

# MISSION: POSSIBLE 2014 GOING DEEPER

“May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships, so that you may live deep within your heart. May

God bless you with anger at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people, so that you may work for justice, freedom and peace. May God bless you with tears to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war, so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them and to turn their pain in to joy. And may God bless you with enough foolishness to believe that you can make a difference in this world, so that you can do what others claim cannot be done.”

~~A Franciscan Benediction



*“Experience is not what happens to a man. It is what a man does with what happens to him.”*

*~Aldous Leonard Huxley*

- Jonestown, Mississippi
- Neah Bay, Washington
- Denver, Colorado
- Knoxville, Tennessee
- St. Louis, Missouri
- Tacoma, Washington
- Browning, Montana
- Portland, Oregon
- San Francisco, California

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>CASSL Mission &amp; Values</i>	2
<i>Post-Mission: Possible Reflection Questions</i>	3
<i>Re-Entry Recommendations</i>	4
<i>Denver and Jonestown</i>	5
<i>Neah Bay and Browning</i>	6
<i>St. Louis</i>	7
<i>Portland and San Francisco</i>	8
<i>Knoxville</i>	9
<i>Tacoma</i>	10
<i>Homelessness and Low Income Service</i>	11
<i>Environmental Justice Service</i>	12
<i>Mentoring Service</i>	13
<i>Adults with Disabilities Service</i>	15

**YOU NEVER  
KNOW WHO NEEDS  
YOU. GOOD ENERGY  
IS CONTAGIOUS.**

## CCASL Mission & Values

***Mission:*** To develop student leaders with an ethic of service and a life long thirst for social justice.

***Community:*** Through service to others, we manifest our belief in the interconnectedness of all people.

***Hearth:*** In the spirit of accompaniment, we share our space, time, and love with others to create genuine relationships.

***Justice:*** Through civic engagement, we seek to reverse social, environmental, and systemic injustices in our world. CCASL challenges students to become active agents of social change.

***Respect:*** We value the dignity of every person. Through reflective engagement with others, we seek to move beyond the realm of tolerance into a deeper place of common respect.

***Transformation:*** By providing educational opportunities that allow students to become their most authentic, true selves, we develop global citizens with an educated awareness of and commitment to creating a more just, peaceful and equitable world.

***Creativity:*** We foster an environment that values our diversity of perspectives and experiences, so that the vitality, optimism, and energy of our students may fuel innovative solutions that address complex contemporary problems.

### Mission: Possible Sites:

Browning, Montana; Denver, Colorado; Jonestown, Mississippi; Knoxville, Tennessee; Neah Bay, Washington; Portland, Oregon; San Francisco Bay Area, California; St. Louis, Missouri; and Tacoma, Washington



## Questions to Ask Yourself

- What have I learned from this experience?
- How can I continue the graces of the experience now that I am back in my regular routine?
- Who or what am I most grateful for from this experience?
- How has this changed my perspective on the world?
- How has this experience influenced my spirituality?
- How have my understandings of social justice, community, and simplicity changed because of M:P?
- What is one thing I can commit to changing in my life as a result of this experience?



## Re-Entry Recommendations

- Start using what you've learned about *community* in some way.
- Spend time trying to focus your future community service or political activism toward a single simple goal– i.e.: more low income housing in Spokane.
- Follow one issue in the upcoming political campaign that is close to your heart, like education or healthcare reform.
- Talk through and process M:P with your friends and family, realizing that certain parts of your week will defy explanation.
- Focus on the future by applying to be a M:P coordinator. But that is only if you are *called* to do so.
- Take some personal time to mourn the loss that the journey is over and you are back home with all the daily stressors of the “real” world.
- Organize as many M:P site reunions as you can convince your group to attend. Socialize with your group often.
- Try to hang out with other M:P participants who can understand exactly what you've been through, it is a bit of a culture shock coming back to living the college lifestyle.
- Be careful to not expect too much from people who you describe your experience especially if they have never participated in M:P.
- Find your own way to overcome the “feeling lonely” once your group has dissipated. This loneliness is sometimes extra hard because sharing your experience with others, even those from other M:P sites does not seem to work.
- Journal or list specifically about how you can bring back the things you learned on M:P and start making them a part of your everyday life.
- Some people find it helpful to clean and “get rid of things” that now seem frivolous, while also reflecting on the past week.
- Realize that while you have been away changing for a week, things on campus will seem exactly as they were before you left.
- Start recruiting your friends for next year's M:P.
- Try to lead more by example given your new insights.
- Have a letter writing night to say thank you to everyone who donated to your trip funds or helped make your M:P experience possible.
- Write a letter to your “Future Self” explaining what you hope to retain and how your daily decisions and habits might change due to this learning experience.
- Find a service/ program that you have a great connection with and continue to volunteer your time there.

## Denver, Colorado

"Beyond serving in Denver, we were able to have personal time filled with games and reflection. The fact that 14 people signed up to commit themselves to others for a week meant that everyone was there to help and to grow. The growing came with learning from our experiences and from being vulnerable and open. Our group clicked because we were able to get beyond the chit chat and have the real conversations that drive people in life. It all starts with getting out of your comfort zone and being willing to reflect." -Ryan Inouye

In Denver, you worked with refugees from around the world resettle in Denver at the African Community Center. If you are interested in working with refugees check out page 11 for working with those with low income including Global Neighborhood that helps refugees settle into Spokane.



## Jonestown, Mississippi



"While working in Jonestown we became well acquainted with those whose roofs we were rebuilding, and several members of the local community joined our efforts. In doing so they made us feel like we were truly welcomed into their community; friends lending a hand rather than outsiders there to do service. This hospitality was a great reminder of what is really important on trips like this one and throughout one's life." -Brian Gravelle

In Jonestown, students helped the local community by renovating houses. If you are interested in doing more work, starting on page 11 is where you can find other ways to help serve the community in Spokane, WA.



## Neah Bay, Washington

"My most memorable moment came when we listened to a prominent member of the Makah community (an older man from a whaling family) speak about the importance of whaling to the Macah people and how the last few decades have led to the steep regulation and political red tape



that exists today. The passion with which he spoke about the topic was inspiring and helped me understand the issue of whale hunting from an entirely different perspective." -Anonymous

The Neah Bay team took a cultural plunge into tribal life on the Makah Reservation while working in elementary schools and providing residents with service projects. If you are still interested in being a mentor check out page 13 for mentoring programs in Spokane including the NATIVE project.

## Browning, Montana

My week spent in Browning was, plainly put, one of the best weeks of my life. Upon reaching the dog filled, aesthetically appealing Blackfeet Reservation, I know that a lot of my group had some doubts about how our week would go, myself included. Little did we know that we would soon

meet a group of amazing women, and one man, who would change our lives forever: the Grandmothers and Byron. Now, I know just saying the word grandmother evokes feeling, so imagine every positive emotion associated when you think grandma rolled up into one room resembling a teepee and you will barely touch on what we experienced. These incredible ladies, and Byron, were some of the most amazing people I have ever met. They were all filled with love and joy and just being in their presence put a smile on all of our faces. They are the "grandmothers" of a pre-school and all the work they do is done for their "grandkids."

One day we made necklaces with them that they let us keep, even though they were meant for the kids. Another day we spent cutting construction paper so that the kids could make leprechauns for Saint Patrick's day. They then taught us traditional Blackfeet dances like "the Circle dance" before spontaneously inviting us to a



home cooked, traditional Native American meal. I say spontaneous in that the manner in which they invited us was similar to asking your parents if your friend can come over while your friend is right next to you. Our last day with the Grandma's was spent with beef vegetable stew, pineapple upside down cake, fried bread, apples and cookies for good measure, and smiles all around. Upon attempting to leave we were given mountains of food in the typical grandmother fashion. We exchanged our hugs and goodbyes before being told that we are and will always be their grandchildren too. We may have left the Arbor, home of the Grandmothers and Byron, for the last time, but I know that the relationships and memories we made will last a lifetime. As they say, what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas, but what happens on Mission Possible changes the world.

-Sarah Ghods

At Browning, you worked with children at the Blackfeet Boarding School and at the "Immersion School" at De La Salle. If you still want to work with kids, check out page 13 for mentoring opportunities in Spokane including the NATIVE project where you can work with Native American children.

## St. Louis, Missouri

"Working with the homeless population in St. Louis was an incredible way to spend my Spring Break and I wouldn't trade it for anything. The experiences I had, the conversations I participated in, and the relationships I built had such an impact on me as a person and the role I play in the world. It teaches you that no matter how small the impact, every action counts." - Morgan Karney

In St. Louis, students volunteered at St. Patrick's which provides different services for the homeless community in downtown St. Louis. If you are still interested in working with the homeless, check out page 11 for opportunities here in Spokane.





## Portland, Oregon

Spending time at the house of hospitality – St. Andre Besset, aka the downtown chapel, I was amazed by the love and dedication of one of the volunteers there – his name, Gary. What a fascinating man. He was a man with a cause – sharing love with every person he came into contact with. During the reflection circle prior to serving he smiled so broadly, shared his passion for being there and seemed genuinely excited for the day and what it had to offer. A genuine joy bubbled forth from his speech and words. I observed the way he loved men and women who most would not bear to smell, see or look at.

Each day Gary rode the bus one hour to DTC to enter this space – each day Gary took the bus one more hour filled with busy people going about their day, back to his home. At the end of the first time I worked at DTC, I was amazed to hear Gary say how his highlight of the day was the joy he found in Will's smile. The second day: how working with Steve brought such light to the world, and the third day, praising Carlee's spirit. What a kind and generous man that he would only uplift those around him; humble in his actions, more like Christ in each blessing and his warm and generous smile. I pray that I might resemble Gary when I am older – as he resembles Christ in his attitude, actions and humility.

-Luisa Gallagher

In Portland, students worked with non-profit organizations as they address the basic needs of the vast homeless population in the city. If you wish to work with the homeless population here in Spokane, check out page 11 for volunteer opportunities in Spokane



## San Francisco Bay Area, California

During our time in San Francisco, our group was fortunate enough to work on a variety of projects and with a lot of different people. It's hard to narrow down the group's experience when so many amazing things happened, but I will do my best. For those of you who don't know, our trip focused primarily on environmental outreach. Our projects ranged from removing invasive weeds, putting fresh mulch on a farm trail, sawing down trees, helping with household chores at a nursery, and building water drains on new walking trails. Along with these activities, we also walked around a local farmers market, visited some sea lions at the marine mammal center, and served dinner to the homeless for two nights.

I have always believed that Gonzaga is full of caring, genuine people, and this trip has reassured me of this. Not only was this group motivated and disciplined to help at each site we went to, but this group also knows how to have a good time. Whether it is blasting Miley Cyrus in the car or teasing



one another, we cherished every moment. Even though it seems like we had the perfect trip, just like any other trip, we faced many challenges.

However, no matter what kind of obstacles our group faced, we tackled each issue with smiles on our faces (and later we would make a joke about it).

Our group of thirteen left a mark, and

I look forward to seeing the great things our group does after our trip in San Francisco.

Courtney Conn

In San Francisco, students focused on environmental justice issues and works with the parks conservancy at sites overlooking the beautiful bay area and the Golden Gate Bridge. If you are still interested in promoting environmental justice, check out page 12 for opportunities here.

## Knoxville, Tennessee

One of my favorite memories from Mission Possible in Knoxville, Tennessee came when we helped out at the local Boys and Girls Club. On the Friday of that week we decided to bring Friendship Friday to Tennessee, complete with stickers for the kids, pictures, and of course a lot of excitement. One of the children I gave a sticker to was named Dakota and once I handed him a sticker that said “Your dance moves are incredible” his face lighted up like it was the best thing in the world. But after that he asked if he could have stickers to give to other people. As I handed him stickers he would run around the playground handing Friendship Friday stickers to all the adults that worked at the boys and girls club. When Dakota handed the adults the stickers that said things such as “You are a ball of sunshine” and “Your laugh makes my day” these adults gave Dakota a smile and a sincere and happy thank you. This was nice to see because throughout the week our Mission Possible group had struggled with the fact that many people who worked at the boys and girls club seemed pretty tough on the kids. So to finally see the workers open up was a great feeling and seeing Dakota spread the love of Friendship Friday was an even better feeling. I know for a lot of our group members helping out at the boys and girls was a struggle compared to

the construction part, so seeing this positive moment was very encouraging. Oh, but along with this of course one of the best parts of Tennessee was the southern accents. *Jeremy Chow*

In Knoxville, you helped rebuild the community by painting houses and working at the local Boys and Girls club. If you are interested in helping your community here in Spokane check out page 11 to work with homelessness and low income families. Also, if you enjoyed working with the Boys and Girls club, check out page 13 to see the mentoring programs that available here at Gonzaga and Spokane.



## Tacoma, Washington

Coming to L'Arche, a farm where adults with different abilities work and live, our Mission Possible group was welcomed with open arms. We were put to work shoveling and carrying buckets of poop, cleaning out the chicken coop and spreading a pile of horse manure. It doesn't sound enjoyable on the surface, but it turned out to be two of the most enjoyable days we had in Tacoma. Working with the adults on the farm we learned that Charles likes waffles and rolos but doesn't like ham and that Leanna is too nervous to say her name out loud in a large group but will joke with you incessantly one on one. Pat, the boss around the farm, exemplified the true meaning of servant leadership, patiently tending to everyone's needs.

One example of how Pat, the head of the Tacoma L'Arche Community, exemplified servant leadership occurred when Sarah and Caileen excitedly made it their mission to stroke Pat's long beard and the fun-loving guy welcomed their curiosity and fulfilled their wishes, allowing them the chance to stroke the glorious beard. Zack was standing a few plant rows away at the time and asked: "is it nice?" Pat had an unexpected response for Zack that made his day and possibly even the entire trip. Again wanting to satisfy our curiosity, Pat bounded over to Zack, and in one fell swoop, kissed him on the lips. This anecdote expresses the environment and exuberance that we jumped into each day and the wonderful community we were able to build and strengthen in just a week.

MaryClare O'Brien-Wilson



In Tacoma, you helped at L'Arche by working with people with developmental disabilities. For more service opportunities like this, see page 15. You also served at Tacoma Catholic Worker that focused on serving the homeless community. For more service like this, see page 11.

## Homelessness and Low Income

### On campus:

- Homeless Outreach
  - This program seeks to raise awareness about what it means to be homeless and how every person can help without creating a stigma of shame.
  - (509) 313-6824 or [homelessoutreach@zagmail.gonzaga.edu](mailto:homelessoutreach@zagmail.gonzaga.edu).
- Campus Kitchens
  - A unique organization that combats the unacceptable amount of food wasted in our society by "recycling" unwanted but usable food to fight against hunger in our communities.
  - (509) 313-6939 or [epaulson@campuskitchens.org](mailto:epaulson@campuskitchens.org)
- April's Angels
  - April's Angels is a one-day service experience for students to connect in short, but impactful ways to service with and learn about our valued partners in the Spokane Community.
  - (509) 313-6824 or [homelessoutreach@zagmail.gonzaga.edu](mailto:homelessoutreach@zagmail.gonzaga.edu)

### Off Campus:

- House of Charity
  - The House of Charity programs offer meals, clothing, mental health services, case management, and free medical care for transient, homeless, and very low-income people. <http://www.catholiccharitiesspokane.org/?page=19>
  - 32 West Pacific Avenue, Spokane, WA 99201-3662  
(509) 624-7821
- St Margaret's Shelter
  - St. Margaret's is an emergency and transitional shelter for homeless women and their children. It provides housing, case management, parenting classes, and life skills training to homeless women. [www.catholiccharitiesspokane.org/?page=16](http://www.catholiccharitiesspokane.org/?page=16)
  - 101 E Hartson Ave, Spokane, WA 99202  
(509) 624-9788
- Cup of Cool Water
  - This program was started to help the homeless youth by giving them a halfway home by providing them with food and other services.  
<http://www.cupofcoolwater.org/home>
  - 1106 W 2nd Ave, Spokane, WA 99201  
(509) 747-6686 or [Rachel@cupofcoolwater.org](mailto:Rachel@cupofcoolwater.org)

- Women and Children's Free Restaurant
  - This program serves dinner at no cost twice weekly in a safe environment to help the nutritional and social needs of low income women and children.  
<http://www.wcfrspokane.org/wcfr2/>
  - 1620 N. Monroe St. Spokane, Washington 99205  
(509) 324-1995
- Global Neighborhood
  - This program helps refugees in Spokane transition into their lives here by helping them with seeking employment and job training.  
<http://global-neighborhood.org/>
  - 108 N Washington ST, Suite 204, Spokane, WA 99201  
(509) 703-7524 or [info@global-neighborhood.org](mailto:info@global-neighborhood.org)

## Environmental Justice

### On Campus:

- Earthbound
  - Earthbound is a program that takes GU student volunteers to local middle schools to run after school activities that are fun and environmentally educational.
  - (509) 313-6821 or [wootton@gonzaga.edu](mailto:wootton@gonzaga.edu)
- GU outdoors
  - There are many opportunities within GU outdoors. They sponsor different hiking trips and activities that you and you friends can participate in. They also sponsor different volunteer opportunities like an annual cleanup of the lake. Just pay attention to morning mail and sign up for their email notifications.
  - (509) 313-4189 or [outdoors@gonzaga.edu](mailto:outdoors@gonzaga.edu)

### Off campus:

- Friends of the Centennial Trail
  - This program assists in the maintenance and development of the Spokane River Centennial Trail, its adjacent park lands, and regional trails..  
<http://spokanecentennialtrail.org/>
  - 28 West Indiana. Suite F Spokane, WA 99205  
(509) 624-7188 or [friends@spokanecentennialtrail.org](mailto:friends@spokanecentennialtrail.org)
- S.N.A.P living green



- Living Green with Spokane Neighborhood Action Programs (SNAP) is a program that teaches how to lighten our impact on the planet, conserve energy and save money. <http://www.livinggreensnap.org/>
- 212 W 2nd Ave #100, Spokane, WA 99201  
(509) 744-3370 ext.242 or at [baukol@snapwa.org](mailto:baukol@snapwa.org)
- West Valley Outdoor Learning Center
  - The Outdoor Learning Center needs help with building, composting, environmental education, working with raptors, and planting. For more information visit <http://www.wvolc.org/>
  - 706 E. Upriver Drive, Spokane, WA 99212  
(509) 340-1028
- Inland Northwest Land Trust
  - The Inland Northwest Land Trust works to preserve and protect the natural lands, waters, and working farms and forests of the Inland Northwest.  
<http://inlandnwlandtrust.org/>
  - 35 West Main Avenue, Suite 210, Spokane, WA 99201  
(509) 328-2939 or [outreach@inlandnwlandtrust.org](mailto:outreach@inlandnwlandtrust.org)
- Spokane River Keeper
  - This program is dedicated to preserving the Spokane River by protecting and restoring the health of Spokane River.  
<http://www.cforjustice.org/river/about-us/>
  - 35 W. Main Avenue Suite 300, Spokane, WA 99201  
(509) 835-5211 or [bart@cforjustihce.org](mailto:bart@cforjustihce.org)

## Mentoring

### On Campus:

- SMILE
  - A program designed to help children improve their self-esteem and build positive identities. The youth that participate in SMILE are in grades kindergarten through sixth grade.
  - (509) 313-6821 or [wootton@gonzaga.edu](mailto:wootton@gonzaga.edu)

- **GAME**
  - G.A.M.E. stands for Gonzaga Athletes Mentoring for Excellence. G.A.M.E. uses athletics and social interactions to increase the self-esteem and resilience of middle school students.
  - (509) 313-6821 ex. 6821 at [wootton@gonzaga.edu](mailto:wootton@gonzaga.edu)
- **Eye to Eye**
  - The only national movement that pairs kids with learning disabilities (LD) and attention deficit hyperactivity (ADHD) disorder with similarly labeled college students. By utilizing an art-based curriculum, the mentors in our programs help kids with LD and ADHD build self-esteem as they embrace their abilities as different thinkers.
  - [www.eyetoeyenational.org](http://www.eyetoeyenational.org) and/or email us at [eyetoeyegu@gmail.com](mailto:eyetoeyegu@gmail.com).

Off Campus:

- **AVID**
  - A college-readiness system designed to increase the number of students who enroll in four-year colleges.
  - (509) 354-5339 and (509) 354-5380
- **Boys and Girls Club**
  - Boys & Girls Clubs build character through everyday leadership and guidance in behavior and attitude. The Boys & Girls Club shows youngsters that someone cares and wants them to realize their full potential as productive, responsible and caring citizens through club activities and athletics.
  - 544 E Providence Ave Spokane, WA 99207  
(509) 489-0741
- **The NATIVE Project**
  - This program, promotes community along with spirituality, cultural and traditional values where you can volunteer with Native kids from that area  
<http://nativeproject.org/>
  - 1893 West Maxwell Avenue Spokane, WA 99201  
(509) 325-5502 or [info@nativeproject.org](mailto:info@nativeproject.org)
- **Shriners Hospital**
  - Shriner's mission is to provide the highest quality care to children with neuromusculoskeletal conditions, burn injuries and other special health care needs in a compassionate, family-centered and collaborative care environment.  
<http://www.shrinershospitalsforchildren.org/Locations/spokane>
  - 911 W. 5th Ave. Spokane, WA 99204

(509) 455-7844

## Adults with disabilities

### On Campus:

- **GUSR**
  - A program that brings together students and adults from around Spokane with developmental disabilities to put on theatrical productions each semester and participate in Sports, retreats, and other events.
  - (509) 313-6832 or [gusr@zagmail.gonzaga.edu](mailto:gusr@zagmail.gonzaga.edu).

### Off Campus:

- **L'Arche Spokane**
  - The mission of L'Arche Spokane is to create and live Christian among people with developmental disabilities and those who assist them in their homes.  
<http://www.larcheofspokane.org/>
  - 703 East Nora Ave. Spokane, WA 99207  
(509) 483-0438
- **The Arc of Spokane**
  - Our goal at the Arc is to make Spokane a better place to live for people who have a developmental disability, their families and for everyone else in our community.  
<http://www.arc-spokane.org/Volunteer>
  - 320 E. 2nd Ave., Spokane, Washington 99202-1402  
(509) 328-6326
- **Special Olympics**
  - This program provides a year-round program of sports training and competition for children and adults with mental retardation, or closely related developmental disability. <http://www.specialolympicswashington.org/>
  - (509) 299- 7117 or [jsuniga@sowa.org](mailto:jsuniga@sowa.org)



AND, as a final reminder, feel free to check-out CCASL ([www.gonzaga.edu/ccasl](http://www.gonzaga.edu/ccasl) or x6824) to find out more about **tons** of service and social justice opportunities in our local community!