

Asheville

Year Round Awareness Retreat

Overview

Join us in the pursuit of social change and education through our Advocacy & Awareness Retreats, open for reservations from September to April. Collaborating closely with local organizations and the Haywood Street Congregation in Asheville, NC, we offer a profound exploration of the systemic challenges confronting marginalized populations in Asheville and within our own communities.

Our retreats are tailored to your group's specific interests and encompass a diverse range of experiences, including embodied activities, enlightening educational simulations, and enriching spiritual health practices. These carefully designed programs are crafted to align seamlessly with your group's desired focus for a truly transformative experience.

Summary

Lodging	<p>We are proud to partner with Christmount, a retreat center in Black Mountain, NC. Christmount's campus offers accommodations, featuring both comfortable hotel-style rooms and bunk lodgings.</p> <p>Guests will enjoy meals at the on-site cafeteria, where all dietary restrictions can be accommodated. The facilities at Christmount are thoughtfully designed to foster introspection and rejuvenation, providing the ideal backdrop for reflection and relaxation.</p>
Embodied Activities	<p>We recognize that becoming aware of systemic changes happens deeply within the context of relationships. We focus on relationship building activities as well as service opportunities that put us in close proximity with one another and experience the reciprocity of liberation. [See attached for Embodied Activities for specific interests.]</p>
Educational Simulations	<p>Awareness and education are key components in understanding systematic oppression and the challenges often faced in a day-to-day life by communities experiencing marginalization. We believe that one of the first steps to change is awareness and learning. [See attached for Educational Simulations for specific interests.]</p>
Spiritual Health Practices	<p>In loving God and neighbor, we recognize the need to love ourselves. We hope to cultivate practices for spiritual health daily so that we can commit to long term change within our communities. These activities can include but are not limited to:</p> <p>Prayer Labyrinth Guided Nature Walk Restorative Yoga Art Room Morning Watch Small Group Interactive Worships Community Meal Gratitude List: Individual and Communal Lectio Divina</p>

Retreat Menu

Embodied Activities & Educational Simulations

Each topic below focuses on an important social justice movement God is inviting us into in the story of creation and reconciliation. We partner with a variety of organizations, nonprofits, and grassroots movements. We create each schedule during the summer prioritizing the needs and schedules of the community organizations. We will incorporate an educational simulation for each embodied activity students and adults experience. This helps us develop a better understanding of why these services and volunteer actions are important.

Housing Insecurity

Embodied Activities: Path of Awareness | Beloved: Tiny Home Project | Homeward Bound: Compass Point Village | ABCCM: Transformation Village | Haywood Street Congregation and Community Table

Educational Simulations: Habitat for Humanity | Spent: Durham Rescue Mission | Community Member Sharing

Racial Reconciliation

Embodied Activities: Hood Huggers: Educational Tour* | Indigenous Walls Project: Activism through Art

Educational Simulations: Implicit Bias Test | Immigration Rights

Material Poverty

Embodied Activities: Bus Activity in AVL | Black Mountain Children's Homes

Educational Simulations: Spent: Durham Rescue Mission | Living in Poverty | Skittles Activity: United Way | Beads of Privilege

Food Insecurity

Embodied Activities: *AVL Options:* Manna Food Bank (Sorting food) | Haywood Street Congregation Welcome Table | ABCCM Day Center (Sorting food) | 12 Baskets Cafe: Food Rescue *Black Mountain Options:* Bounty & Soul | Food Connection: Food Rescue | Community Garden

Educational Simulations: Food for a Week | Food Security Game | Live Below the Line

Relational Activities

Embodied Activities: Ice Cream Social: varied locations | Community Cookout and Softball Game | Hiking with Community Friends | Movie Night with Community Friends

Educational Simulations: Beads of Privilege | Beads Needs Activity | *Theirs is the Kingdom* Documentary

Christmout Lodging Options

Group Lodge	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sleeps 32● Bathroom with showers and multiple sinks● Covered Porch● Group Room● Kitchen Access
Cabins	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Sleeps 8 people each (Renting 4 cabins sleeps 32 total people)● Bathroom with shower in each cabin● Bunk Beds
Hotel-Style Rooms *	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Two Queen Beds● Renting 10 rooms sleeps 20 people● Private bathroom with showers

Pricing

Monday to Friday experience: \$550 per person

Four day experience: \$450 per person

Customizable Schedule: \$80 per day per person

*Some opportunities and lodging might include an added cost. Please email laura@carolinacrossconnection.org for cost of customizable options.