

Please enjoy this summary of our ministry this summer, written by the students who came to Boston from around the country. Thank you for partnering with us!

Boston Operations Summer Project 2012



Dear Friends,

It's been quite a summer in Boston! I can't believe that two months have flown by so quickly. If I had to choose a theme, it would be embracing freedom—the true freedom we receive through Christ's love and sacrifice has been called into focus again and again.

Upon arriving, we settled into the office and began working on our various projects. It's been inspiring and challenging to be a part of a group with so many diverse talents and passions. Graphic design, finance, programming, web design, writing, event planning . . . the variety and scope of projects approached by our team is exciting to look back on.

Our project-long study of Galatians has also continued to bring up this idea of walking with the Spirit in freedom vs. staying enslaved to the flesh under the Law. Paul reminds the Galatians in 5:1, that it is "[f]or freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." Slavery can look so different for so many people. Slavery to the opinions of others, slavery to always trying to save yourself, slavery to sins of all manners and types.

We've also had the opportunity to go to campuses around the city as well as the Boston Common and spend time there having spiritual conversations with those we meet. God has truly been faithful in allowing us to further connect with a few students and residents. Two Turkish Muslims talked with two girls from our project, and they ended up attending church with them the following Sunday. We have also connected with Jasmin, a student studying at Bunker Hill, as well as Shengzou, a Chinese student from Northeastern University. Growing in friendship with these sweet ladies has allowed us to speak into the areas of enslavement in their lives. After hearing that God loves us all equally and does not value one person over another, Shengzou excitedly exclaimed, "This makes me so happy and comfortable inside!" The joy of sharing the gospel truth has truly made this project such an encouraging experience.

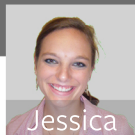
As we wrap up our final week here, the true community God has created among 13 individuals from 12 different states is truly apparent. Boston has taught us lessons on working with those unlike you, conflict resolution, subway riding, one bathroom sharing, and countless other things. Through it all, we have truly become friends and have grown closer to the image of Christ—certainly a summer to remember.

The amazing things that God has done this summer would not have possible without your generosity and commitment to furthering the Great Commission. The students in the Northeast are the most influential unreached people group in the world. Your partnership is pivotal in allowing them to hear the good news about Jesus Christ-- we cannot thank you enough for your prayers and support.

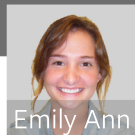
Thank you!
Jonathan, Kerri, Zoe, & Sophie



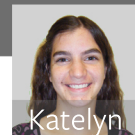
FINANCIAL



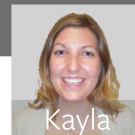
Jessica



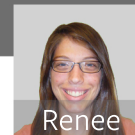
Emily Ann



Katelyn



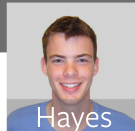
Kayla



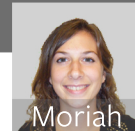
Renee

The finance team worked in different roles to create more user-friendly budget tools, collect data to analyze campus growth, and input data to analyze the summer project budget. Katelyn and Kayla worked on improving the Local Level Budget tool, which is used by CRU staff nationwide to manage their campus budgets. Jess programmed in Access to update the conference registration tool. Renee has collected and compiled statistics from various campuses and made graphs to analyze why there was an increase or decrease in attendance to a particular conference by a specific campus. Emily Ann worked on our own summer project budget, adding in new transactions every day and keeping track of budgets for various ministry teams.

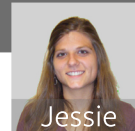
GRAPHIC DESIGN



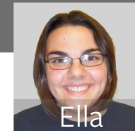
Hayes



Moriah



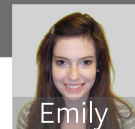
Jessie



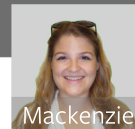
Ella

The graphic design team was hard at work doing various projects for campuses all over the Northeast Region. Many of the students have been working on several flyers, programs and business card designs for students on the local level this fall and winter. Ella has been hard at work on videos and slideshows for local ministries, as well as the project slideshow. Hayes has been working on branding, flyers, and banners for City Wide, as well as the media design for Preview Weekend. Jessie has also been hard at work on design for the Buffalo, NY region. Moriah has created the branding and programs, nametags and other necessities for the Epicenter Experience conference. Emily also worked on the graphic design team, creating t-shirts for the Epic conference.

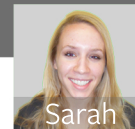
EVENTS & COMMUNICATIONS



Emily



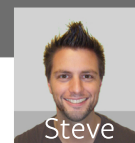
Mackenzie



Sarah

Conferences and Events team was hard at work helping to plan the logistics for the upcoming Epicenter Conference, Preview Week, and Worship Leader Training. Sarah emailed and called hotels, as well as working hard on other logistical aspects involved in planning these events. Emily and Sarah also visited hotels to gain further insight into the correct choice for Preview Week. They also combined efforts to plan a fun and successful trip to New York City for those on the project. Mackenzie worked on communications for a variety of projects. She created a strategic communications plan for the Epicenter conference including press releases, potential social media content, and training for media relations. She also wrote multiple newsletters for campus ministries in Boston.

WEB DEVELOPMENT



Steve



Jimmy

Jimmy and Steve took on the entirety of the project's web design needs, as well as taking on projects impacting nationwide Cru movements. Steve has brought his expertise in web design and development to the project and has advised and taught many skills needed for the wide scope of projects. Jimmy developed a template that will be used by campus movements to create easy, quality websites. He also created a website for the Boston Summer Project, and a new website for the Epicenter Experience conference.