



WSBC Senior High Service/Learning Experience

Reach Beyond Mission

July 10-16, 2022

Austin/San Antonio, TX

A REACH BEYOND MISSION TRIP IS A VISION TRIP! It is an important experience for youth to work and serve others, but we believe it is most important for youth to learn about root causes and systemic issues so that they may go back to their communities with a vision to serve and work for justice beyond the mission trip week. A *Reach Beyond Mission* vision-focused week includes direct service, indirect service, relational ministry, and education. We will learn from community leaders & organizers, ministers & social workers, public policy makers & legislators, and professors & advocates. We will hear personal stories shared by guest speakers, and learn through fun but challenging simulations and activities. RBM's hope is that participants will *reach beyond the mission week* to make charity and justice part of their life-long journey as followers of Jesus.

ABOUT AUSTIN/SAN ANTONIO REFUGEE AND IMMIGRATION WEEK:

Our theme for the week is "Be the Neighbor."

According to the United Nations Refugee Agency, an unprecedented 68.5 million people around the world have been forced from their homes. Among them are nearly 25.4 million refugees, over half of whom are under the age of 18. As followers of Jesus, what is our role in a world where nearly one person every two seconds is forcibly displaced as a result of disaster, conflict or persecution?

We'll begin and end the week in Austin but also travel to San Antonio and the border at Eagle Pass during the week. We'll serve in a mixture of direct service and refugee support organizations. Refugees and Immigration weeks are heavily education focused. We'll talk with community leaders and work with faith-based organizations that advocate on behalf of immigrants. We'll have time together each evening for justice-based Bible study and discussion, and on Friday, we'll visit the Texas Capitol to learn about advocacy and participate in a mock bill hearing on immigrant related issues.

Plan for early mornings, long full days, and lights out at 10 pm each evening

- Monday and Tuesday: primarily focused on service including working at Multicultural Refugee Coalition New Leaf Farm
- Wednesday: full day of serving and learning with RAICES (Refugee and Immigrant Center for Educational and Legal Services) in San Antonio
- Thursday: full day of learning in Eagle Pass with Mission Border Hope
- Friday: visit to the Texas Capital in Austin to learn about advocacy and participate in a mock bill hearing.

ACCOMMODATIONS/MEALS:

Sunday-Tuesday and Friday nights, we will stay at The Dobie Center (UT dorm-style suites) in Austin. Breakfasts and suppers provided by RBM or Cook's Nook. Bag lunches each day. Evening activities will be held at University Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), a short walk from the dorm.

Wednesday and Thursday nights, we will stay at Alamo Heights Christian Church in San Antonio. Floor mattresses will be provided. Breakfasts and suppers provided by church caterer. Bag lunches each day.

