these outreaches, you and your team will be under constant supervision of experienced City Center staff that know the streets inside and out. They are there to guide and protect you. Using wisdom, trusting God, nothing will happen to your team.

Who should I bring on the mission trip?

People that are spiritually, physically, and emotionally ready for the kind of exposure inner city ministry of this caliber brings forth. And even if they may not seem ready, this trip could be an eye-opener to teens, or even young adults, who are in a dry season.

What kind of teams can I bring?

Only your imagination sets the limits! We feel tremendously blessed to have you! All adult team, a youth team, or mixed crew; everybody's welcome and we will do our best to set up a schedule that suits the character of your group.

What kind of ministries will we be doing? Do we get to pick?

The Short-Term Missions crew will do their absolute best to give you a great City Center experience. You will work alongside us wherever we have the need. If you do have a preference, please let us know and we'll do our best to accommodate.

How should I prepare my team for the mission trip?

Pray! Pray, pray, pray! Explain what kind of people they will meet and minister to, go through the rules and information, and make sure they're ready for a challenging, stretching, and amazing week.

What are the meals like:

We prepare all meals homemade, serving breakfast, lunch, and dinner from Monday-Sunday. Unfortunately, with the magnitude of people we serve on a daily basis, we won't be able to accommodate those with special diet requests. On days when your team is serving at The City Rescue Mission, please plan to eat lunch and/or dinner with the residents there, as this is a time for fellowship and personal interaction with those we are impacting.

Will there be any free time?

Yes, in the mornings between breakfast and ministry assignments, as well as Monday evenings after check-in and orientation. There will also be some free evenings incorporated into your schedule; an agenda/schedule will be given to the group leader prior to arrival. Saturdays are often Adopt A Block days that begin in the morning and last throughout the afternoon.

Are there any dates you don't accept teams/individuals?

Thanksgiving week and the last two weeks of December, we like to give our staff/volunteers time off to visit with their families. We see it as a benefit to our staff/volunteers, who serve all year round, to take a small break by going home and keeping the connection with their families. We do have huge events before the breaks, like our community-wide Thanksgiving dinner, and community-wide Christmas party. These events take place the Saturday/Sunday prior to the Holiday.

*PLEASE NOTE – For Spring/Summer mission trips, you'll want to sign up 8-12 months in advance. If it is closer to the date that you are wanting, give us a call and we will do our best to accommodate you!

Can I come as an individual?

Individuals are more than welcome to come; you just need to be 18 or older. If you don't have your own transportation, be aware that you may not be able to participate in certain outreaches. Also, depending on the season, you will be bunking with other teams.

Packing List:

1. Donations – Shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, toilet paper, feminine products, men hygienic, diapers, baby wipes, baby product, socks, underwear, shoes, clothing, hair brushes, fans, blankets, sleeping bags, twin size beds, and anything else you would like to donate. (You can call prior to arrival to get a more updated list of needs.)
2. Personal Hygiene Items – We will provide clean towels daily and one bedding set (sheets, 1 blanket and 1 pillow) per person.
3. Daily Clothing – Shorts (please make sure they are a modest length), jeans, sweatshirt or jacket (it may get cold at night), and t-shirts. Also, bring a pair of closed-toe shoes for ministry assignments, and flip-flops for the showers.
4. Bible, pen, and note paper – You will have the opportunity to participate in our services. Side note: Remember that during your stay, there will be some down time. You can use this time for team meetings, Bible studies, etc. This is your chance to really connect with your team on a spiritual level.
5. Bathing Suit – Remember you're coming to Oklahoma! The weather is HOT during the late spring/summer months. There may be occasions where your team can have access to a swimming pool from our host teams. **Sunscreen is strongly encouraged!**
6. Spending Money – We have a café at church that sells coffee, snacks, and more coffee.
7. Willing hearts – Be prepared to give of yourself and to serve others.

Free Time

You'll have some free time during the day and evening, so if you want to plan on having Team Bible Studies or Worship, we also have a 24-hour Prayer Chapel you're welcome to visit.

Vehicle Rental Locations

REMINDER: During your stay at the City Center you WILL need a vehicle. We are not able to drive teams to the Outreach Sites, and most of the Sites are not within walking distance.

According to Oklahoma state law, YOU DO NOT NEED a commercial driver's license to rent a 15-passenger van. You will want to rent your vehicle from Will Rogers World Airport upon landing. Below is the available rental companies within the airport.

Capps Van Rental

<http://www.cappsvanrental.com>

800-969-9329

Enterprise
(405) 685-4193
www.enterprise.com

Budget
(405) 680-1900
www.Locations.budget.com

Hertz
(800)-654-3131
www.hertz.com

Advantage
(405)-686-6011
www.advantage.com

Alamo
1-800-goalamo
www.alamo.com

Dollar
(405)-681-0151
www.dollar.com

National
1-800-carrent
www.nationalcar.com

Avis
1-800-331-1212
www.avis.com

Thrifty
(405) 685-7727
www.thrifty.com

*Please note that not all rental companies will have 15-passenger vans available.