SERVING IN PLACE: PLANNING LOCAL ALTERNATIVE BREAKS

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- Office of Public Engagement, Service, Social Action
- Mission: “...the Pro Humanitate Institute is a core of learning, teaching, research, service, and action that transforms the ethos of Wake Forest University into an explicit mission connected to clear practices with meaningful social justice outcomes.”
Aligning PHI’s mission with Staycation

- Social change model of leadership: “...it is basically collaborative in approach, yet it purports to value individual diversity” (Astin & Astin, 1996, p. 4)
  - The “Seven C’s”

- Bridge to place-based education
  - Focusing on issues in your local community

- Active citizenship model
  - Moving beyond just one-time service opportunities to making the community a priority everyday

- “…transforms the ethos of Wake Forest University into an explicit mission connected to clear practices with meaningful social justice outcomes.”
Staycation Learning Outcomes

■ Analyze a particular social justice issue (e.g. educational equity, health care, and access to affordable housing, etc.) within a specific geographical or regional context;

■ Identify and explain power structures and root causes of social inequity

■ Collaborate with peers to create a constructive team climate in which all members contribute to group work, reflection, and decision-making

■ Communicate across difference through partnership and team-building;

■ Reflect on personal and academic goals as they relate to the trip experience.
History

- 2011: Staycation established
- 2012: Transition from direct service focus to a co-curricular focus
  - e.g. readings, reflections, and trip preparation
- 2013: Staycation focuses on a particular social justice issue
Timeline

- July: Theme established
- August-January: Participant recruitment, payment collection, and volunteer sites/additional activities confirmation
- February: Leader training and reflection development
- March: Staycation! (and assessment)
Theme

- Based on VISTA’s focus area
  - 2015: Food access and education
  - 2016: Food access and economic justice
Recruitment

- Peer to peer outreach
  - Alternative Break Coordinator
  - Previous trip participants
- Targeted outreach to first-year students, local residents, and students who live further away
Leader Training

- Leader Expectations
  - Leader responsibility handout distributed

- Reflection Techniques and Designs
  - Reflection techniques handout distributed

- Cross-Cultural Communication (Managing Team Dynamics)

- Risk and Financial Management
  - Crisis communication plans; drug and alcohol policy; and release and assumption of risk handouts distributed
Volunteer Partnerships

- Secured by VISTAs
- Building new partnerships while maintaining ongoing ones
Additional Activities

- Community tours
  - 2015: Winston-Salem community tour with former city councilwomen
  - 2016: Corner Store visit
- Taking advantage of the outdoors
  - Hiking
- Documentaries related to theme
  - A Place at the Table
  - Inequality for All
- Food
  - Stone soup
Budget

- Program Cost: $100/participant
- Expenditure:
  - Food: $75/participant for 6 days
Staying within the budget

- **Food**
  - Simple breakfast and lunch
  - Purchase groceries at the beginning of the week
  - Plan and cook dinners together
  - End of the week dinner celebration at a local restaurant

- **Transportation**
  - University-owned vehicle

- **Housing**
  - Students stay in residence halls

- **Additional activities**
  - Finding free group activities
ECU ALTERNATIVE BREAK EXPERIENCE

Pushing Boundaries & Creating Change
Service at East Carolina University

East Carolina University’s motto “Servire” - to serve
Student service hours recorded over past three years: 72,700
Students recording service hours on a regular basis: 7,000
3 Days of Service (420 volunteers, 1300 hours, 14 partners)
East Carolina University Alternative Break Experiences (ABE)

East Carolina University Alternative Break Experiences (ABE) create active citizens, leaders, and advocates for lasting social change.

- Centralization across the Division of Student Affairs
  - Marketing
  - Application
  - Assessment
  - Resources

- Break Away Membership

- Growth and Collaboration
Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement

• Recap information for 2015-2016
  • 33 ABE Participants + 6 ABE Staff Leads = 1,608 HOURS
• Themes/Locations
  • FL, MD, VA – 2, NC -2
  • Homelessness, Hunger, Health, Appalachian Culture, Youth, and Nutrition
• Duration/Cost
  • 3days – 7 days
  • $80.00 - $375.00
• Community Partnerships
  • Southeast Rural Community Assistance Project
  • NC Coastal Federation/Camp Albemarle
  • Catholic Charities – Baltimore, MD
• Reorientation
  • Staff/Student Leader
  • Reflection Mixer and Ceremony
Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement

ABE

Leadership

Community-Based Learning

Service

Reflection

East Carolina University
## Staycation ABE Planning & Implementation

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**EXPLORE YOUR INNER PIRATE**

**STUDENT AFFAIRS**

**East Carolina University.**
Staycation ABE Impact Stories
Questions & Thank You!

**Wake Forest University**

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