



H.O.P.E.

honoring our neighbor ♦ organizing for justice ♦ practicing peace ♦ encountering God

16 September 2013

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for expressing interest in the International H.O.P.E. Service Immersion Program over Spring & Summer Break. To be eligible, you must have participated in at least one H.O.P.E. Trip during your college career or community service to apply for this experience. You will form community with other students; learn about Latino culture, history and issues of social justice; and continue to pursue justice after your return. We will travel to Latin America with the hope of discovering a new sense of community, which crosses the many borders of race, culture, land, and language.

Because of the nature of the experience, we ask that you think seriously about the commitment you will be making, and that you accept the responsibilities that it demands. Several things will be expected of you, including (1) being present at weekly orientation sessions that will be held on **Wednesdays from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 pm**; (2) actively participating in fundraising events (letter writing, bake sales, group fundraisers, etc.); (3) while on-site, fully participating in the service project(s) and the reflection sessions; and (4) participating in the 're-entry' program.

Our Mission: Inspired by the enduring values of a Holy Cross education, and believing that learning is enhanced when it takes place in the context of a compelling situation, H.O.P.E. (**H**onoring our neighbors, **O**rganizing for justice, **P**racticing peace, and **E**ncountering God) seeks to engage members of the Stonehill community in cross-cultural service experiences. H.O.P.E. further endeavors to challenge the Stonehill community to grow in love of God and neighbor by embodying the Church's commitment to a preferential option for and with the poor.

Talk it Over with Friends & Family: Your decision to participate in this type of experience should not be made in isolation. We encourage you to speak with friends and family about your decision prior to applying for the program. Their reflections and concerns could be helpful in clarifying your own thoughts about particular areas and/or practical concerns.

Application & Selection Process: Please complete the application, and return it to Campus Ministry by **Friday, October 4th by 3:00 pm**. If selected for an interview, you will also be required to sign up. All interviews will take place from **October 7-18th** in Campus Ministry. This program is highly competitive, so you must thoroughly express your commitment through the application to be seriously considered for an interview slot. If selected, you will be notified on **Friday, October 25th** asked to confirm participation by **Friday, November 1st** by submitting all forms and first payment.

Health Concerns: (a) On the application, please inform us of any medical history/current conditions, which we should be aware of on this trip. (b) Health insurance is required of anyone who will make any of the trips. If you are on the Stonehill College Plan, you are covered out of state. If you are on your family's plan, you may not be covered for medical emergencies out of state; in that case would need to purchase an insurance rider. Please consult your family on this matter. Again, to participate in any trip, you must be covered by medical insurance.

For international travel you may be required to get appropriate immunization(s) or take preventative medicine(s). Typically, these costs are not covered by Stonehill's insurance plan. Once participants have been selected, you will be given information from the State Department's travel Web site as to what health recommendations they make for the

Any questions regarding the application process please direct to MaryAnne Cappelleri, *Campus Minister for Service Immersion Programming* at mcappelleri@stonehill.edu or 508.565.1487.

area. It is suggested that you then discuss these recommendations with your physician to determine your particular plan of action.

Passport: A valid passport is needed to travel to Latin America. If you do not have one or if yours is expiring 6 months prior to your departure, you are not eligible to apply for an International trip. If you are not a citizen of the United States, please check with your consulate to assure that you will be allowed to travel to Latin America and to get any documentation you may need.

Payment & Fundraising: You are responsible for payment & fundraising towards the cost of the trip. All deposits of \$250 must be paid by November 1st. The total cost of the trip will vary per site. A payment schedule will be given to you after acceptance, but airfare payment must be made by Friday, December 6th at 3:00 p.m. **Students must raise or pay their cost in full, in order to be able to go on the trip.**

We recognize that financial hardship could prohibit some students from applying and participating in the program. We have the opportunity to provide *some* need-based scholarships to reduce your obligations to the program. Please see MaryAnne Cappelleri in Campus Ministry for more information after you receive acceptance.

Selection: We are delighted by the strong interest in these trips. The selection process is always difficult, and we will not be able to place all applicants on the trip. The selection committee will be fair and choose groups that will facilitate a good experience at each site. If you are placed on a trip, a non-refundable deposit of \$250 is due Friday, November 1st.

Important Dates:

- Friday, October 4th: Applications Due
- Monday, October 7th – Friday, October 18th: Interviews
- Friday, October 25th: Decisions Sent
- Friday, November 1st: Return Acceptance from Applicants & Forms & Deposit of \$250 Due
- November 6th: Participant Orientation from 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Friday, December 6th: Payment for Flight Due

If you have any questions about the International H.O.P.E. Service Immersion Program or application process, please feel free to contact MaryAnne Cappelleri at mcappelleri@stonehill.edu or ext. 1487. We thank you for your interest and pray that this time of discernment will be blessed with the presence of God's Spirit.

With Peace,

MaryAnne Cappelleri, MA
Campus Minister for Service Immersion Programming



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Please use Name on Passport (affix a copy of your passport to application):

First Name: _____ Middle Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Date of Birth: ___/___/___ Citizenship: _____ Passport # _____ Exp. Date: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____ Class Year: _____

Home Address: _____ Home Phone Number: _____

Stonehill Email: _____ Major/Minor: _____

Gender Identity: _____

In case of an emergency, please contact:

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Medical and/or dietary concerns (allergies, medications, etc.) -

Please rank order each trip (*you will be considered for all three unless you only choose one*):

Spring Break (March 8-15, 2014)

____ Hogar del Nino, Dominican Republic (*Education*) ____ Holy Cross Mission, Peru (*Education*)

Summer Break (May 19-28, 2014)

____ Friends New England, Nicaragua (*Community Development*)

Please briefly explain your experience and background in the following areas in list format.

- 1) Community Service Involvement
- 2) Campus Involvement
- 3) Hobbies, Interest and Skills
- 4) Learning about social and economic development issues:
- 5) Experience with people of cultures or nationalities other than your own:
- 6) Study abroad or similar short-term travel, including prior H.O.P.E. Trips:
- 7) Sharing about spirituality and reflection with others/religious involvement:

Part 2: Please complete

- 1) Please explain your interest in the trip to Latin America working with either education or community development.
- 2) Please share what you know about Latino culture and why you want to learn about the culture and communities of faith present there.
- 3) We will be staying in solidarity with those we serve. How will you do with a group living experience?
- 4) What strengths do you bring to the H.O.P.E. Program? Give some examples from other groups you have been a part.
- 5) Describe an experience on a service immersion trip or through community service that has had a profound impact on you. What happened and what did you find formative about the trip?
- 6) Having read the Four Components (attached to the application), What is attractive to you about H.O.P.E. International? What is most unsettling/uncertain to you? How do you expect to be challenged by participating in H.O.P.E. International?

Check List:

- Front Page Bio Information
- Part I Short Answers
- Part II Essays
- Passport Copy Affixed to Application

Applications are due to Campus Ministry by Friday, October 4th no later than 3:00 pm