



Sara, me, Kyle (my roommates and I) in the airport on the way to Mexico!

Second City News

Monday March 9, 2009 julia@csm.org

Center for Student Missions Chicago

So much to be thankful for!

- The opening of CSM in Denver and their first spring groups coming in March!
- Our 3 spring interns and their hard work and love for the city
- Lots of interviews and planning for our summer staff and groups!
- New ministry partner with Epworth Men's Shelter
- Rod Blagojevich has moved on to bigger and better things
- My quick vacation to Cabo San Lucas for a refreshing break with friends
- Tim and Kelly Reed (the city directors in Chicago) and the team I'm a part of!

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- ~Our spring staff's energy and health!
- ~Continued group registration and youth to be impacted here

Welcome Spring Staff

One of the best parts of my job is the opportunity I get to train, interact with, support, and learn from our seasonal staff! Now you can meet them too:



Jean Schawaroch has been with us since this past fall and is staying through the spring. She was raised outside of Washington DC and graduated from James Madison University in Virginia with a degree in education. She has a heart for teaching which is great for her position as a city host in Chicago! She's worked

with Kids Across America camps, assisted with Special Olympics, and worked with kids in Peru. Her energy is contagious and we are lucky to have her as



part of our team!
Tim VanAlstyne was born in Calcutta, India but was raised in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He attended university in Ontario Canada where he graduated with a degree in humanities. He has served in Amsterdam, Holland, India, and worked with street youth in Ontario,

among other ministries. We are blessed to have his thoughtful spirit and deep commitment to understanding what it means to serve and to love the poor.



He is a great asset to our team this spring!
Josh Griep was raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota and has a degree in Music Production. He is currently pursuing a BA in youth ministry. He has served in West Virginia, Mexico, and at summer camps working with urban children and youth. He is a constant

Our Urban Youth!

I am excited to share with you a new idea that CSM has embraced! In 2009 each CSM city will be providing scholarships for youth living in our urban communities to take a CSM trip to another city.

It's exciting to be part of empowering local youth to serve in other urban areas in hopes that they will

carry the passion for the city and service right back to their own urban homes.

Communities are changed by the people living in them and I believe that today's teenagers are going to be a significant part of our communities coming together and restoring themselves! I can't wait to see the ways

that these teens will lead and be advocates in Chicago, especially after serving other impoverished communities throughout the country.

Please be praying as this is a new idea happening this year and that the youth will be excited and challenged by the possibilities of serving with CSM cities.



Tim, me, and Kelly in LA for staff training (Chicago directors)

Julia's Contact Info:



YOU ARE A VALUED PARTNER!

I am looking for 100 prayer partners this year! I know that many of you have been supporting me in prayer for several years and I am so grateful. For our ministry sites, for our seasonal staff, for our groups and leaders, and all the details that go into planning and leading trips, please be praying!

If you are interested in being one of these 100 prayer partners please email me at Julia@csm.org and I will send you a prayer card. I can't thank you enough for supporting me and CSM's ministry in Chicago in this way!

Once again I am raising part of my salary this year and asking for your financial donations. If you would like to contribute I will send you a response card or you can donate online at: www.csm.org/donate.php

What Groups Are Learning and Saying: (Real Quotes from Groups)

"Homeless people aren't scary"

"I loved that we got put in uncomfortable situations because it changed my worldview by talking to and hearing people's real stories. I understand people better and realize how we're really all the same."

"I have learned to look at people through the eyes of God and not my own."

"Laurel from the Epworth Shelter really impacted me because he was so alive spiritually and so motivated."

"Marcello at the Epworth Shelter taught me how to look at the heart and nothing else."

Below: Epworth Men lined up in gym where all 65 of them sleep

Epworth Men's Shelter



Cornerstone Community Outreach is a homeless shelter that CSM Chicago has been partnering with for 20 years. Starting this year, CCO has taken on a new ministry: The Epworth Men's Shelter. This is a shelter and day program for 65 men, more than half of them over the age of 50 and the youngest age 19. These men sleep in a gym down the street from CCO and spend time in the warming shelter where there are games, a pool table, and a TV to watch. They receive warm meals from the CCO kitchen,

and they work directly with Cornerstone staff during the day. The staff are focused on getting each man what is needed most, often this is job referrals, other times it may be collecting disability or medical benefits. This program hopes to give men an opportunity to succeed who have not been given this opportunity, or at least not for a long time. The city of Chicago has given Cornerstone \$90,000 for Epworth but they still need to raise \$30,000 to cover all the costs of the program.

Our groups serve at Epworth Men's Shelter by hanging out in the warming room, bringing card games and a listening ear. Already our groups have been challenged, encouraged, and blessed by their interactions with the men of Epworth. It is a great learning opportunity for our groups and a blessing to be able to partner with these great men who are looking to create more positive lifestyles for themselves! If you are interested in donating money for Epworth, please email me and I will let you know how!