

Partnering with CRS on Campus

CRS STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM GUIDE & DIY TRAINING

INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to become a CRS partner or renew your campus involvement with the CRS Student Ambassador Program in way that best fits your campus. At its core, CRS works with university students to:

- Become leaders and advocates for the global common good.
- Learn about the root causes of global poverty and injustice.
- Develop leadership skills and use them to take action.
- Organize and educate others through solidarity vigils, CRS Ethical Trade sales, advocacy, and more.
- Connect faith to action, and make a difference on campus and around the world.
- Participate in a national network that remains connected to CRS through college and beyond.

INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1: Identify core leaders

Establish a leadership team consisting of a faculty or staff advisor (i.e. someone from a center for service and justice or service learning, a chaplain, a campus minister, etc.) and few student leaders who will provide the guidance and structure for the program. Gather these individuals to work through the rest of this guide, including having a DIY Training together.

Step 2: Review this guide & determine if you would like additional support

If you have any questions or would like additional support at any point during this process, please request a meeting with CRS University staff or a current campus partner. Simply contact Danielle Roberts at 443.825.3809 or danielle.roberts@crs.org.

Step 3: Utilize DIY Training materials

The DIY Training materials (included below) will familiarize you with the structure of the CRS Student Ambassador Program and key issue areas. Select from the recommended videos and articles to design your own DIY Training, and review any additional resources on www.university.crs.org that are of interest to your campus.

Step 4: Submit action plan & contact information

Begin to think about how you would like to integrate CRS resources into your campus events this year and identify opportunities to do so. Then complete the [action plan](#) with a brief synopsis of your plans along with updated contact information for your university. When CRS receives your completed action plan, we will add you to our map of CRS Student Ambassador campuses [online](#).

Step 5: Receive tool kit

Once your action plan is received, we will send you a tool kit with program and campaign supplies such as buttons, stickers, and other promotional materials that you request as part of the completed action plan.

Step 6: Take action on your campus to fight global poverty and injustice!

DIY TRAINING MATERIALS

Each section below provides a selection of videos and other resources describing the work of CRS around the world and opportunities for campus partners to take action. As you develop your DIY Training, select the parts that are of most interest to your campus.

My Journey: Introduction

Pray: Select from the options in Appendix I.

Break the Ice: Use the option we've provided in Appendix II or select your own (if in a group setting).

Global Journeys Part 1: CRS Background & Guiding Principles

Watch: [Create A Better World with CRS](#)

Read: [Guiding Principles](#) (based in Catholic Social Teaching)

Watch: [CST 101](#)- This video series provides an overview of Catholic Social Teaching. Select one or more to gain insight into how these teachings ground the work of CRS.

Reflect and/or Discuss:

- What else do you already know about Catholic Relief Services?
- What stood out to you from the video(s)?
- What is compelling to you about Catholic Social Teaching? What is challenging?

Global Journeys Part 2: Stories from the Field

Read/Watch: [Journey through Global Solidarity – Guide & Power Point](#)

Reflect: Utilize the Global Justice Reflection in the above resource.

[Optional] Here are some additional videos to explore more stories of CRS' work around the world:

- [Safiata in Burkina Faso](#) (I am Global Hunger)
- [Unaccompanied Minors: Help Youth Thrive in Their Communities](#) (I am Migration)
- [Myanmar Refugees in Bangladesh](#) (I am Migration)
- [Ethiopian Women Pray for Rain](#) (I am Climate Change)
- [Ending Child Trafficking in India](#) (I am Human Trafficking)
- [Changing the Way We Care](#) (CRS Initiative to Deinstitutionalize Orphanages)
- [The Power Behind Your Purchase](#) (Ethical Trade)

Our Journey Part 1: Bringing CRS to Campus

Watch: [CRS Student Ambassador Overview](#)

Our Journey Part 2: *I am the Cause. I am the Solution. Campaigns*

These issue areas frame much of the awareness and advocacy undertaken by campus partners.

Read: [Campaign Overview](#)

- Option 1: [I am Global Hunger](#)
- Option 2: [I am Human Trafficking](#)
- Option 3: [I am Migration](#)
- Option 4: [I am Climate Change](#)

Watch:

- Option 1: [I am Global Hunger](#)
- Option 2: [I am Human Trafficking](#)
- Option 3: [I am Migration](#)

- Option 4: [I am Climate Change](#)

Act: Sign an advocacy alert to Congress so that you can lead others in doing so in the future. Advocacy alerts are available on the website or by texting a keyword to 30644. Check these alerts regularly, as they are updated frequently.

- Option 1: [I am Global Hunger Action Alert](#); Or text “I am Global Hunger” to 30644
- Option 2: [I am Human Trafficking Action Alert](#); Or text “I am Human Trafficking” to 30644
- Option 3: [I am Migration Action Alert](#); Or text “I am Migration” to 30644
- Option 4: [I am Climate Change Action Alert](#); Or text “I am Climate Change” to 30644
-

Review: Additionally, each [current issue](#) has additional resources available on its webpage to deepen your knowledge of the issue, raise awareness on your campus, and take action. Look for the following website sections as needed:

- **“Urgent: Take Action Now”:** Event Guides, Advocacy Alerts, Ethical Trade & Fundraising
- **“101”:** Issue one pager, Other key informative resources & Logos
- **“Learn and Pray”:** Articles and videos highlighting CRS work across the world & News stories


Our Journey Part 3: Bringing it All Together - What to Do & How to Do It

Review: [Success stories and examples](#) from other campuses. Be sure to check out social media for more inspiration & updates on the latest activities and events. @crsuniversity

Review: [Annual Calendar](#)

Plan and Brainstorm: Select from the following resources for skill-building and inspiration:

- **Plan Future Meetings**
 - “Effective Meetings” (in “Organizing One-Pagers section [here](#))
 - [“Monthly Meeting Guides”](#): These will connect a principle of Catholic social teaching to an example of CRS work on the ground and how you can incorporate this into activities on your campus.
- **Brainstorm and Plan Future Events**
 - “Event Planning” (in “Organizing One-Pagers section [here](#))
 - Event How-To Guides on “I am the Cause. I am the Solution” [campaign pages](#)
 - [CRS Ethical Trade](#): How to host an ethical trade sale on your campus & more
 - [CRS Rice Bowl](#): A Lenten resource for your campus to practice prayer, fasting and almsgiving in support of communities around the world.
 - [CRS Advocacy Tool Kit](#)
- **Utilize Optional Resources**
 - [Blog](#)
 - [Resources for Service, Immersion and Mission Trips](#)
 - [CRS University Resources Page](#)
 - [CRS Ministry Resources Page](#)
 - [CRS University Online Store](#)
 - [CRS Celebrates its 75th Anniversary](#): an interactive timeline, videos and articles highlighting our history and work around the world.
 - [Organizing One Pagers](#)
 - Recruiting
 - Informational Session Outline
 - Leadership & Sustainability
- **Connect to CRS University and other campuses**
 - Follow [@CRSuniversity](#) on Facebook and Instagram

- 
- Follow other CRS Student Ambassador groups on social media (scroll down [here](#))
 - Enroll in our text alerts by texting “university” to 30644
 - Sign up for our email list: <http://university.crs.org/content/sign>
 - **Come to a future in-person training**
 - Fall Regional Trainings: 6-hour trainings (on a Saturday or Sunday) each fall across the country
 - CRS SALT Summit: National gathering every other summer

Our Journey Part 4: Submit Action Plan

After completing all the DIY training activities, please **SUBMIT ACTION PLAN**. Although you will be submitting via an online form, the required content is included in Appendix III for your initial review.

Reflect (Optional):

- Think about your campus culture, community, and identity. What are your favorite parts? What are parts that are challenging to you?
- What are the strengths, assets, and gifts of your campus culture, community, and identity as they relate to your mission as CRS Student Ambassadors?
- What or who on campus may be challenging to you in this mission? Who may be a good partner?

**Thank you for taking the time to complete this training.
We look forward to partnering with your campus!**

APPENDIX I: PRAYERS

Show Me My Neighbor

Lord of All Love,

As I step out the door, show me my neighbor.
As I read the news, show me my neighbor.
As I pray, show me my neighbor.
On my left, on my right
Perhaps turning to me right now
Show me my neighbor.

Where my eyes have passed before and then turned away
Show me my neighbor.
Where my ears have heard cries that I have ignored
Show me my neighbor.
As they share a story that is different from my story
Help me to listen as if it is my own.
Show me my neighbor.

And then let me love them
In their joy and in their distress
That their delight be mine
And their pain be mine too.
Let me love them
As completely and mercifully as you love me.
In true solidarity
Singing our songs together until a new song emerges,
Let me love them.

I look up now, Lord.
Show me my neighbor.

Amen





May I Speak Out

Lord of Light, Lord of Hope,

Your prophet cried, "Shout it aloud, do not hold back.
Raise your voice like a trumpet."
Yet I have seen your people suffer,
And have remained silent too long.
Help me speak out.

When human dignity is not honored, may I speak out.
When the poor are oppressed, may I speak out.
When injustice reigns, may I speak out.
When charity is absent, may I speak out.
When rights are not respected, may I speak out.
When the law is unjust, may I speak out.
When violence is normalized, may I speak out.
When other voices are silenced, may I speak out.
When I am most afraid to speak out, may I speak nonetheless.

Lord, give me the courage to be your microphone:
That my words may shine as brightly as yours, to still the oppressor's word
And soften the hearts of the mighty.

Even now, I shudder at the thought of speaking.
But you have promised that those who trust in you
Will not be put to shame.
And to remain silent when I have seen what there is to see
Grows more unthinkable every day.

Now is a time for prayer, Lord.
Soon it will be a time for speaking.
May I speak out.

Amen

APPENDIX II: ICE BREAKER

Shoe Stories

Invite the group to stand in one big circle.

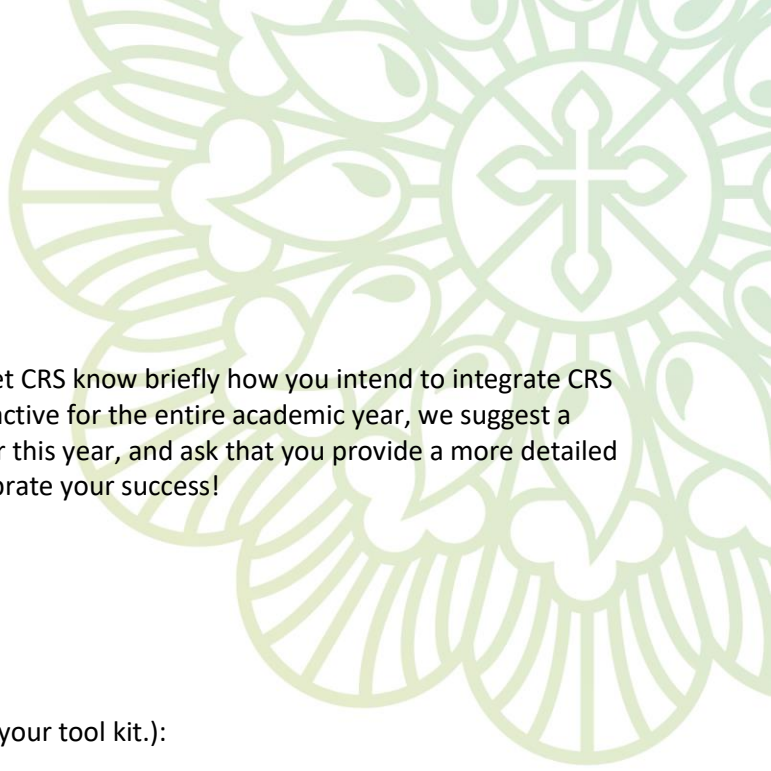
Introduce Activity: *“Let’s start with some quick introductions but do so in a way that helps us reflect on the theme of journey, a theme that is universal but as we know, manifested in a particular way through the stories of migrants and refugees.”*

Read Exodus Quote: *“Do NOT come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.” Exodus 3:5*

Instructions: *“I’m going to invite you to look at your shoes--think about a “holy ground” that your shoes have walked in, on or through with you, and as you share that place with us, I invite you to take your shoes off and place them in front of you. It can be a silly place, a meaningful place, a memorable place--just a “holy ground” on your journey, a place that is part of your story and why you’re who you are. So, I’ll model first (model something SHORT!).”*

Example: Hi, my name is Danielle Roberts, and I’m from the University of Toledo. (Take off shoes). A “holy ground” that I’ve walked through in these shoes is the city of Baltimore where I live. (or when my family and I visited Chicago... or at the airport when I traveled on a plane for the first time...)

Invite others to share by going around in a circle.



APPENDIX III: ACTION PLAN CONTENT

Note: be sure to submit via Action Plan Form

This is not meant to a binding contract, but rather a way to let CRS know briefly how you intend to integrate CRS resources. If your CRS Student Ambassador Program will be active for the entire academic year, we suggest a minimum of three events or activities. We will follow up later this year, and ask that you provide a more detailed report of events/activities after they occur. We want to celebrate your success!

CONTACT INFORMATION

College/University Name:
Office/Sponsoring Department:

College/University Mailing Address (This will be used to ship your tool kit.):

Advisor Name: Advisor Title:
Advisor Email:

Student Leader Name:
Student Leader Email:

Have you set up social media accounts for the CRS Ambassador Program? If so, please provide:

Instagram: Facebook: Twitter:

EVENT/ACTIVITY PLANS

Event/Activity 1
Name/Description:
Utilizing CRS Resource: Y/N If yes, which one:

Event/Activity 2
Name/Description:
Utilizing CRS Resource: Y/N If yes, which one:

Event/Activity 3
Name/Description:
Utilizing CRS Resource: Y/N If yes, which one:

TOOLKIT REQUEST

Indicated desired quantity of each item below.

Issue Campaign Buttons Ambassador Pins Campaign Stickers

Issue Campaign Prayer Cards Issue Campaign Mini Posters