

Collaborating with CRS on YOUR Campus

CRS STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM GUIDE & DIY TRAINING

UPDATED FALL 2019

INTRODUCTION

Use this guide to become a CRS partner campus or renew your 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 events on campus and advocacy with members of Congress.
- 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 this guide 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. Email university@crs.org.

Step 3: Utilize DIY Training materials

The DIY Training materials (included below) will familiarize you with 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: Sign up for CRS University emails

Make sure that all core student and staff leaders are signed up to receive emails from CRS University to stay up-to-date on opportunities and resources: <https://university.crs.org/content/sign>.

Step 5: Get started! Take action on your campus to fight global poverty and injustice

Step 6: Share your work

At the end of each semester, our CRS Student Ambassadors are asked to report on what they've done. Once you are signed up for our email list (See Step 4 above), you will receive the report request via email, or you can also locate it here: <https://university.crs.org/students/current-ambassador>.

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.

Part I: Opening and Introductions

Pray: Select from the options in Appendix I.

Reflect: Reflect individually or in a group on your “Shoe Stories.” See full instructions in the “notes” section below the slide.

Part II: CRS is Leading the Way

Watch: [Create A Better World with CRS | Crea un mundo mejor con Catholic Relief Services](#)

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

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?

Part III: Our Global Community Is Leading the Way

Read/Watch: [Our Global Community is Leading the Way Slide Deck](#) featuring CRS stories about migration and global hunger

Note: The stories and reflections are included in the notes section below each image. If you are doing this in a group, you may consider identifying a Facilitator, Reader 1, and Reader 2 to make this interactive.

Reflect: Utilize the Reflection questions on the last slide 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)

Part IV: We are Leading the Way: CRS Student Ambassador Program Overview

Watch: [CRS Student Ambassador Overview Video](#)

Review: [Campus Examples Slide Deck](#): See stories and details in the notes section under each slide.

Part V: We are Leading the Way: *I am the Cause. I am the Solution.* Campaigns

Read: [Campaign Overview](#). Our 2 main campaigns for the 2019-2020 Academic Year will be:

- [I am Global Hunger](#)
- [I am Migration](#)

Watch:

- [I am Global Hunger](#)
- [I am Migration](#)

Act: Sign an advocacy alert to Congress so that you can lead others in doing so in the future.

- [I am Global Hunger Action Alert](#); Or text “I am Global Hunger” to 30644
- [I am Migration Action Alert](#); Or text “I am Migration” to 30644

- **TIP:** Be sure to personalize the subject line of your message as well as personalize the message itself, using the text box that appears in the message. Include who you are and why you care about the issue. Personalized letters are **10 times more effective** than form letters so it's worth a few extra minutes!

Act: Review other opportunities to engage your campus in meaningful action on our [Action Menu](#).

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, & community giving opportunities
- **“101”:** Issue one pager, other key informative resources & logos
- **“Learn and Pray”:** Articles & videos highlighting CRS work across the world

Part VI: We are Leading the Way: Plan for Your Campus

Review Key Planning Resources:

- **Annual Calendar:** This calendar has key dates and actions to guide yearly planning. Pay particular attention to the “Key Actions” column.
- **Monthly Action Guides:** This is your one-stop-shop for ideas and updates, one month at a time. These guides include opening prayers, reflection, stories from around the world, and action and planning items.

Create a Plan for the Year:

- Consider the following prompts when creating your plan:
 - Think about your campus culture, community, and identity. What parts seem to align best with CRS’s mission? What are parts that could be challenging to you?
 - What or who on campus may be a good partner or asset to you?
 - Take a look at the calendar. How do you want to use this resource and the other CRS resources available?
 - Look specifically at the “Key Actions” column. What are your next steps?
 - What do you need from CRS? Feel free to follow up with us in person or via email.

Review Additional Resources:

- **Optional Resources**
 - [Resources for Service, Immersion and Mission Trips](#)
 - [CRS University Resources Page](#)
- **Connect to CRS University and other campuses**
 - Follow @CRSUniversity on 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
 - Save the date for the CRS SALT Summit 2020: July 19-22, 2020 in Baltimore, MD/Washington DC.

Part VII: Closing

Discuss:

- What are your next steps, based on what you’ve learned and planned?
- Who will take point on the next steps you’ve identified?

Pray: Allow individuals to name their intentions and then close by praying “Call Us Forth,” found in Appendix II

APPENDIX I: OPENING 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: CLOSING PRAYER

Call Us Forth

Good Shepherd,

You who rests not until each of your
Sheep is counted,
You have willed us to do in your name
What you have done for us.
But we are reluctant,
We are afraid,
And we long to hear your voice.
And so we pray...*Call us forth.*

Lord, who stands amid the violence
And deprivation of war...
Call us forth.

Lord, who stands amid the rising waters
Of floods...
Call us forth.

Lord, who walks upon the parched land
Of droughts...
Call us forth.

Lord, who stands with the victim of
Every type of disaster,
Remaining through every dark night,
Beside them till morning...
Call us forth.

Lord, who walks the long walk with
The refugee,
Calling the crude shelter in a strange
Land "home"...
Call us forth.

Lord, who remains with the sick,
Reaches out to the crippled,
Comforts the dying...
Call us forth.

Lord, who calls himself brother
To the persecuted, the enslaved,

The scourged and the marginalized...
Call us forth.

As you called Peter forth from the
Safety of the boat,
And bid him to forsake his fear
And hold fast to his faith;
As you called Paul forth from the
Allure of worldly power,
And bid him to forsake his sin
And hold fast to your truth,
Call us forth to bless.
Call us forth to heal.
Call us forth to speak your Word,
To feed your sheep,
Into encounter,
Into solidarity,
Into love.

Call us forth from our comfort,
From our indulgence,
From our doubt,
From our fearful blindness,
Our willful deafness.

For the sake of our sisters and brothers,
For the sake of our world,
For the sake of Your Kingdom,
We pray...
Call us forth.

Amen

