2019 Fall VOLbreaks Lottery Packet

[October 17\textsuperscript{th} – 20\textsuperscript{th}, 2019]

ABOUT VOLBREAKS
Since 1993, the University of Tennessee has sent students all over the country to participate in a range of service activities during a university break. The mission of VOLbreaks is to engage students in meaningful and collaborative community service in an effort to increase awareness of social issues and strengthen the communities in which they serve as well as foster a strong sense of community among trip participants and to the university as a whole.

WHAT DO I NEED TO BRING TO LOTTERY?
• 1 color \textit{copy} of your driver’s license
• Your Student ID Number
• $75 \textit{non-refundable} cash or check (made out to the Alternative Break Program)
• Signed Expectations & Agreement of Conduct & Assumption of Risk Forms (attached)

WHAT ARE THE TRIPS I COULD GO ON?

Immigrant and Refugee
This VOLbreak trip will cover the topic of Immigrants and Refugees. With the United States housing one of the largest populations of immigrants, this topic is extensively debated on in politics. Throughout the trip, we will explore the legal process of coming to America as well as policies that affect them after settlement. Beyond that, we will also seek to understand the impact they make and the distinct obstacles that these communities may face including finances, language barriers, and the continued effect on the next generation.

Wealth Distribution
Alfie Kohn once said “Children, after all, are not just adults-in-the-making. They are people whose current needs and rights and experiences must be taken seriously.” Unfortunately, not every child’s needs are being met. Among many reasons, one is income inequality in this country. Income inequality causes children to not have the same opportunities throughout life. It also disproportionally affects marginalized communities. This trip aims to look at the intersectionality of wealth and youth development. We plan to volunteer with community organizations whose mission is to work with low-income youth.
**Public Health**
Public health encompasses multiple disciplines, all of which seek to promote the health of individuals within a community. This fall break, participants will be able to not only explore the systematic disparities within public health, but work with organizations committed to alleviating these disparities. How does race, religion, gender, age, and socioeconomic status exclude individuals from proper health? Through serving with different agencies aimed at empowering healthier communities, participants will gain a greater understanding of the importance of achieving health for all.

**Food Insecurity**
The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) reported today that 12.3 percent of American households remain food insecure – meaning that 1 in 8 households in the United States had difficulty at some time during the year in providing enough food for all their members. This trip will focus on the issue of food insecurity and how we can best combat this issue. Participants expect to learn more about various facets of food insecurity through working with community partners that value agriculture, combating consumer misconceptions, and the race to fight hunger. We will be living out the Volunteer spirit of serving soup kitchens, gardens, and farms.

**Education**
This fall we will be leading a trip to one of the most educationally-deficient cities in the United States in order to bring awareness to the rising crisis that this country is facing. This city often ranks toward the bottom of all educational rankings in the country and at the complete bottom in its own state. We will be working with local organizations in this city that attempt to help close and remedy the gap in the public-school educational system. We hope to visit various schools in the city in order to show the inequality that plagues the public school and charter school systems throughout the city, but more importantly the country. In addition, we will focus on how education truly impacts all aspects of life and the importance of an equal playing field for everyone.

**Environmental Injustice**
According to the World Health Organization, “pollution is one of the world’s biggest killers, affecting over 100 million people. That’s conferrable to global diseases like malaria and HIV.” Our trip theme of environmental injustice aims to consider not only the impact of humans on the environment, but also the impact of the environment on humans. We hope to identify root causes of environmental turmoil, learn about inclusive sustainable practices, and understand the intersectionality of the environment and various social identities. In this city specifically, the issues of race and class are becoming increasingly pertinent as environmental conditions continue to worsen. By engaging participants in service related to this trip theme, our goal is to return with a greater understanding of how we can leave a positive impact on the environments we interact with.

**Disability Awareness**
This fall break trip will be focused on raising awareness for those with mental disabilities. We will travel to a city that is one of the most progressive in disability-friendly legislation and sets an example in disability advocacy in the United States. During the trip, we will examine a variety of ways in which we can help the disabled community. Through these service opportunities, students can gain a better understanding of the importance of advocating for those with disabilities. The goal of this trip is to encourage students to learn about disability advocacy on many levels with the ultimate goal of bringing what is learned back to campus!

**LGBTQ+ Advocacy**
The Human Rights Campaign reported that forty-two percent of LGBTQ+ youth say their community is not accepting of LGBTQ+ people. After the Supreme Court ruling in Obergefell v. Hodges that allowed same-sex marriage, many issues that affect the LGBTQ+ community remain. Through service, we will explore different issues that affect the LGBTQ+ community and ways we can solve these problems. We will focus on youth development/homelessness,
health, and policy relating to the LGBTQ+ community. We hope that those who participate in this trip will learn skills to better advocate for LGBTQ+ people on the UT campus and in their communities.

**Affordable Housing**  
**Trip Description:** Participants will be working at a variety of sites to further understand the social issue of affordable housing in a quickly growing city. On this trip, participants will have a chance to serve alongside community members striving to advocate and educate all people about the interconnected problems that people face living in an affordable housing situation. We will be looking into the intersectionality of different social justice issues with affordable housing, such as education, race and ethnicity, and gender and sex. While on this trip, fellow UTK students will be able to learn about a large and complicated issue while pursuing relationships with their peers in group reflections.

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**ABOUT FALL VOLBREAKS LOTTERY**  
Wednesday, September 4 at 7:00pm in Phase II of the Student Union (Room 270)!

**What is the lottery?**
- Lottery is where you sign-up for your VOLbreaks trip!
- The lottery sign-up allows everyone to have the same chance at getting a spot on a trip of their choice.
- It is possible to come to the lottery and not be placed on a trip as demand sometimes exceeds the spaces available, but there is a wait list for each trip.

**What if I wanted to go on a trip with a friend?**
- We understand that the lottery system makes this hard. While there is still a chance you end up with a friend, if you don’t, is that really so bad? All of these trips are great experiences, and we are sure you will make new connections and best friends along the way!

**How does the lottery work?**
- **Print this lottery packet from the CLS website.**
- Bring your completed packet to the Student Union on September 4 at 7:00pm.
- Bring your **$75 non-refundable** cash or check.
- If you aren’t there by 7:45 pm, you will only receive an opportunity to sign-up following the entire lottery process.
  - **If you can’t make it by the start time, send a friend to attend for you, or communicate with us, and we can have someone from our office be a proxy for you!**
- Around 8:00 PM, we will begin calling numbers using a random selection process.
- When your number is called you go and sign-up for the trip of your choice.
- After you have signed up and met your leaders, you will complete other paperwork to go on your trip right then and there at the lottery.
- Each person will only be issued one lottery number.

**A few tips:**
- Come to the lottery with more than one trip in mind! That way you don’t even have to think about it when your number is called.
- Try not to be attached to going on the same trip as a friend, because great people sign up for all of these trips, and it can be a fun way to meet new people too.

**Be advised:**
- The University of Tennessee reserves the right to cancel or alter the trip format or to change costs in some conditions beyond our control.
- *All VOLbreaks trips are alcohol, drug, and tobacco free.*

Questions?
- Contact [maria@utk.edu](mailto:maria@utk.edu)
In consideration for being allowed to participate in a Fall VOLbreaks Trip (“Activity”), which is a voluntary extracurricular activity being led by the University of Tennessee’s Center for Leadership and Service (“University”), I hereby release, waive, discharge, and covenant not to sue, and agree to hold harmless for any and all purposes University, and its trustees, officers, employees, and agents (“Releasees”) from any and all liabilities, claims, demands, or injuries, including death, that may be sustained by me while participating in the Activity, while in transport to the Activity site, using equipment or facilities available to participants in the Activity, or while on the premises owned or leased by Releasees, including injuries sustained as a result of the negligence of Releasees. I acknowledge there may be physically strenuous activities. I know of no reason why I should not participate.

I am fully aware that there are inherent risks involved with the Activity and I choose to voluntarily participate in the Activity with full knowledge that said activity may be hazardous to me and my property. I acknowledge that the University may provide transportation by bus or van to an off-site facility. I voluntarily assume full responsibility for any risks of risks of loss, property damage or personal injury, including death, which may be sustained by me as a result of participating in the Activity, including injuries sustained as a result of the negligence of Releasees. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees for any loss, liability, damage or costs, including court costs and attorney’s fees that may occur as a result of my participation in the Activity.

I also give the University permission to obtain any emergency medical care or treatment by a physician, physician’s assistant, surgeon, hospital, paramedic, or medical care facility as may be needed by me and accept responsibility for the costs. I acknowledge that the University does not provide medical insurance for me and that I am responsible to obtain sufficient insurance.

I agree to follow all instructions and procedures established by University regarding the Activity and transportation to the Activity. I give the University permission to publish in print, electronic, or video format the likeness or image of myself for the general promotion of the University and its programs.

It is my express intent that this Waiver and Hold Harmless Form shall bind the members of my family and spouse, if I am alive, and my heirs, assigns and personal representatives, if I am deceased, and shall be governed by the laws of the State of Tennessee.

In signing this Waiver and Hold Harmless Form, I acknowledge and represent that I have read and understand it and sign it voluntarily as my own free act and deed; no oral representations, statements, or inducements apart from the foregoing agreement that has been reduced to writing have been made. I execute this document for full, adequate and complete consideration fully intending to be bound by the same, now and in the future.

SIGNED this ___ day of __, 20__.

Participant Signature: ________________________________

Printed Name: ________________________________

Parent or Legal Guardian Signature: ________________________________ (If Participant is under 18 years old)
University of Tennessee – Knoxville, VOLbreaks Agreement of Conduct

Although we do not want to discourage anyone from attending a UTK VOLbreaks trip, we want to ensure that the nonnegotiable conditions of participation are clear. Please read the conditions below.

As a participant of the UTK VOLbreaks Program...

• I understand that I am a representative of the University of Tennessee that has been chosen by Center for Leadership and Service to represent it and its interests. As such a representative, I understand that any actions I take on my VOLBREAKS TRIP will negatively or positively affect opinions of others about our organization at UT.

• I will make my best effort to attend all team meetings, participate in pre-trip fundraising activities, and participate in all pre- and post-trip education and reorientation events (class and work conflicts are the only exception).

• I commit to a $150 non-refundable personal payment for the trip. I acknowledge that the full amount for the trip is due no later than Monday, October 14.

• It is my responsibility to bring my own spending money for activities not paid for by the VOLbreaks program, meals while travelling to and from the trip location, and other personal expenses.

• I will be on time for all volunteer commitments during my VOLbreaks trip and will participate in all aspects of the VOLbreaks program and its activities.

• I will travel with the group via UTK transportation and will stay with the group at all times. No visitors are allowed during the VOLbreaks trip for the safety of participants.

• At all times I will be with at least one other member of the group. Trip leaders will determine the number of the smallest groups allowed for each trip. Activities outside the scope of the program will not be accommodated and participants should not make outside commitments.

• I will exhibit sensitivity to the culture of the trip location; observe local rules and laws; and abide by the philosophy, structure, and regulations of our host agencies.

• I understand that the trip leaders will assist in arranging reasonable housing and service sites. Nevertheless, the exact nature and conditions of these sites cannot be guaranteed. Many of the conditions we expect at home (including: hot water, daily showers, washers/dryers, privacy, etc.) may not be available.

• I should not bring valuable items with me and I understand that the University, the Center for Leadership and Service, and the Housing Site are not responsible if my possessions are lost or stolen during my VOLbreaks trip. Use of laptops or other technology should be limited to appropriate times that do not detract from the group experience (i.e. no
phones in nightly reflection, while serving vulnerable populations, or other times as made known by the ABLs and staff Learning Partner).

- It is my responsibility to ensure I am covered by a travel and/or health insurance plan for the duration of the program, which includes emergency medical evacuation. If I am not covered by health or travel insurance, I must sign an insurance waiver, acknowledging that although medical insurance is not required for trip participation, it is highly recommended. The waiver also acknowledge that the University of Tennessee does not provide medical coverage and that Participants are responsible for any expenses associated with medical transport and/or treatment. Although trip leaders and/or UT faculty/staff Learning Partners may recommend that a Participant receive medical attention, it is the Participant’s responsibility to make all decisions regarding his/her own appropriate health precautions and treatment.

- I am required to follow all safety guidelines established by the ABLs, host agency, and housing site while on a UT VOLbreaks trip, as well as during travel to and from the trip site.

- I may be in pictures or videos taken during activities associated with and during the trip and release the use of my likeness in these pictures and videos. They may be used for promotional materials for the VOLbreaks program, the Center for Leadership and Service, or other University of Tennessee programs, offices, or activities.

- I understand that a primary goal of the program is learning. Group reflection is a key component of the trip’s success, and I understand that all participants will participate in the reflection led by ABLs.

- I am a full-time UT student and will engage in behaviors that are responsible and mature and I will be responsible for my own actions and behavior and will be held accountable for actions and behaviors that violate the University of Tennessee’s Code of Conduct, which can be found by visiting: http://studentconduct.utk.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/53/2017/08/381013-StudentCodeOfConductBook-vFINAL2accessible.pdf

- I will not bring, buy, sell, use, or consume alcohol, illegal drugs, or recreational drugs. Tobacco products may not be allowed at housing or service sites depending on the location. Participants will not bring, buy, sell, or use weapons of any kind, at any time, on the trip.

- In the event of war or conflict (declared or undeclared), natural disaster or any other potential threat, the Dean of Students or her designee reserves the right to cancel, abbreviate or modify this event or program.

- In order to remain a Participant, I must follow all program and University policies and adhere to trip leader instructions during the trip. If I voluntarily leaves the group, fail to follow University and/or UTK VOLbreaks policy, or is no longer deemed to be fit for participation and must be separated from the group, I therefore bear the responsibility for arranging and paying for return transportation. UTK is no longer responsible for me in this situation.

I acknowledge that if I choose to drive a University of Tennessee vehicle while on the trip:

- Only students currently on University of Tennessee’s payroll, or those who have watched the “Van Video”, are eligible to operate a UT vehicle and no personal use of the automobiles is allowed.

- I have a valid driver license. I will drive responsibly and courteously at all times. I will comply with all traffic and parking regulations. Violations are the responsibility of the driver. Occupants will wear seat belts at all times.
• I will not allow anyone who is not a UT employee (or van certified) to drive a UT vehicle in my possession & control.

• While using a UT vehicle, I am responsible for its condition and will make every reasonable effort to return the vehicle in substantially the same condition as I received it, ordinary wear and tear excepted. I also understand that I or my department may be financially responsible for damages resulting from abusive use of the vehicle in my possession. 

(modified from the “Vehicle Use Acknowledgement” on the UT Transportation Services website)

I have read the University of Tennessee’s 2019 Fall VOLbreaks Trip Agreement and agree to abide by its contents. I understand the arrangements made for me and my responsibilities.

_________________________________________  __________________________
SIGNATURE OF STUDENT  DATE

_________________________________________
PRINTED NAME

_________________________________________  __________________________
SIGNATURE OF PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN  DATE
IF STUDENT IS UNDER 18 YEARS OF AGE

_________________________________________
PRINTED NAME