CHICAGO DREAM CENTER

1636 N California Ave.
Chicago, IL 60647
O: 773.799.9023
missions@chicagodreamcenter.org

Spring/Summer 2027
Welcome to the Chicago Dream Center!

We're thrilled you're joining us to make an impact. We truly believe your time here will be a life-changing experience. This packet contains essential information to help you and your group prepare for your visit.

Important Requirements:

- **Waivers:** All visitors, including minors (with a legal guardian's signature for those under 16), must sign the Ministry Waiver of Liability included in this packet.
- **Submission:** Please complete all necessary forms within this packet and email the entire filled-out packet back to missions@chicagodreamcenter.org.

What You'll Find Inside:

This packet is designed to answer your questions about planning your trip, including details on:

- Costs
- What to bring
- **Sample** Agenda
- *What to expect during your stay:* This includes a general overview of daily operations, typical ministry activities, and the meaningful impact your team will have within the Humboldt Park community.

Key Deadlines:

Please submit your final travel details, waivers for each team member, and a complete list of names for your group at least **30 days prior to your arrival**.

If you have any questions as you prepare, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Thank you again for your commitment to restoring dreams in our community!

Sincerely,

CDC Short-term Missions Department
missions@chicagodreamcenter.org
O: 773.799.9023

Get to Know Us

The Chicago Dream Center (CDC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, founded in 2002 by New Life Covenant Church. Located in the Humboldt Park Community, the CDC focuses on domestic outreach, serving the community through various ministries that provide groceries, clothing, housing, spiritual counseling, and more.

Our Mission: To **REACH** our community **ONE** person at a time by connecting them to resources that lead towards overcoming poverty, addiction, homelessness, human trafficking, and hunger.

Because of your support, we are able to serve over **2,500 people MONTHLY** in our city. We are dedicated to Reach, Rescue, and Restore the broken, lost, and hurting in our society.

Our origins trace back to an alarming period in 2002 when over 600 prostitutes were arrested in Humboldt Park within nine months. Police officials sought assistance from Pastor Wilfredo "Choco" DeJesus, Senior Pastor of New Life Covenant Church, to develop a solution for those victimized by trafficking. This led to the purchase of a farm that became a safe house within a year, marking the beginning of the New Life for Women (NLFW) program. NLFW has since served women aged 18 and older who are struggling with life-controlling issues such as addiction, homelessness, domestic violence, and human trafficking.

Learn more at www.chicagodreamcenter.org or call us at 773.799.9023.

Application Checklist

To ensure a smooth preparation process, the following required documents (found within this packet) must be completed, scanned, and emailed to CDC Missions at missions@chicagodreamcenter.org at least **30 days prior to your visit**:

- ☐ Volunteer Waiver (to be filled out by every volunteer)
- ☐ Payment Schedule
- ☐ Dream Center Information Form
- ☐ Parking Pass (please print and display in windshield)

Note: By completing and submitting this packet, you agree to abide by the regulations and policies of the Chicago Dream Center.

Volunteer Waiver

To be filled out by every volunteer

I, _____, hereby voluntarily agree to participate in activities of the Chicago Dream Center/New Life Covenant Church by choice. I understand that participation in the program is voluntary.

I assume all risk of injury or harm associated and agree to release the Chicago Dream Center/New Life Covenant Church and all its employees from all liability. I understand that this release covers liability, claims and actions caused entirely or in part by any acts of voluntary work. I recognize that by signing this release I am giving up the right to sue the Chicago Dream Center/New Life Covenant for injuries, damages or losses I may occur.

I have read and understand this consent.

_____ _____

Signature Age (if under 18)

_____ _____

Parent/Guardian (Required if under 18) Date

_____

Name of Organization

Costs & Payment Schedule

I agree to the terms of this contract. I understand that our group is responsible for payment at the following rates:

Outreach, Supplies, Fuel, and Admin. Serving Fees: $70.00 a day per person

Please note: Housing accommodation is not provided by the Chicago Dream Center. For your convenience, we suggest exploring Airbnb options in zip code 60647 or the nearby neighborhoods of Bucktown, Logan Square, Wicker Park, Uptown, and Humboldt Park, as these have worked well for previous teams!

Meals: We will meet together to eat dinner if you so choose. For lunch we suggest packing sandwiches to bring with you for the day.

Please check all that apply and write the quantity of days requested:

- Dinner**: $12.00** per person/day. Total days needed: _____

Once we receive this form, we will create an invoice with your total costs and email it to you within 3-5 business days.

I agree to abide by the regulations and policies of the Chicago Dream Center and New Life Covenant Church. If I do not abide by the policies or regulations, I understand that I am forfeiting future use of facilities.

Payment Schedule:

- **Deposit:** $200 (non-refundable, locks in your dates)
  - **Due:** ASAP online via website donation link
- **Payment in Full: Due 30 days prior to the team's arrival.**

All payments are to be made online only at www.chicagodreamcenter.org. Click on “Donate”--Be sure to select the option "Short-Term Missions" in the dropdown box.

_____

Team Leader Print Name

_____ _____

Team Leader Signature Date

Outreach & Evangelism Descriptions and availability

Here are some of the outreaches your team will be involved with at the Chicago Dream Center:

- **Bridge to Life, Homeless outreach:** This team lives out the Gospel by meeting the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of homeless individuals within our community.
    - **Age Restriction:** 14 & over

- **Sunday Love, Homeless outreach**: On the **2nd** and **4th** Sundays each month from 3:30pm to 6pm, we provide a hot meal, haircuts, resources, showers, a devotional and clothing to our unsheltered community.We are dedicated to serving those in need.

- **Rose of Sharon,Women's Trafficking Outreach :** We seek and find women in the streets affected by life-controlling issues, aiming to bring them into the fullness and understanding of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We also inform them about the recovery program offered through the Chicago Dream Center, letting them know God has opened a door for them to dream again.
    - **Availability:** Thursday or Friday evenings
    - **Age Restriction:** 18 & over only

- **Manna for Life,Food & Clothing Pantry :** Our food and clothing pantry is available to community residents in need of groceries or clothing. Manna also provides special groceries & gifts for the holidays.
    - **Availability:** Saturday mornings

- **Grace & Peace Food pantry:** we partner with a local church and their food pantry to help them serve the community as well as organize their items

    - **Availability:** Tuesdays and Thursdays

- **New Life for Women (The Farm):** This is a women's residential facility where women are rescued from drug addiction, trafficking, or prostitution.
    - **Availability:** By appointment only. If interested, we will talk to the house director to arrange a time for your group to be involved.
    - **Note:** This is an offsite 3-hour drive to the "Farm," so we need to plan ahead.

- **Dream Café:** Sales from our café support the Dream Center's mission. The café is open to the public on Sundays, but there are many tasks throughout the week to help us prepare.
    - **Availability:** Sunday mornings

FAQ

Who can participate?

Individuals, church groups, youth groups (with appropriate supervision), college teams, and families are welcome to participate.

How long is the mission trip?

Mission experiences can range from a single day to multiple days, depending on your group's schedule and goals.

What should I bring?

a refillable water bottle, Bible, notebook, and any personal items you may need throughout the day.

What is the dress code?

Please dress modestly and comfortably for ministry activities. Closed-toe shoes are required. Avoid clothing with offensive language, revealing attire, short shorts, crop tops, or clothing that may distract from ministry. Participants should be prepared for both indoor and outdoor activities.

Are meals provided?

Breakfast and lunch are on your own. We suggest packing lunchmeat sandwiches and bringing them with you for the day. For dinner, you can purchase CDC Dinners for only $12 per person.

Do I need ministry experience?

No prior experience is necessary. Orientation will be provided before outreach begins.

Is the ministry safe?

The safety of all participants is a priority. Teams receive guidelines, training, and leadership support throughout the mission experience.

Chicago Dream Center Information Form

Please fill out ONE form for your team

Organization Name: _____

Name of Contact Person: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Day Phone: _____ Evening Phone:_____

Email: _____

Group Size: _____ (Max. 20 people)

How many adults? _____ How many youths? _____

How many males? _____ How many females? _____

Number of Volunteers by Age Group:

Please indicate the number of volunteers who fall into each age range:

- 14-18 years old: _____
- 19-24 years old: _____
- 25-35 years old: _____
- 35-45 years old: _____
- 45+ years old: _____
- Other (please specify age range and count): _____

Anticipated Arrival and Departure Date & Time:

_____

SAMPLE AGENDA

Your Church | July 20th - July 25th, 2026

Date	Event	Address/Locations

Mon. 7/20	• Meet & Greet **3pm**
	  ○ Intro to CDC
	  ○ Pick up dinner @ 4:30pm
	  ○ **CDC Dinner 5pm**
	  ○ Fellowship during dinner
	  ■ Clean and wrap up by 7pm
		Meet at 1664 N. California Ave parking lot (alley entrance off of Wabanisa Ave)

Tues. 7/21	• **9:30am arrival** • **9:45am**: Leave to GAP food pantry • **10am**: Arrive at GAP Food Pantry • **12pm**: Lunch end time at GAP • **1pm-3pm**: Back to CC building • **4pm**:pick up Miriam's dinner • **4:30pm**: **CDC Dinner -mancave** • **5:30pm-10:30pm** Bridge 2 Life | Lower Wacker Route • Name tags	**Meet at 1664 N. California and ride together** **2704 W. North Ave** Pastor Marz
Wed. 7/22	• 9:30am arrival at parking lot, load up • Breakthrough Ministries **9:45am-2pm** • Cook food for lunch at breakthrough and serve at Women's Center(100people) -team eats with clients • End by 3pm • Break time until dinner • 4:30 Pick-up Dinner • **CDC Dinner 5pm -mancave** • **Devotion from Pastor Rico(CDC Pastor)**	**Meet at 1664 N.California Ave and ride together to Breakthrough** Tanisha
Thur. 7/23	• **10am**: Arrive at 1664 N. California • **11am-1pm** 11th police district prayer for officers • **1pm-1:30pm** Lunch break at mancave • **2:30pm-3pm Let's Change Resale** • **3pm-4:30Head to HP to help Nancy** • **4pm Jada** pick up Miriam's dinner • **4:30pm:CDC Dinner-mancave** • **5:30-10pm** Bridge 2 Life | Local Route • Name tags	**Meet at 1664 N. California Ave and ride** **2704 W. North Ave** **Jen/Preacher**
Fri. 7/24	➔ **9:30am** arrive at NLC ➔ **9:30-12** Cleaning with Armando	**Meet at 3400 W. Division St.**

	➔ **12-1pm** lunch break ➔ **1-2pm** finish up cleaning ➔ **Dinner on own** ➔ **7:30pm** rose of sharon outreach with CPD meet at NLC	**meet at 3400 W Division St.**
Sat. 7/25	○ **Leave Chicago by 8am** ■ Arrive at **FARM 11am** ■ -Introduction & lunch*(pack lunch)* ● Gardening Project ● Clean and organize garage ● Time of prayer & letters ■ **End by 3pm** ■ wrap-up and dismiss team	**Meet 1664 N. California Ave. at 7:45am**

Parking Permit

SHORT-TERM MISSIONS TEAM

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