### **Application: Urban Plunge**

## **Fall 2018**

### **Friday, December 7th – Tuesday, December 11th**

(ending around 12:30 p.m. on the 11th)

*\*\* Applications due October 29th \*\**

Email completed application to Samuel Black, blacks4@spu.edu

#### The number of participants is limited. The following will be taken into consideration:

1. A minimum of 4 males must be accepted due to the nature of this event.
2. Seniority and 2nd time applicants.
3. Review of your application.
4. Ability to commit to **all** pre & post-plunge activities:

* Meeting #1: Introduction to Urban Plunge *Thursday, November 15th 7:00pm*
* Meeting #2: Homelessness in Seattle *Thursday, November 29st 7:00pm*
* Meeting #3: Final questions/preparations *Thursday, December 6th 7:00pm*

Name:

Gender: Choose an item.

Phone:

E-mail:

Year in school:

Emergency Contact Name:

Emergency Contact Phone:

**What is Urban Plunge?**

Urban Plunge is an immersive, educational program put on by Urban Involvement, a ministry of the John Perkins Center. Urban plunge provides the opportunity to immerse yourself in the city to learn from those experiencing the reality of homelessness. In groups of three or four, students will spend the day and evening exploring the streets, service agencies, shops, and ways in which people operate on a daily basis in downtown Seattle. Nights are spent in a downtown church, where discussions will be held on different topics and time will be provided for journaling, prayer, and guided reflection. Participants are allowed only one set of clothes. You will be more fully informed about appropriate clothing choices at the pre-Plunge meetings. Each person will be given 3 bus passes and $2.50 for the entire experience. This money can be spent on food, transportation, or anything else you might want.

While Urban Plunge puts people in unfamiliar settings, you will be traveling in teams and meeting at checkpoints each day. With careful planning, informed and prepared participants, Urban Plunge can be an enlightening and educational experience.

The cost for Urban Plunge is $25, which will cover debriefing and transportation costs, but the majority of the money will be reimbursement costs to ministries where you have your meals. The fee will not be collected until participants are notified and confirmed.

**The Program:**

Preparation: Attend 3 pre-plunge meetings to learn, discuss, prepare and pray

Immersion: 5 days on the streets engaging with homelessness in Seattle

Debriefing: Attend 1 post-plunge meeting to help continue process the experience and re-integration. However, more opportunities to connect with Samuel Black or JPC Staff in order to support your processing will be available through the year, as well as participating in an event to share your experience with campus.

**Why?**

This program will inspire you for the work of reconciliation and justice through an immersive learning experience. Through this experience you may cultivate empathy and recognition of the human dignity of all people, develop a deeper understanding of the homelessness experience through conversations, explore root causes of poverty, learn about Seattle’s social services and become inspired and better equipped for the lifelong journey and work of reconciliation and justice. As the experience unfolds, names and faces will replace labels and God’s grace will become evident in new ways. Urban Plunge participants will experience for themselves the tremendous contrasts between the rich and the poor, the powerful and the powerless. They will have the opportunity to experience and critique several forms of response (faith-based and secular) to many of these issues.

**If you have any questions, contact Samuel Black, Urban Plunge Coordinator,**  
**at blacks4@spu.edu**

**Urban Plunge Application Questions**

Please answer the questions below in a short paragraph for each question.

1. What are you hoping to gain from the Urban Plunge experience?

1. What do you expect to be the most challenging aspect of Plunge?

1. What are your thoughts about the causes of poverty and homelessness?

1. Do you have any experience volunteering or interacting with homeless people? If so, what have these interactions been like?

1. Share some thoughts on our spiritual and/or social responsibility in regards to homelessness. Do you think we have any? Why or why not?

Please rank the following in order of personal importance in what you hope to gain or experience during Plunge. #1 = most important. #3 = least important.

Choose an item. An understanding of the non-profits and services supporting the homeless community.

Choose an item. Experiencing the challenges and stereotypes facing homeless individuals.

Choose an item. Hearing life stories from homeless individuals.

1. Have you ever applied for Urban Plunge before? If so, when?