



What is CityNights Experience

CityNights Experience gives young people and adults a chance to learn about homelessness by serving the very people who have experienced it. At *CityNights Experience*, you will participate in our ministry by serving the homeless alongside KARM staff and volunteers and offering hospitality (including food and gift bags) to guests... all in a single day from noon to midnight. Below you will find out how to register for *CityNights Experience*, the cost of the program and expectations for participants.

Registration

To secure your place at *CityNights Experience*, you will need to submit a completed registration form and payment in full. We cannot guarantee your participation in *CityNights Experience* until these have been received. The fee for *CityNights Experience* is \$25 per person for youth participants and their adult leaders. This fee covers the cost for the *CityNights Experience*, and helps cover the cost for dinner, gift bags for the homeless, as well as the vital programs KARM provides for our homeless neighbors in Knoxville. For more information about KARM's programs, please visit www.karm.org.

Scholarship

We do not want to exclude anyone from participation. If the *CityNights Experience* fee is a hardship for individuals or for your congregation, please submit a written explanation of the situation and request a specific amount of scholarship assistance. Please email request to: mspence@karm.org noting *CityNights Experience* Scholarship in subject line.

Cancellations

Once your registration form and fees are received, spaces are reserved for you at *CityNights Experience*. Since the number of participants at each session is limited, this often means we have to turn other people away. As such, we hope that once you register for *CityNights Experience*, you will not cancel.

The following is our cancellation policy, should you need to cancel for your group or for one or more members of your group:

- We will refund the entire fee if you notify us of the cancellation at least 30 days before the event.
- Cancellation within 30 days of the event will not be refunded.



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Expectations

Leaders and Waiver Forms: We recommend one leader per eight youth, urging that clergy, parents and outreach leaders all be represented. If your school or church requires permission slips, please arrange to collect them for yourselves. We do not require permission slips but we do require KARM Waiver Forms be signed by every participant including leaders.

Full Participation: We understand that due to other commitments and activities, sometimes individuals need to arrive late or leave early. At the same time, we expect everyone to stay for the entire session. It is disruptive for individuals or groups to leave early, so please notify us before your arrival. If the whole group needs to leave early, please consider postponing to another session when you will be able to stay for the entire program.

Clothing and Personal Items: Participants should wear comfortable, weather-appropriate clothing. Please be sure clothing is modest (for example no tank tops, short shorts or tight t-shirts). Be prepared for extended outdoor time in bad weather. Any change of clothing or personal items should be left in the group vehicle, which is not far if items are needed.

Phone and Photography Policy: We require all cell phones be placed on silent for the duration of the program. We discourage photography during the program; however, if you do take a few photos to share with your community, please respect the privacy of the Outreach staff and volunteers and ask their permission before taking them. Participants **must refrain** from taking photos of our homeless guests. While this is not an issue many of us consider serious in this age of smartphones and social media, it can be a source of anxiety and a considerable threat to the safety of some individuals.

Donation Options: If your church/group would like to take up a collection of a much-needed item for KARM, we suggest buying gift cards for fast food restaurants such as McDonalds, Burger King, Subway, or any major fast food chains. The gift cards should be in increments of a minimum of \$5.00 each.

Arrival & Parking: Arrive at Knox Area Rescue Ministries (KARM) at 12PM on the scheduled date. KARM's address is 418 North Broadway, Knoxville, TN 37917 and our phone number is 865-673-6540. Note: Please note that the Broadway Bridge is out of commission and therefore you will need to make your way to 5th Avenue and Broadway to get to the building. On Broadway there are cones and huge Detour signs - please make your way AROUND the Detour signs into the parking lot, which will be on your left. Walk to the front of the building to the outside courtyard (next to the parking lot) and let Security or Staff know you are here for CityNights Experience. We will be expecting you.



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After CityNights Experience

Let Us Know How It Went: Your experience is important to us! As the evening comes to an end, you will be asked to complete a short survey.

Sharing the Experience: All participants are encouraged to arrange in advance with appropriate people (for college students, the college chaplain or group leaders; for church groups, their advisors, pastors or rectors), to share about the *CityNights Experience* in a way that is appropriate to your setting - perhaps in an upcoming worship service or forum.

Moving Forward: Every community has poverty, even if it's not as visible as it is in downtown Knoxville. Look for ways to help in your own community.

CityNights Experience Schedule

- † 12PM Introduction to KARM in Chapel
- † 12:30PM Work Projects
- † 2PM Courtyard Concessions with interaction with guests
- † 3PM Prepare meal. Eat meal, then serve dinner to guests
- † 6PM Set up for CityNights in KARM's Courtyard
- † 8PM CityNights in the Courtyard
- † 11:30PM Assist in cleaning up the Courtyard
- † 11:45PM Complete *CityNights Experience* Survey
- † 12AM Depart

Availability

CityNights Experience can be scheduled each quarter of the year. The dates can be flexible according to the group's travel plans for that quarter.

- † August 1, 2020
- † December 5, 2020
- † April 3, 2021



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Registering your group for CityNights Experience

- † Email Jo-Ann Hansen at jhansen@karm.org to confirm available dates
- † Mail check with *CityNights Experience* application to:
 - ✚ Knox Area Rescue Ministries
 - ✚ PO Box 3310
 - ✚ Knoxville, TN 37927
 - ✚ Attn: Outreach Department - "Pastor mychal"
 - ✚ Make check payable to: Knox Area Rescue Ministries
 - ✚ It's important to add *CityNights Experience* to the memo section
- † You will receive an invoice via email confirming date and total group size
- † Only when application and payment are received will the *CityNights Experience* be booked and you will receive a confirmation email and invoice marked paid along with directions and schedule details.

We are grateful for your interest in serving the homeless, poor and needy in Jesus name!



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While many American groups go on mission trips across the globe, KARM can offer a mission trip right in downtown Knoxville where your group can learn how to minister to the homeless of Knoxville.

KARM CityNights Experience Volunteer Registration

Group Name: _____

Group Leader: _____

Church Affiliation: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip: _____

Total Number of Group Members: _____ *(Maximum for each experience is 20 with chaperones)*

Age Range of Group:

16-18

18+

Date of trip: _____

Second date if first is not available: _____



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What interests your group about ministering to the homeless?

How much does the group know about the homeless population?

Has your group ever served with the homeless population before?

Has your group ever served at KARM before?

If so, how did they serve at KARM?



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