

HALVORSEN MINISTRY UPDATE



250 students from Cru Boston's Fall Retreat

Meet an Answer to Prayer:

The Fall semester is well underway in Boston. Having a full Fall back to “normal” has been very refreshing to our staff and students, making large gatherings and relational building easier. Students continue to be hungry for connection. October started with one of the Cru Boston Metro's largest Fall Retreats in the past 10 years, with over 250 students in attendance!

Due to the difficulty of meeting students in the pandemic, many of our movements on campuses now have less junior and senior classes involved, lessening the number of student leaders and requiring more involvement from Cru staff. Yet God is still moving and even answering prayers to continue to build new movements in new parts of the city, such as at UMass Boston.

God has also been calling more staff to our city. Meet Michaela Quinn: she just recently got married and returned to the U.S. after spending 2 years with Cru in the Middle East. She is the most recent staff I have begun coaching, as she raises more funds to be on campus here. She is very compassionate about seeing every student, every campus, every nation be reached with the Gospel.

Born and raised as a Christian in Vermont, she attended Plymouth State University in New Hampshire, where she grew a lot in her faith and enjoyed ministry on campus. Michaela described her college experience to me:



“It was through this community and discipleship from our Cru staff, that God helped me understand how to live out the life He has called me to as a follower of Christ. I am forever grateful for Cru being at my campus. This was such a monumental season in my faith journey and development.”

After a Cru summer mission trip with Cru to South Africa, her heart for the World grew and she joined Cru ministry's in the Middle East post-graduation, but she began praying for her next steps after meeting her now husband, Taner:

Two of my biggest prayers were, God would you send me to an area in need of more campus staff and could you use me to be an answer to a team's prayers, and He answered both. New England in general is constantly in need for more staff and has the greatest need nationwide, and Boston was one of the areas Cru was hoping to place more staff. Not only had my new Boston team been praying for more staff to join their team, but they also have international partnerships with the Middle Eastern nation I had previously served in as well as South Africa! There have been so many sweet blessings from the Lord in this transition of ministry. For a time God invited me to be the one who was sent to the nations, and now is inviting me to be a sender of students from Boston to the world.

Listen to this new "sender of students," Michaela is clearly convinced that Boston is where she needs to be! Pray for her, and for me as I coach her, as she continues to articulate this vision to others and raises her team of partners:

Boston is one of the most strategic places in the world to do ministry...The best and the brightest from all over the world come to Boston to study. These students will be the next engineers, doctors, lawyers, CEOs, presidents, and nonprofit leaders. There are an incredible number of international students who come to study in Boston, some of whom will go back to their country to shape policy, bring about change, and be leaders on the world stage. We have the joy of journeying with these students who are here in the same place for 4 years. Wouldn't it be incredible if they not only learned about their field of study but also learned about Jesus while they were here? What if their lives were transformed by the power of the Gospel? What kind of impact might that have in the world?

Yes, Michaela, Boston is definitely a strategic place to do ministry and I have been so blessed to be a part of Cru ministry here for over 14 years. Thank you so much, partners, for making it possible for me do ministry all these years and to continue to build into the lives of new Cru staff in Boston and beyond, so that this next generation of missionaries can build into the lives of students, for God's glory.



Me and my sweet kids: Evelyn (almost 10), Silas (8)