



## Los Angeles Service Trip: April 3-10, 2020

### Mission

The Los Angeles Service Trip works through an organization called Union Rescue Mission (URM), whose mission is to embrace people with the compassion of Christ, and whose ultimate vision is helping men, women, and children experiencing homelessness to get off the streets and find their way home. As a team, The King’s Academy will partner with URM to serve the needs of inner-city communities, both materially and spiritually. This can take on any number of forms, but generally, the types of needs remain fairly consistent—all people need food, water, clothing, and Jesus—and URM transforms lives through meeting these material needs and ministering through the power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. There is no doubt about it—the depraved landscape of the inner city is significantly different from most other service trip destinations. But God is still powerfully at work there. Nineveh, that great city of many years ago, was turned completely around by the eventual obedience of just one person—Jonah—fulfilling his calling to bring God’s word to the city. Los Angeles is another great city where God’s message is truly needed today, and where even one person from TKA can help share that Good News.

### Goals

The L.A. Service Trip team of 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders will provide service to inner-city residents alongside other leaders and participants. Members will likely experience settings that may be uncomfortable, and they may be around others who may make them feel uncomfortable. This is not an opportunity for team members to compare levels of bravado, but to bring love and compassion where there has been mostly emptiness and disdain. Team members will be challenged to grow new eyes for service, new ears for compassion, new thoughts for responding, and new hearts for people living in the city.

### Itinerary

April 3	Team departs TKA and arrives in the afternoon
April 4	Team receives orientation; City Life experience
April 5	Team attends various city churches; possible service project in afternoon
April 6-9	Service projects – L.A./Skid Row/Watts/MacArthur Park/Imperial Courts
April 10	Team returns to TKA and arrives in the afternoon

### Housing

We sleep in sleeping bags in tents atop the URM main building site in Skid Row, with girls in one area and boys in another. There is one adult leader among each group of five (5) students. Limited showering is typically available.

### Food

Most meals are available through the cafeteria located in the URM facility. On some days, our lunches will be self-prepared sack lunches, and for two dinners we will eat at a local restaurant.

### Cost - \$700

Covers: food (except meals on the road to and from Los Angeles), lodging, and transportation. The cost can be reduced through fundraising efforts, as led by the students, but we will also have a team fundraiser to cover the cost of building materials for service projects. The cost is tax-deductible.



### **Application Process**

To apply, please submit the 2020 Service Trip Online Application. The 2020 Service Trip Application is for current full-time students only. The link to this application will be posted on the Student Portal under the “Alerts” section in the upper-right corner. Applications will only be accepted during the following time frame: Thursday, August 29, 3:00 p.m. through Wednesday, September 4, 12:30 p.m. (Note: The application will no longer be available after 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, September 4).

### **Selection Process**

The team will consist of no more than 36 students, plus adult chaperones. After applications are submitted, participants will be interviewed and selected based on the following criteria: willingness to have your comfort zone stretched by working within emotionally and environmentally challenging situations; commitment to learning to identify those in need who are hidden “in plain sight”; desire to reach out to the homeless, addicted, and destitute citizens of inner-city Los Angeles. Students with compromised immune systems may not be able to attend—please ensure the trip leaders are made aware of any health concerns. For the L.A. service trip, priority will not be given based on grade level. All students will be notified by September 30, 2019.

**Points of Contact:** Matt Nisbet, [matt.nisbet@tka.org](mailto:matt.nisbet@tka.org) or Michael Wilton, [michael.wilton@tka.org](mailto:michael.wilton@tka.org).

*Please Note: All information is subject to change.*