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# **What is Project Serve?**

Project Serve Calgary provides young people the opportunity to serve God through serving others with the vision to build up a generation of servant hearts who understand the brokenness in their own city and are connected to various local organizations involved in applicable relief ministry.

This spring break Varsity Bible Church and Project Serve will be hosting a SERVE WEEKEND - which we are SO excited about! This weekend will be aligned with our mission and public health regulations so that everyone can serve safely.

## **Our Pursuits**

***Expose*** To open the eyes of youth to the needs and brokenness in their city.

***Educate***Training youth to practically work towards solving social injustices by partnering with established ministries.

***Empower*** Providing youth opportunities to get involved with local ministries.

***Engage*** To have youth fully engaged in service for long term local impact.

## **Our Mission**

From past mission trips, we’ve noticed how impactful a mission trip in the youth’s own city can be; young people not only get the opportunity to see the needs within their own community but can continue volunteering beyond the one/two-week trip!

Therefore, our mission is to facilitate lasting relationships between church youth ministries and local charitable organizations in order to engage the youth in continuing compassionate service to those in need.

# **SERVE WEEKEND MARCH 2021**

Serve Weekend will be focused on serving our communities, growing in our faith, and growing in community. Open to all Varsity Bible Church youth and friends in grades 7-12. Space is limited so make sure to register early to reserve your spot!

## **Weekend Schedule**

The following schedule is subject to change based on COVID restrictions. A final schedule will be sent out to all participants prior to the Serve Weekend.

Friday

4pm Meet at Varsity Church

Check in

Meet team

Community building activities

Service activity #1

6pm Supper

6:30pm Chapel

Team discussions

7:30pm Evening Activity (Parents and families encouraged to participate)

9pm Wrap up

Saturday

9am Meet at service location

Check in

Group devotions

Group prayer

Team activities

10am Service activity #2

1pm Lunch

Afternoon break\*

6:30pm Check in

Chapel

Team Discussions

7:30pm Evening Game (Parents and families encouraged to participate)

9pm Wrap up

\*During the afternoon break youth will be required to go home (youth will not be able to stay at the service locations). Teams will meet again at 6:30pm for check in at Varsity Bible Church.

## **Serve Activities**

Project Serve has focused on partnering with existing organizations so that youth can build a lasting relationship and continue serving year-round. Last year, due to COVID, we focused on serving organizations through the safety of our own home and specifically serving our neighbors. Here are a few examples of what we have done in the past:

* Serving Calgary Organizations:
  + L’Arche – In previous summers we have done painting, coffee houses, and visited with residents at L’Arche. Last summer we created online encouraging videos for program members who have felt isolated during the pandemic.
  + Youth Unlimited – In past summers we have cleaned and cooked for Youth Unlimited’s Streetlight ministry.
  + Senior Homes – we have served residents and staff in Senior homes by visiting with residents, creating fun activities for residents, writing encouraging letters, and by creating art for residents.
  + Monday Night Evangelism – Partnering with MNE, we have gone out on the streets and shared food, conversation, and the gospel with others.
  + And many more including Meals on Wheels, Jesus Loves You Society, Hope Mission, The Mustard Seed, Calgary Drop-in Centre, and The New Canadian Friendship Centre.
* Serving our neighbors:
  + Neighborhood clean up,
  + Mowing lawns,
  + Outdoor landscaping,
  + Collecting and donating gently used clothing,
  + Writing encouraging sidewalk chalk notes around our neighborhoods,
  + And more!

**All planned activities will adhere to all government regulations during the Serve Weekend.**

## **Evening Activities\***

Evening activities have served as a fun way to connect, debrief, and grow as a community. The Project Serve team works really hard to make these EPIC for all participants. Past evening activities have included:

* City-wide Amazing Race
* City-wide Gold Hunt
* Online ‘The Price is Right’
* Campfire & S’mores roast
* Wide games at a park
* And many more!

We are planning some awesome new and old evening activities that will blow your mind!!

**\*Due to COVID regulations youth will need parents to drive them for evening activities. Please meet your youth at Varsity Bible Church at 7:30pm Friday and Saturday evening. Parents and families are encouraged to participate as a team.**

# **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

## **Dates**

*March 15th* – Registration Opens

*March 22nd* – Registration Closes

*March 26th & 27th* – SERVE WEEKEND

## **Cost**

$35/Youth

If cost is an issue, please contact us and we would love to help you!

## **Steps to Register**

1. Visit yucalgary.ca/serve-wknd2021
   1. Fill out registration form
   2. Pay for registration
   3. Fill out Project Serve waivers online
      1. Participant Waiver & release form
      2. Photo & Media Release Form

Once your registration is complete you will receive a confirmation email from the Project Serve team within 1-2 business days.

## **Other**

* Youth are required to bring: Mask(s), hand-sanitizer,
* Youth are asked to pack a lunch and snack on Friday. Please no nuts, tree nuts, or peanuts.
* Youth will be required to submit an online check in prior to the start of Friday and Saturday events.

# **QUESTIONS**

If you have any concerns or questions please do not hesitate to contact the Project Serve team, we would love to talk to you!

Email: [projectservecalgary@yfc.ca](mailto:projectservecalgary@yfc.ca)

Phone: 1 888 753 8575 ext. 111