

APPLICATION

Urban Plunge: Christmas Break 2009

Thursday, December 10th – Monday, December 14th

Applications due by 4:00 pm Monday, November 16th.

Turn in to the Office of Campus Ministries, 2nd Floor SUB (John Perkins Center)

Cost: \$25.00* (non-refundable upon acceptance, scholarships are available)

Please Note!

Space is limited. The following will be taken into consideration:

1. A minimum of 6 males must be accepted due to the nature of this event
2. Seniority may be taken into consideration
3. Review of your application
4. Ability to commit to all pre & post-plunge activities:
 - Hour of service downtown with your arranged group pre-plunge
 - Meeting #1 on Monday, November 23rd at 8pm
 - Meeting #2 on Monday, November 30th at 8pm
 - Meeting #3 on Wednesday, December 9th at 7pm
 - Post-Plunge Meeting TBA

Name:

Mailstop/Address:

Phone:

E-mail (please print clearly):

Age:

SPU ID Number:

Year in school:

Parent(s)/Guardian's name(s):

Address:

Phone:

Person to contact in Case of an Emergency (other than Parents/Guardian):

Name:

Relationship:

Day Phone:

Home Phone:

We do not want costs to be prohibitive. Do you need a full or partial scholarship?

Have questions? Contact Michael Brown, Urban Plunge Coordinator,
971.563.5619 or mbrown25@spu.edu

What is Urban Plunge?

Urban Plunge is a five-day intensive exposure experience on the streets of downtown Seattle. The purpose is to enable participants to learn about a variety of issues surrounding Seattle's homeless culture. Put into small groups of three, participants spend the day and evening exploring the streets, missions, shops, and ways in which people operate on a daily basis in downtown Seattle. As the experience unfolds, names and faces will replace labels, discrimination will be experienced, and God's grace will become evident in new ways.

Urban Plunge participants will experience for themselves the tremendous contrasts between the rich and the poor, the powerful and the powerless, the lawbreakers and the lawmakers. They will have the opportunity to experience and critique several forms of Christian response to many of these issues.

The nights are spent in a predetermined location, where discussions will be held on different topics and time will be provided for journaling, prayer, and guided reflection.

Participants are allowed only one set of clothes. These should be older, dark clothes, to help simulate a homeless look. One must take care not to wear brand name items or anything that may be taken as a gang symbol. You will be more fully informed about appropriate clothing choices at the pre-Plunge meeting. Each person will be given 3 bus passes and \$2.50 for the entire experience. It can be spent on food, transportation, or anything else you might need or want.

While Urban Plunge puts people in unfamiliar and often potentially dangerous situations, traveling in teams and meeting at checkpoints throughout the day safeguards the experience. Also, most of the traveling and city exploration occurs during the day when many people are out, and fewer violent crimes are committed.

With careful planning and well-informed, prepared participants, Urban Plunge can be a very enlightening and even life changing experience. Please take time before Urban Plunge begins to reflect and prepare to enter a new culture.

The cost for Urban Plunge is \$25.00, which will cover debriefing, transportation costs, but the majority of the money will be reimbursement costs to ministries. The fee will not be collected until participants are notified and confirmed.

Upon returning, there will be a debriefing meeting as well as ***on-going training opportunities the quarter following Plunge with ongoing reading, discussion and learning from Seattle-area organizations.***

If you have any questions, contact Michael Brown, Urban Plunge Coordinator at 971.563.5619 or e-mail mbrown25@spu.edu

Keep this page for future reference.

Urban Plunge Application Questions

Please answer the following questions briefly on a separate sheet of paper and turn in along with the first page and the signed contract.

1. What are you hoping to gain from the Urban Plunge experience?
2. What do you anticipate will be the most difficult part of Plunge?
3. What are your thoughts about the causes of homelessness and the homeless lifestyle?
4. Describe an encounter when you were confronted with someone from a different culture or lifestyle. What was your response?
5. What are some of the stereotypes that you hold towards the homeless community that you think might be challenged as a result of this experience?
6. Please rank the following in order of personal importance in what you hope to gain or experience during Plunge. If none of the below, please explain.

___ An understanding of the non-profits and services offered to the homeless community

___ An extreme confrontation with the stereotypes of mainstream society by breaking social norms.

___ Hearing life stories with homeless individuals.

7. Have you ever applied for Urban Plunge? If so, when?

Urban Plunge Contract

Please read the following, then sign below for agreement:

"I understand that Urban Plunge is a full 5-day experience (Thursday, December 10th to Monday, December 14th).

If accepted, I will participate for the full duration, and will abide by the guidelines as presented, for the safety of myself and all others involved. I understand whenever one is involved in an urban setting, there are risks, and I accept responsibility for my own safety and well-being.

If accepted, I will attend the Pre-Plunge meetings and meet given requirements.

If accepted, I will attend the Post-Plunge meeting."

Name (Please Print) _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____