

Drexel University Circle K  
Office of Campus Activities  
Greenwalt Student Development Center  
Office 32G  
Philadelphia, PA, 19104

Drexel University's chapter of Circle K International is pleased to submit this year's proposal for Alternative Spring Break 2007. Since its inception several years ago, ASB has been a phenomenal success for the university, as well as for our club. Each year we select a new destination in order to provide a wide range of opportunity for students to reach out to a number of communities around the continental United States. Last year we had the distinct privilege of working with the Youth Service Opportunities Project in Washington, D.C., a trip that gave us the chance to help the homeless throughout metro D.C. This year we are thrilled to take the club in an entirely new direction. We will be aiding Once Upon A Time in Appalachia, an organization located in the foothills of the Smoky Mountains and Cherokee National Forest in Eastern Tennessee. Circle K has always been grateful for the generous CAP Funding you have allotted us in the past, as it has allowed us to complete such successful projects as last year's trip with YSOP. We look forward to working with you again this year to accomplish a new range of service projects.

Drexel University's Circle K advocates service, fellowship, unity, friendship, interdependence and leadership amongst the student body as well as the community at large. This year's Alternative Spring Break project is designed to expose students to these core values through a series of unique environmental projects as well as a number of humanitarian efforts that will include working with the cherished Snowbird Cherokee Native American community. We hope to inspire volunteers to give back to our vital ecosystem as well as educate them about an increasingly rare segment of our population, the Native American peoples. Volunteers will be able to take this priceless experience back to our own Philadelphia area, and continue to give back in both a humanitarian and environmental sense, long after Alternative Spring Break has ended.

The attached proposal highlights our ideas and goals for this year's service project, including the manner in which we plan to achieve our ambitions, cost considerations for our trip, and the multitude of benefits to our participants.

Any questions or additional comments may be directed towards Amanda Pincin, by email at [ap358@drexel.edu](mailto:ap358@drexel.edu), or by phone at either 215-571-3039 or 717-303-9173. We look forward to discussing this proposal with you. Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

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Missy Van Slett, President

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Amanda Pincin, Vice President  
ASB Spring Break Trip Coordinator

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# **Circle K, Alternative Spring Break 2007**

## **Once Upon a Time in Appalachia, Eastern Tennessee**

### **Abstract**

Drexel University Circle K International plans to accomplish an alternative spring break trip for eleven students and one advisor to Eastern Tennessee to assist with a number of environmental projects in the Cherokee National Forest as well as assist the Snowbird Cherokee Native American tribe. This project addresses three primary objectives. The first is to expose the volunteers to the environmental difficulties of the Smoky mountain range as well as expose them culturally by allowing them the opportunity to work with a rare tribe like the Snowbird Cherokees. The second objective is to challenge volunteers to expand their thinking by spending time in a different region of the United States. This trip includes opportunities for members to experience a wide range of educational programs, including increased insight into many of the traditional Cherokee crafts and language skills as well as many of the customs of the rural Tennessee region in which volunteers will live for a week. The final objective is to inspire volunteers to take this unique experience back to Philadelphia and to encourage the unified group to continue to volunteer their services to the widespread cultural and environmental needs of the greater Philadelphia area.

Following each day's work during the week, the group will meet and reflect on the experience. Each team will describe the work accomplished and challenges faced during that day's particular project, in order to provide the volunteers with a more comprehensive service experience.

## **Introduction**

Drexel University Circle K is a proud chapter of Circle K International, the single largest community service organization in the world. The purpose of the Drexel University chapter of this fantastic organization is to involve students at the collegiate level in a wide variety of service projects. Drexel University Circle K regularly plans and executes projects that include tutoring children at an inner city elementary school, preparing and serving food at a local soup kitchen, and assisting with bingo at a wheelchair community. Annually, the club hosts a hunger banquet designed specifically to raise awareness about the global distribution of wealth as well as what students can do to help at a local level. In addition, the club plans a large scale environmental service project each fall, where volunteers clean up areas of Philadelphia's massive Fairmount Park. The club's focus is uniting students through service. Service, the backbone of Circle K, is utilized as a critical means of bonding students and helping them form lifelong friendships, as well as providing them with important leadership opportunities that help shape them into the productive citizens of tomorrow.

Drexel University Circle K enacted its goals of service, leadership, and fellowship from the time of its inception on December 12, 2001. Since this important founding year the club has been a continual success, constantly striving for excellence in all areas. Our members demonstrate true empathy and compassion for the community, qualities that translate into action. Circle K offers service opportunities at least three days out of every week as well as a number of weekend projects each term. Every year brings new projects, as well as a continuation of annual projects that have become staples for success not only within the club, but within the larger Drexel community as well. This extremely broad range of projects provides countless opportunities for student involvement, whether they are veterans of service or are new to volunteering. Our chapter receives a number of annual awards and distinguished honors from the larger Circle K International for the exceptional work that our members do each year. These distinctions provide further proof that Circle K is an organization committed to active community reform on a consistent basis.

Through the development of an alternative spring break trip, Drexel University Circle K is able to reinforce the aforementioned values and provide yet another unique service opportunity where volunteers can positively impact the community. Students will unite for a week of service, working towards common goals each day, and making a difference in new areas of the United States. As a result, students will have the opportunity to meet new people, develop long lasting friendships, and gather a sense of community and togetherness.

Working in Eastern Tennessee, students will have the opportunity to volunteer alongside Ed and Arleen Decker of Once Upon a Time in Appalachia, a couple dedicated to the preservation and success of the Smoky Mountains and Cherokee National Forest, but more importantly, dedicated to the education of their volunteers about the native environment of Tennessee. In addition, Ed and Arleen proudly partner with the Snowbird Cherokee tribe to continue the education process with regards to the intensely unique culture of the Native Americans. Drexel University Circle K is thrilled to have the opportunity to partner with this philanthropic and family oriented organization. Students will spend the week becoming more open minded, informed, and compassionate.

In addition to planning and partaking in a range of local community service projects, Drexel University Circle K has organized a number of successful spring break trips to a wide variety of locations. Past trips have included last year's YSOP work in Washington, D.C, a trip to the Wheeler Wildlife Refuge in Decatur, Alabama, as well as a trip to St. Marks Wildlife Refuge in Florida. These trips bring students together and allow them to bond as a team while serving others. Drexel University Circle K is confident that this year's Alternative Spring Break trip to Eastern Tennessee will be as well organized, successful, and exciting as past trips and will far surpass the goals set as a club. We will provide a truly rewarding experience for all involved.

## **Project Detail**

### **Objectives:**

There are three primary objectives for Circle K's Alternative Spring Break trip to Eastern Tennessee. Each of these objectives contains its own unique goals.

**Objective #1 To Expose:** The project is designed to expose volunteers to the environmental concerns of the Smoky Mountains as well as the cultural nuances of the Snowbird Cherokee Tribe.

- Students will participate in a new service project each day. The projects will encompass work on the Tennessee Cumberland Trail as well as work within a Snowbird Cherokee daycare, providing a range of projects both environmental and humanitarian, as well as a range of locations.

**Objective #2 To Challenge:** Volunteers will be challenged to experience a new way of living while spending time in Tennessee, and will be encouraged to take advantage of the opportunities provided by this trip.

- The purpose of a spring break is to serve and learn, and our volunteers will have the opportunity to do both through a series of educational programs provided by our hosts. Programs will include but not be limited to learning the Cherokee language and many of their traditional crafts, as well as a guided hike to learn many of the native wildflower species of the Cumberland Trail.
- In addition to educational programs, volunteers will have the opportunity to test their bravery on their day off through whitewater rafting or rappelling, two recreational activities native to the Tennessee region and offered by the host organization.

**Objective #3 To Inspire:** This project will inspire volunteers to continue service in the greater Philadelphia area.

- A post trip reflection will provide additional cultural and environmental opportunities for members who wish to continue serving

## **Methodology**

### **What is the layout of the event?**

The Alternative Spring Break trip to Eastern Tennessee is scheduled for Sunday, March 25, 2007 to Saturday, March 31, 2007. Below is a break-down of the week's activities:

#### **Sunday March 25, 2007**

9:00am: Depart for Eastern Tennessee via two rental vans

9:00pm: Arrive in Tennessee and stay the night at the Once Upon a Time in Appalachia location at 4100 Timber Wood Road, Maryville, TN, 37801.

#### **Monday March 26, 2007**

9:00am: Depart for trail worksite for the day

3:30pm: Return to camp for daily reflection

5:00pm: Assist with preparation of dinner

Evening: Mountain music band performance

#### **Tuesday March 27, 2007**

9:00am: Depart for trail worksite for the day

3:30pm: Return to camp for daily reflection

5:00pm: Assist with preparation of dinner

Evening: Stories from citizens of rural Appalachia

#### **Wednesday March 28, 2007**

Day: Free to white water raft, rappel, hike, explore the world's largest underground lake, fish, kayak, or visit Knoxville

#### **Thursday March 29, 2007**

9:00am: Depart for Cherokee Snowbird Community

10:00am: Arrive and spend the day at the Cherokee worksite

3:30pm: Return to Cherokee camp for daily reflection

Evening: Participate in Cherokee educational programs

#### **Friday March 30, 2007**

9:00am: Depart for Cherokee worksite for the day

3:30pm: Return to camp for daily reflection

Evening: Hoedown

#### **Saturday March 31, 2007**

10:00am: Depart for Philadelphia via two rental vans

### **Who is volunteering for the event?**

The trip is open to the entire student body of Drexel University. Circle K members involved in planning the trip will attend as well as students chosen through an application process. We plan on accommodating a total of eleven students and one faculty advisor, Stacey Ake. Students will apply for the trip through the Office of Campus Activities. Trip applications will be accepted until all spots are filled.

Students will pay \$100 trip fee, however, if we reach our estimated goal utilizing fundraisers and grants, portions of the fee will be returned to participants. Transportation to and from project sites as well as around the area, all meals and snacks for the week, and overnight accommodations are provided within the trip cost. Breakfast, lunch, and dinner will be provided by Once Upon a Time in Appalachia. All other snacks and drinks will be provided by grocery shopping prior to trip departure.

### **How will students benefit from attending this trip?**

Participants will have a variety of opportunities to serve, learn, and grow from attending this alternative spring break. This year's project addresses environmental and cultural concerns, two vastly different areas that both affect our daily lives. Environmental concerns are often overlooked in our everyday lives, so taking the time to learn the importance of maintaining native species in a given area as well as the critical trail maintenance that the people of Tennessee depend are essential components that participants will take from this trip. Culturally, the experience will have vast rewards for the volunteers, who will have the unique opportunity to spend time with native peoples who have struggled to maintain an ancient cultural identity in the ever changing technological world. Knowledge of a variety of cultures and ways of life is a key life skill that helps develop more tolerant world citizens.

The projects our volunteers carry out will help maintain the fragile ecosystem of the Cherokee National Forest, as well as encourage the cultural heritage of the Snowbird Cherokees. One of our primary objectives is to aid the Cherokees within their own community, assisting at a daycare with children in multiple age ranges. Assisting other humans at this basic level will give volunteers a sincere sense of accomplishment and success on this trip.

Another important component of the trip that will directly benefit the participants is the multitude of projects offered. In conjunction with those at Once Upon a Time in Appalachia that run alternative spring break, Drexel University Circle K has developed an agenda that includes a new service project each day. This variety of experience as well as the daily reflection time provided each afternoon will allow participants to expand their horizons on both a temporary and permanent level. It is our goal that these reflection times will help to encourage volunteers to take their experiences with them and continue to improve the lives of those around them even after they have been removed from the alternative spring break setting.

Students participating in this trip will meet people from a variety of majors, family backgrounds, and interests. They will become unified behind the common goal of service, and will spend the work team building as well as developing individual leadership skills. Students will form bond and friendships throughout a week of service, leadership, and fellowship.

### **How will students hear of the project and how can they sign up for the event?**

Students will be exposed to the project in multiple ways. The Office of Campus Activities will advertise the Drexel University Circle K project alongside a multitude of other trips. They will primarily use large posters, tri-fold pamphlets, flyers, and email to advertise. In addition to The Office of Campus Activities, Circle K has been publicizing our trip through emails, flyers, posters and handouts. We have also advertised the trip at our general club meetings each week, and all students interest in the trip are encouraged to contact Circle K officers for more information.

In order to participate in the spring break trip student must complete an application and return it to the Office of Campus Activities. Applications will be accepted until all spots are filled for the trip. Students will be chosen for the trip on the basis of eligibility and interest in community service.

## Costs

| <u>Resources</u>   | <u>Estimated Money Expenditure</u>     |
|--|--|
| Transportation   | \$2000 (2 rental vans from Enterprise) |
| Site Fee   | \$4200 (\$350 per person, 12 people)   |
| Travel Meals   | \$ 360 (\$5 per person per meal)       |
| Snacks   | \$120 (\$10 per person)                |
| Photo Album  | \$120 (\$10 per person)                |
| Additional expenses- pre and post trip reflection, tshirts, newsletter, etc. | \$490                                  |
| <b>Total Expenses</b>  | <b>\$ 7290.00</b>                      |

Note: See Appendices for cost justification

**Total Cap Funding Requested**                      **\$2000.00**

*We ask that CAP funding fund one of the following options:*

|                                |            |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Option 1: Transportation Costs | \$ 2000.00 |
| Option 2: Half of the Site Fee | \$ 2100.00 |

### **Reasons to fund Option 1:**

- In the past, CAP funding has generously paid for our transportation
- Although we are requesting slightly more funding than last year, our overall cost will be much higher so the percentage of funding is in keeping with what CAP funding provided for our trip last year
- Transportation is the most essential fee for the spring break trip

### **Proving the Transportation Fee will pay for:**

- Transportation to and from Tennessee
- Daily transportation to and from projects
- Transportation between the main campsite and the Cherokee campsite
- Gas for two rental vans, for the entirety of the trip
- Insurance for two rental vans, for the entirety of the trip

### **Other Funding Sources**

|                                    |         |
|------------------------------------|---------|
| Circle K SAFAC budget              | \$ 2500 |
| Circle K International's PACK Cash | \$1300  |
| Student Trip Fees                  | \$1100  |

Other Possible Funding Sources: various fundraising efforts and requests

### **How will we recognize CAP Funding?**

Circle K plans to recognize CAP funding through a variety of advertisements and trip publications. The CAP Funding logo will be added to all promotional material as well as our post trip newsletter. Student volunteers will detail their experience in this post trip newsletter, and Circle K will highlight CAP Funding for its generosity to the students and community. The newsletter will be sent to student sponsors, family members, friends, and will be distributed around the entire Drexel campus. This will help highlight CAP Funding's involvement in the community and its continued commitment to student growth and prosperity.

### **Summary, why CAP Funding should help fund our trip:**

- Circle K's previous Alternative Spring Break trips have been a phenomenal success due to the generous grants provided by CAP Funding
- Without the aid of CAP Funding, this trip will not be possible
- This is an excellent investment as this trip will expose young adults to a wide range of environmental and humanitarian concerns in the United States today
- This exposure will foster tolerance, student awareness, leadership skills, and a strong sense of community



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## Vehicle Details

Select and Continue

### Selected Vehicle



#### Cargo Van

GM Express, Ford Econoline or similar

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### Your Dates and Times

Start: Mar 24, 2007, Noon

End: Mar 31, 2007, Noon

### Price Quote

|                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| 1 Week @         |               |
| Weekly \$ 395.99 | \$ 395.99 USD |
| USD              |               |
| TRANS TAX & CFC  | \$ 14.00 USD  |
| Subtotal         | \$ 409.99 USD |
| SALES TAX        | \$ 43.56 USD  |

**\*Total Estimated Charges \$ 453.55 USD**

\* Additional surcharges, local taxes, etc. may apply.

Select and Continue

### Mileage Restrictions

MILEAGE IS UNLIMITED WHEN VEHICLE REMAINS IN PA, NJ, AND DE. IF TRAVELING OUTSIDE OF THESE STATES, MILEAGE IS CHARGED AT 150 FREE MILES PER DAY AND .20 FOR EACH ADDITIONAL MILE, FOR THE ENTIRE RENTAL.

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Dates/Times: [change](#)

Start: **Mar 24, 2007 @ Noon**

End: **Mar 31, 2007 @ Noon**

Vehicle Class: [change](#)

**Cargo Van**

Renter's Age: [change](#)

**25 and Up**

Renter's Information:  
(not yet entered)

Enter Member In...  
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This estimated \$500 per van covers all insurance, as well as unlimited mileage in PA, DE, and NJ. Beyond that, mileage is charged as 150 free miles per day and .20 cents for any additional miles traveled that day, for the duration of the rental.

To calculate our estimated additional mileage cost, we have calculated the total mileage for the entire trip (an estimated 800 miles each way). About 50 miles of that 800 will be traveled within PA, NJ, and DE, so we will not be charged mileage for those portions of the trip. That brings our total mileage to 750 each way, and after subtracting 150 free miles per day, the total additional mileage we will be charged for is 600 miles each way. To calculate this cost, we multiply as follows:

**600 miles that will be charged x .20 cents per mile = \$120, the total charge in one direction for mileage. That brings the total mileage charge for the trip to approximately \$240-\$300.**

To calculate the estimated cost of gas for the entire trip, we began by taking our estimated total mileage, and dividing it by the Miles Per Gallon that our van rental will get.

800 total miles traveled one way / 17 miles per gallon (based on the 2005 Ford Econoline van) = 50 gallons of gas required each way.

50 gallons of gas x 3.00 (the estimated average cost of a gallon of gasoline in Spring 2007) = **\$150.00 each way for gas, which equals approximately \$300-\$350 in gas from Philadelphia to our primary site in Tennessee.**

In addition, we will need to travel between campsites as well as between our primary location and our secondary location with the Snowbird Cherokee tribe. This additional mileage cost as well as additional gasoline needed is calculated below:

**Estimated Additional Mileage Cost: 400 additional travel miles X .20 = \$80**

**Estimated Additional Gasoline Cost: 400 additional travel miles/ 17 miles per gallon = 25 gallons of additional gasoline needed X \$3.00 per gallon = \$75 additional dollars**

In conclusion, the total overall cost of travel is calculated below, using each of the figures gathered in the above equations.

**\$1000 (2 van rentals, which include insurance) + \$300 (in additional mileage charges on the trip from Philadelphia to Tennessee and back) + \$350 (in gasoline for the trip from Philadelphia to Tennessee and back) + \$155 (in additional mileage and gasoline needed for trips between locations during our stay in Tennessee) = approximately \$1800**

Because the figures we have utilized are all estimations, we estimate approximately \$2000 in total travel costs, including unforeseen local taxes that will apply to the van rental, as well as the cost to have the vans cleaned upon our return to Philadelphia.

## **Appendix B**

Site Fee: \$4200



### **General Service Preferences**

**Fees:** \$350.00 per student. Includes lodging, all home-cooked meals/snacks

Availability: Spring

**Max Participants:** 20

**Housing:** Housing is provided in a bunkhouse nestled in the woods with twin bunkbeds (sleeps 12) and a 16x20 Wall Tent with cots (sleeps 8). The bunkhouse has a 40 ft. front porch with rocking chairs and a full kitchen. Hot showers are available in the showerhouse.

**Appendix C**

Travel Meals and Snacks \$360 for meals, \$120 for snacks

Ari Hauben, assistant director of the Office of Campus Activities, informed us that the Drexel Athletic Department provides \$15 a day per athlete for meals when they travel. We have only asked for \$5 a meal for each of our volunteers, enough to cover 6 travel meals during the roundtrip to Tennessee. To provide for snacks for the trip we have asked for \$10 per volunteer for the entirety of the trip.

**Appendix D**

Photo Album and Additional Expenses \$120 for album, \$490 for additional expenses

The photo album estimates \$10 per person, for 12 people.

**Breakdown of Additional Expected Expenses in the Budget:**

|                        |       |
|------------------------|-------|
| Tshirts                | \$150 |
| Newsletter             | \$200 |
| Advertising            | \$20  |
| Pre Trip Team Building | \$50  |
| Post Trip Reflection   | \$50  |
| First Aid Kits         | \$20  |