



Cass Community Social Services

MISSION TRIPS

**FIGHTING POVERTY
CREATING OPPORTUNITY**

casscommunity.org
ccumcac@aol.com
(313) 883-2277

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Thanks for expressing an interest in serving at Cass Community Social Services in the City of Detroit. This booklet is meant to answer your questions and allow you to submit an application.

You may pre-register your group with a phone call or an e-mail. Groups are encouraged to submit the application form no less than 2 months in advance of your requested service dates. Be sure to give all the information needed. We will contact you after receiving this information. Please include an e-mail address when possible (this saves trees and minimizes postage costs).

Completed application forms should be submitted with a \$50 registration check to:

Cass Community Social Services
Service Project
11850 Woodrow Wilson
Detroit, MI 48206

The registration fee is nonrefundable. It will be subtracted from your team's balance upon arrival. The total cost is based on the number of people included in your group (see page 5).

CCSS conducts criminal background and sexual registry checks on all employees and residents. Each group is responsible for securing the same on all team members 18 years of age and older.





PREPARING FOR YOUR MISSION TRIP

People go on short-term mission trips for many reasons. Some of the reasons we often hear are:

- To have an adventure
- To serve the poor
- To tell people about Jesus
- To experience the city
- To work with my hands
- To be an encouragement
- To grow closer to people in my group

Your group and its members have your own reasons. We are convinced that before coming to Cass, it is important to prepare for the trip by first exploring your reasons for coming.

Many groups also ready themselves by spending time team-building and studying Scripture, fundraising, focusing on cross cultural sensitivity, as well as making decisions about transportation and evening activities.

"We volunteer here all the time but this was the first time we've spent the night. We had the best time!"

Sarah Ort - Brighton UMC

THE WORK DAY AND JOBS AT CASS

Groups generally work between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Occasionally, they take a morning or afternoon off to go sightseeing during the daytime hours.

Many mission teams choose to work on "hands-on" projects such as painting, cleaning, yard projects, construction and/or demolition work. Some teams elect to be involved with the people of Cass, like running a children's program or organizing an activity with developmentally disabled adults. Still others package, prepare and/or serve food.

A few groups stay with the same project for multiple days but most start a new task daily.

A sample schedule might be: Monday food preparation for the soup kitchen, Tuesday recycling with the vocational training program, Wednesday painting and landscaping, Thursday activities with the adults of the Activity Center, Friday activities with the homeless children and youth.

Cass staff members insure that residents and other people are invited to share their stories with our teams.

If you are bringing a team with professional skills (such as carpentry, plumbing, electrical, computer, etc.) please be sure to indicate this so we can schedule to make use of your abilities.



LODGING, FOOD AND COSTS

Teams that stay with Cass are usually housed at the Activity Center (which has central air conditioning). Sometimes smaller groups stay on Campus. In either case, there will be access to a kitchen, gated parking and separate spaces for males and females. Team members will need to bring their own sleeping bags and pillows. A very limited amount of air mattresses and cots are available at CCSS. Showers are available for groups as is swimming at the end of the day.

Meals - We prepare breakfast and dinner for your group and group members will pack sack lunches for themselves with food we provide. At least once during your stay, we will take the group out to an ethnic restaurant for supper - Greek, Mexican, Middle Eastern or Soul food.

Costs - \$15 per person per night.



"Mission isn't what you do.. It's what you become! At Cass, it's easy to live this motto. Leaders and teens alike from our group were inspired by the innovative programs and passionate leadership being offered. Cass sets the bar when it comes to living mission every day." Marc Geil YoLight! Youth Group - Sacred Heart Church, Sterling, IL

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ORIENTATION, EVENINGS AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Before your group begins work, you will receive an orientation about Cass, its history, mission, locations and the City of Detroit. Program rules and expectations will also be reviewed during the orientation time.

After dinner, Cass staff members will be available to help your group reflect on the day. This may take the form of small group discussions, interactive exercises, videos, worship and/or live music.

Groups will be encouraged to visit some of the places unique to Detroit like Belle Isle, the Heidelberg Project, and Hitsville U.S.A. You may want to include a museum during your trip too. Detroit has the largest African American and Arab American museums in the nation. It is also home to Greenfield Village. We will provide a list of opportunities with your confirmation letter.

"What we received from our time at Cass was far greater than what we gave. The youth came away with a new-found respect for others. It was a life changing experience for both the youth and the adults from Lake Oswego, Oregon UMC."

Stacey Bernal

APPLICATION

Church Name _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

Church Phone (____) _____

Church Fax (____) _____

Church E-Mail _____

Pastor's Name _____

Contact Name _____

Contact Name Phone (____) _____

Contact Cell Phone (____) _____

Contact E-Mail Address _____

Type of Group (circle one)

 Youth Adult Intergenerational

Estimate Group Size _____

Skilled Persons? (circle)

 Carpenters Electricians Plumbers

Week Requested

Arrive ____/____/____ Depart ____/____/____

Weekend Requested

Arrive ____/____/____ Depart ____/____/____

(over)

Housing:

_____ Our group needs lodging at Cass.

_____ Our group has secured lodging @ _____

Food Information:

Known Food Allergies _____

Eat Out Preference (check one)

_____ Greek _____ Mexican _____ Middle _____ Soul
Eastern Food

Group Covenant

- We will prepare for the experience before our mission experience.
- We will abide by CCSS's rules and expectations.
- We have enclosed the \$50 registration fee. We understand that the fee is nonrefundable.
- We will take responsibility for criminal background and sexual registry checks for group members prior to coming to Cass.

Signature of Contact Person Date

Mail To:	casscommunity.org
CCSS	ccumcac@aol.com
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Detroit, MI 48206	

Our youth group started this summer spending time serving with the people of Cass! All of us walked away changed and in awe of the dedication the people of Cass.
Kellie Stasilowicz
Shepard of the Lakes Lutheran Church