

Outreach Information Packet

2010



STUDENTS*International*

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

About Students International.....	1
What Team Leaders are Saying about Students International.....	2
Ministry Sites	3
2010 Outreach Dates and Schedules	5
Pre-trip Support.....	6
2010 Outreach Fees and Financial Policies	7
Frequently Asked Questions.....	9
How do I sign Up?.....	11

ABOUT STUDENTS INTERNATIONAL

Our Mission: Bringing students and the poor together cross-culturally, to encounter God, share the Good News, disciple and serve others in occupational ministries.

What does this mean?

We see God change the lives of students and the poor during short-term outreaches to foreign countries while they are serving others in and through an area of ministry that relates to their interests, gifts, and/or calling.

Our Vision: To see students and the poor transformed into the likeness of Christ and discover their true calling.

What does this mean?

As a result of our mission, we see students and the poor have significant experiences with God, further discover why He created them, and understand more what He wants them to do with their gifts, capabilities and interests.

Students

- Share the Gospel while caring for those in need
- Discover their true identity and vocational calling
- Expand their worldview, gaining more understanding of their responsibility in it
- Respond to God with clearer purpose for their lives and a deeper pursuit of Him

How is a student changed?

Students are used by God to proclaim the Gospel. They discover that they have been wonderfully made in God's image and called to a specific vocation as part of His plan for their lives. They see a part of the world that is dramatically different from their own which causes them to think and act more responsibly. They commit to follow God more sincerely and single-mindedly.

The Poor

- Discover their true identity and capabilities
- Expand their worldview and understanding of God's role for them
- Improve their physical, social and spiritual lives

How are the poor changed?

The poor discover that they have been wonderfully made in God's image and given capabilities useful for positive change in themselves and others. They relate with and impact students from other countries, thus expanding their own view of the world and how God wants to use them. They work with students and our staff to improve their whole lives (physically, socially and spiritually).

How do we accomplish this?

We do ongoing ministry and international short-term outreaches throughout the year that give students and the poor the opportunity to encounter God and discover their true identity and vocation in Christ. Students and our multi-cultural staff share the Gospel as they serve in areas of need related to their academic and professional pursuits.

Founded in 1993, Students International is a non-profit, non-denominational Christian mission organization.

WHAT TEAM LEADERS ARE SAYING ABOUT STUDENTS INTERNATIONAL

“SI’s vision is exactly the vision I have for the students I work with. I have used SI a number of times over the past 5 years and invariably my students return home with a passion for serving Christ and His kingdom through their God given talents and gifts through their profession.”

– *C. J. Goeller, Campus Staff, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship.*

“Four of my five outreaches in the past seven years have been with SI because of their student-centered and Christ-focused ministry to the poor. Students have multiple opportunities to see and experience how their gifts, talents and interests can be used to serve God by serving people -- at home and abroad. The obvious passion and enthusiasm of the full-time staff is contagious, and the administrative support, invaluable. Years later my students remember their outreach as an important part of their own personal, spiritual journey.” – *Deanna Finch, Spanish Teacher*

“There is no way to describe the feeling of working alongside your students in a setting where the whole team is learning how to serve God, the poor, and each other. Every year my students have come to me months after an outreach with comments like: "My life will never be the same" and "God showed me His plan for my life/career while I was on the mission trip." I can teach and demonstrate content in the classroom. I can teach, but not effectively demonstrate, God's heart for missions in the classroom. I realized after several outreaches with SI that not only were the trips ministering to the students (and to me), but also to their parents and siblings.”

– *Linda Ternes, Math and Spanish Teacher, Brethren Christian High School*

“Our outreaches have been awesome experiences. Time spent with Dominican children and SI Staff in the DR helped our team experience purposeful living and participate in God's love in action. SI is filled with ordinary faithful servants doing extraordinary things for people who God loves. Our outreaches have been a true perspective changer that all of us in the U.S. should experience.” –

Darrell DuBay, Businessman and Team Leader

“Students International provides a life changing outreach experience for our students in which they are stretched, challenged, taught and inspired to tangibly love God and love people, especially the poor. This opportunity has become a key ingredient in a healthy discipleship diet for our students (and parents) who are ready to take a few more steps in their journey with Christ.” – *Steve Duyst, Pastor, Tulare Community Church*

"An SI outreach provides the perfect opportunity to put faith into action. My students can experience a different culture, gain economic perspective, and learn Biblical principles that they can apply in their own church, school, and community." – *Vito Mazzara, Associate Pastor, Country Bible Church*

“Going on a Students International outreach is a key component in our ministry with students as we seek to disciple them and see their lives transformed. We see God accomplish as much in the life of a student on a thirteen day, intense outreach as we see in a year of ministry on campus.” – *Rob Dixon, Division Director, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship*

“My experience in Guatemala was amazing. Culturally, it was such a blessing to get the chance to live and interact with a host family and really learn about the intricacies of the Guatemalan culture. I loved the work we were able to do and the challenge of seeking to fit into the much bigger picture of what God is doing through Students International in Guatemala. I really felt changed by God in so many ways after just nine days in Guatemala.” – *Andrew Grigg, Student at James Madison University*

MINISTRY SITES

Dominican Republic

Health Care - Providing health care to the poor both in a local medical clinic and through medical outreaches in rural communities.

Social Work (El Callejon)- Helping abused women and children discover their identity in Christ and equipping children to enter school. (Women only.)

Social Work (Los Higos) - Helping women find their true identity in Christ and live that out in all spheres of life. This site will include Bible study and teaching knitting and sewing to the women in the community.

Education - Teaching children in our schools and tutoring centers.

Special Education - Teaching children who have physical disabilities such as spina bifida, cerebral palsy, deafness or a learning disability.

Developmental Therapy - Working with children and their families to overcome various disabilities and to improve their specific condition.

Men's Sports - Playing sports and teaching physical education to build relationships. Leading youth baseball and soccer clinics and coaching baseball teams.

Women's Sports - Playing sports and teaching physical education to build relationships. Leading youth volleyball, soccer and softball clinics.

Dentistry - Providing affordable dental care and education in oral hygiene at our clinic and in local communities.

Art - Developing basic art skills such as painting, sketching, and pottery making in children and young adults.

Construction - Building or repairing homes for families in need.

Micro-finance - Providing savings accounts, small business loans, and financial education to women with the deliberate intention of sharing The Gospel.

Guatemala

Health Care - Providing health care to the poor both in a local medical clinic and through medical outreaches in rural communities.

Appropriate Technology - Developing alternate water resources such as rain-collection tanks and wells.

Education - Teaching children in our schools and tutoring centers.

Agribusiness – Working in and around the community of Magdalena in a variety of different agricultural projects. Some activities include vaccinations of farm animals, building chicken coups and pig pens.

Art - Developing basic art skills such as painting, sketching, and pottery making in children and young adults.

Social Work – A holistic approach to ministry in a small Guatemala village encouraging community health, social services, and vocational education.

Social Services (Hermano Pedro) – Working alongside an existing catholic mission to the poorest of the poor who are physically and mentally challenged.

Media – Participants will participate, learn, teach and apply knowledge in the area of multimedia communication. Some activities include video work, photography, web design and working with computers.

Micro-Finance - Working on all aspects of the micro-loan program, including evaluating applicants, writing profiles of applicants to be posted on the website, business training, administering and servicing the loans, ongoing business counseling through home visits, and helping with bi-weekly Bible studies for program participants.

Costa Rica

Construction - Building or repairing homes for families in need. Working on facilities that the other ministry sites will be using.

Education – Working at a tutoring center for disadvantaged kids.

Social Work – Partnering with a multi-faceted ministry working with children and their families in a poor barrio of recent immigrants.

Social Work – Working with and mentoring under-privileged youth. Possibly teaching English and computer classes.

Social Work/Early Childhood Education – Working in a local day care center to offer age appropriate, Biblically based character development classes.

Micro-business/Micro-loans – We are hoping to begin working primarily with women to develop small businesses that would provide income for their families.

*Our ministry in Costa Rica is in the development stages. These are the ministries that we anticipate and hope to have in 2010, but it is difficult to predict how things will look. We appreciate your flexibility!

Fiji

Social Work – Working with a rescue ministry for young, single mothers. Encompasses working with the children and the mothers in education and rehabilitation.

Construction - Building or repairing homes for families in need. Working on construction sites that other ministries will be using.

Education – Teaching children in our schools and tutoring centers.

2010 OUTREACH DATES AND SCHEDULES

Costa Rica

Mar 6 – Mar 14
Mar 20 – Mar 28
Apr 3 – Apr 11
May 17 – May 29
May 31 – Jun 12
Jun 14 – Jun 26
Jun 28 – Jul 10
Jul 12 – Jul 24
Jul 26 – Aug 7

Fiji

May 9 – May 22
May 23 – Jun 5

Jun 6 – Jun 19
Jun 20 – Jul 3
Jul 4 – Jul 17
Jul 18 – Jul 31

Dominican Republic

Feb 23 – Mar 5
Mar 6 – Mar 13
Mar 14 – Mar 21
Mar 28 – Apr 3
May 3 – May 15
May 17 – May 29
May 31 – Jun 12
Jun 14 – Jun 26

Jun 28 – Jul 10
Jul 12 – Jul 24
Jul 26 – Aug 7

Guatemala

Mar 20 – Mar 28
Apr 3 – Apr 11
May 24 – Jun 5
Jun 7 – Jun 19
Jun 20 – Jun 27
Jun 28 – Jul 10
Jul 12 – Jul 24
Jul 26 – Aug 7
Aug 9 – Aug 21

13-day Outreach Schedule

Monday – Travel to country
Tuesday – Orientation, infield training, cultural instruction
Wednesday – Friday – Students ministering at their ministry site
Saturday – Excursions to see different aspect of the country and culture
Sunday – Church and rest
Monday – Friday - Students ministering at their ministry site
Saturday – Return home

9-day Outreach Schedule

Saturday – Travel to country
Sunday – Orientation, infield training, cultural instruction, and church
Monday – Friday - Students ministering at their ministry site
Saturday – Excursions to see different aspect of the country and culture
Sunday – Return home

Daily Schedule

A typical daily routine would be similar to the following.
6:50 – Group worship time and personal devotions
8:00 – Breakfast
8:45 – Ministry sites (lunch at the sites)
4:00 – Return from sites; free time
6:30 – Dinner
7:30 – Group activities, teaching, worship & team free time
10:00 – Lights out

PRE-TRIP SUPPORT

There is a lot of work to organize an overseas missions outreach and it is our desire to partner with you every step of the way, so that your primary focus can be on preparing and leading your team. Here are some of the major ways we support you.

Administrative Support

You will not be alone in your efforts to get your team ready for your outreach. Our Service Center has full-time staff that will assist you prior to your outreach. You may call for whatever needs you have. Once you apply, you will receive a Leader's Manual, an exhaustive guide to all your pre-field preparations.

Web Based Support

We have an extensive web-based support system for you and your students. For example, you can track your teams' fund raising, see which ministry sites students will work in, and view airline itineraries in advance.

Recruiting Your Team

We help you in knowing how to recruit students for your team. The world gives students many reasons why they should not go on an outreach and the Lord has ways to help students combat the pressures of this world. We also have material for parents to help them support their son or daughter to go on this mission trip and to answer their questions.

Fundraising and Preparing Your Team

Our *Team Leader's Manual* will walk you through the logistics of preparing your team – like what to bring, health precautions and getting passports. Also included is material designed to help you and your team fundraise for your outreach. We also have outlines of team meetings designed to help your team prepare spiritually, culturally and logistically available for you.

Logistics

Our Service Center will purchase your team's airfare and our staff in country will arrange for room, board, and transportation for your team. All you have to do is get to and from the airport!

2010 OUTREACH FEES AND FINANCIAL POLICIES

Team Member Fees: 9 Day Outreach: \$895 + airfare
 13 Day Outreach: \$995 + airfare

Team Leader and Co- 1 Team Leader's outreach fees are \$350 per 10 team members.

# Of Team Members	# Of Leaders and Fees
1 – 10	1 @ \$350 + airfare
11 – 20	2 @ \$350 + airfare
21 – 30	3 @ \$350 + airfare
31 – 40	4 @ \$350 + airfare

When space is available, we encourage the Team Leader to bring their immediate family at the leader discount rate.

Fees do not include: Passports
 Travel to/from US airports
 Entry/Departure Taxes
 Tourist Cards (in the DR)
 Immunizations
 Legalization of Parental Consent Forms (for the DR)
 One meal eaten in a restaurant
 Spending Money

Deposits

A nonrefundable deposit of \$100 per space held is required to hold space. This deposit is due at a time determined by our office. This is usually 1 – 3 months after the initial reservation is made. This allows the team leader to then recruit the team and to have each member give him or her the \$100 deposit to hold their space. This deposit will be applied to the outreach fees of the actual number of team members up to \$100 per team member.

Payment Methods

You may either make payments to Students International or you may fundraise through Students International. If you are going to raise money through Students International funds should be received similar to the payment schedule below. To raise money through SI, have donors make checks payable to SI and send them directly to our office. We will receipt donors at the end of the year who have given over \$250 or requested a receipt, and each team member will have an on-line financial report of who has given, their address, and the amount of the gifts (For more information see the Fundraising Section). If you are going to raise money through your own organization, you will be making three payments to SI according to the following schedule.

Deposit	\$100 deposit per team member is due at time agreed on with our office.
Payment	½ of the total fees (Airfare, Outreach Fees, and any miscellaneous fees) are due 60 days prior to your outreach.
Remainder	The remainder of the fees are due 14 days prior to your outreach.

Cancellations

If an individual on your team has raised money through Students International and has to drop out, the money they have raised is nonrefundable and nontransferable. If the entire team decides not to go, the money that has been raised is nonrefundable and nontransferable and will be applied toward the operating expenses of Students International. If you are raising money through your own organization, the deposit, payment and remainder are nonrefundable and nontransferable. Refunds for airline tickets are governed by the airline. In most cases tickets are nonrefundable and nontransferable.

Overages

If you are raising your funds through Students International and you have raised more than you are required to raise then you may use this overage to cover the following expenses: entry and/or exit taxes, tourist cards, and travel expenses to and from the US airport. If there is still an overage in your account, then this amount is applied to the operating expenses of Students International.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where are the outreaches?

Our staff members are currently ministering in and around the areas of *Jarabacoa, Dominican Republic; Antigua, Guatemala; San Jose, Costa Rica & Nadi, Fiji*. The Dominican Republic is about 600 miles southeast of Florida in the Caribbean Ocean. Jarabacoa is in the central highlands of the DR a 45-minute drive from Santiago. Guatemala is south of Mexico. Antigua is 45 minutes west of Guatemala City at over 4,000 feet above sea level. Costa Rica is in Central America north of Panama and south of Nicaragua. San Jose is the capital city located in Costa Rica's central meda. Fiji is in the South Pacific east of Australia. Nadi is the third largest city and home of the international airport.

What will we be doing?

We care for those in need and share the Gospel through our *Ministry Sites*. Our staff at these sites are partnering year round with those in the community to care for their specific needs. Each student will be placed in one of these ministry sites. We take into consideration students' interests and pursuits as indicated on their application. There are usually three or four students at each ministry site during the outreach working with one or two of our staff.

Who will we be working with?

Students partner with our multi-cultural staff to share the Gospel with those in need. We have over 40 full-time bilingual North American and national staff in Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Fiji and Costa Rica. Our staff live in and around the communities in which we minister and are committed long-term to offering opportunity for students and the poor to encounter God and discover their true identity and vocation in Christ.

Who can go?

Students must be at least 15 years of age at the time of the outreach to go to Guatemala and 14 years of age to go to the Dominican Republic, Fiji and Costa Rica. Most of the team should have a growing relationship with Christ. A small portion of the team can be non-Christians. These should be people the team leader or a co-leader knows well and who are searching. They must be very aware of the purpose of the trip (to serve the poor and to draw closer to God), and they must be willing to follow all of the rules of conduct diligently.

Where will we stay?

In the Dominican Republic and Fiji we have a ministry base where the entire team will sleep, eat, have meetings, worship together, and relax. In Guatemala and Costa Rica students stay with a local family with one or two other students. They eat breakfast with their host family and then gather with the other students for the morning devotions. After the day at ministry sites all the team members eat dinner together and then return to their host families.

What will we eat?

We take food preparation very seriously and take as much precaution as possible to ensure safe, enjoyable and nutritious meals. We have cooks whose sole responsibility is buying, cleaning and preparing our meals. Students will enjoy discovering the many delicious Guatemalan, Costa Rican, Fijian or Dominican dishes.

Is it safe?

We acknowledge that there are safety risks when traveling internationally and encourage you to be well informed and to be aware of the risks wherever your students are, whether at home or abroad. It is important to keep a good perspective when safety is concerned. It is our tendency to have an unfounded fear of the unknown or unfamiliar. Thus, when we hear about tragic events our assumption is to think the places with which we are unfamiliar are unsafe. However, we watch news reports about tragic events in our hometowns and think of them as isolated incidents. Often a situation like this sways our emotions and fuels our fears beyond what is reasonable. We must keep these tragic events in a proper perspective. It is important to remember that thousands of Americans and other foreigners reside in Guatemala, Costa Rica, Fiji and the Dominican Republic and thousands of others visit these countries each month without incident.

We have procedures in place to reduce the risks associated with international travel in an effort to make our outreaches as safe as possible. Some of the precautions we take are:

- We are in communication with the US Embassies in Guatemala, Costa Rica, Fiji and the Dominican Republic.
- We have a strong network with other mission organizations to help us stay well informed.
- We monitor information released by the US State Department.
- We have chosen locations to work in that are low in crime and are characterized by their quietness, tranquility and hospitality to foreigners.
- We give an extensive orientation to the students when they arrive that instructs them on important safety issues and policies.
- We have national staff who have grown up in the areas where we minister and who know the local customs to advise and orient students on safety issues.
- We have excellent relations with the medical community and live nearby well-equipped local hospitals.

While no one can guarantee complete safety, we believe we have set up a program and follow certain policies that make this time abroad as safe as if we were wisely traveling within the United States. We also believe that the safest place for any student is in the center of God's will regardless if they are in Guatemala, the Dominican Republic, Costa Rica, Fiji or in their home town.

How will we raise the money needed?

We will assist you in developing an effective fundraising strategy for your team. We have numerous fund raising helps, ideas and actual resources to assist you in raising the money needed for your outreach.

An example of how a student might raise funds for their outreach is:

Goal: \$1,600 for a 13-day outreach

- \$300 – saving \$50 a month for 6 months
- \$300 – from parents matching what their students saved
- \$200 - \$300 – from team fund raising activities
- \$100 - \$300 from a student's church
- \$700 - \$1200 from a support letter

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

If God is leading you to come on a Students International outreach, signing up is easy: Contact our office at (559) 627-8923 or students@stint.com to reserve the dates for your group. Space does fill up quickly!

Contact People: Pam Christy and Shellie Bowman

Mailing Address: Students International
PO Box 2733
Visalia, CA 93279

Phone: 559-627-8923

Email: students@stint.com (Pam)
sbowman@stint.com (Shellie)

Website: www.stint.com