

<<October 29, 2007>>

«Contact_Person»
«Organization (if relevant)»
«Mailing_Address»
«City», «State» «Zip»

Dear «Recipient's name»,

On March 9, 2008, a group of ISU students will skip the traditional “party” Spring Break and set out instead for a life changing Alternative Spring Break (ASB) experience. Equipped with little more than a sack of clothes, we will head south to Biloxi, Mississippi and Atlanta, Georgia. As you may already know, “alternative breaks” are a strong mix of volunteering, hands-on learning, and inspiring of active, responsible citizenship. We are looking to experience diversity, establish friendships, and dispel stereotypes, and of course to benefit the people we serve.

Most of ISU’s ASB participant will spend our vacation week helping with continuing Hurricane Katrina rebuilding efforts on the Gulf Coast in Mississippi, working through our host agency Hope Crisis Response Network (HCRN) for the third year in a row. HCRN is based out of Elkhart, Indiana and coordinates volunteers from Indiana to help with relief and recovery after natural disasters. The rest of our group will be in Atlanta volunteering with Refugee Family Services, a non-profit agency that helps refugee and immigrant families achieve self-sufficiency. There we will work face-to-face with international refugees, including children and teens in their after-school program.

Despite sleeping in crowded bunk-trailers or on floors and cooking most of our own food, financial help is needed to defray the costs of transportation, housing, food and supplies. we are looking for generous contributions of civic-minded community members, family, friends and businesses. So we are asking for your help in funding ASB through whatever donation—large or small—you can contribute. ASB is an extremely rewarding experience for all the participants, not to mention the agencies, communities, and individuals we serve, and your donations can make it happen.

Tax-deductible contributions may be sent to the Center for Public Service and Community Engagement, Tirey Hall 134A, with checks payable to the ISU Foundation. You may also contact Marni Loyd at 237-2335 to make other payment arrangements. See our website for more details: www.indstate.edu/publicservice/students/asb.htm.

Thank you for considering lending a hand. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

<Insert Your Name Here>
Spring Break Participant