

BOSTON OPERATIONS SUMMER PROJECT

JUNE 1 - JULY 31

For two months eight young adults experienced God, others, and themselves in new and unique ways. Four are becoming sophomores and juniors, three are becoming seniors, and one is a recent Dartmouth College graduate. The group had little in common. Even the areas they call home are vastly different; the Midwest, Pennsylvania, New York, New Hampshire, and El Salvador.

What all these people did have in common though was a belief in God and a passion for Jesus Christ. With this passion in their hearts, they sacrificed their summer vacation and time with friends to come to a new city and serve in a ministry called Cru. Cru is an interdenominational Christian organization that is passionate about connecting people to Jesus Christ through genuine relationships. Cru ministers on over 1,000 campuses to help repair, build, and grow the spiritual lives of students.

Boston is home to Cru's Northeast Regional Headquarters where operations specialists create tools to equip Cru's missionaries in the Northeast. It is here where these students came together in an internship to collaborate on projects so that Cru's teams in the Northeast can focus on meeting the needs of the people they are serving. They collaborated on projects such as web design, branding, and creating promotional media. In addition, they focused on making new friends and outreaching to dozens of students on campuses throughout Boston.



GROWTH

God is at work continually here in Boston. It isn't just in the office that we learn or at home that we grow; God is constantly moving in our lives, working in us and through us to build up His Kingdom. On this trip I'm coming to confirmations and realizations: now, more than ever, I am convinced that I am a people person and that I want travel to be part of my life. Also, I have been constantly reminded of my identity in Christ while serving my team members. This trip has been a blessing because others have seen my spiritual gifts and this has made my confidence in God's work in my life stronger. I'm seeing God at work in all aspects of life and it was been good to see Christ's strength through my weaknesses. -Adriana



OUTREACH

God has led the way in outreach; I feel like He has prepared so many hearts before my interaction with people. One time, while at MIT Melissa and I were sharing with a grad student named Ingrid. We started with Soularium and Ingrid answered the questions with a theme of wanting peace and joy. She has even tried going to church a few times but had trouble figuring out why one religion would be better than another. I explained to her that there is only one truth and that Christianity is different because our God made Himself human and came down instead of having to try to reach up to God (no other religion has that). I asked if it was ok if I shared my experience with her, and after she agreed I told her my story and related it back to peace and joy. At one point I asked her if she would want a relationship with God and Ingrid said only if God revealed Himself in a big way. I responded to her saying I wish someone had talked to me the way I am with you right now and that spiritual experiences can be as simple as a conversation. We went over the Gospel together and while she wasn't ready to accept Jesus as Savior, she is interested in learning more. Afterwards I was so excited because it was clear to me and Melissa that God was working in her heart. -Maddie

God was experienced through realization of the higher purpose of their jobs. Students with skills in graphic design, communications, and finance teamed up to design and set up the purchasing process of t-shirts, coffee mugs, and lanyards in order to assist in the digital and physical branding of Cru across the region. Students with creative writing ability and technical skills developed and designed improved websites so to better connect with students. All their gifts, talents, and abilities were used for the purpose of assisting staff to continue reaching out to students and connecting with them.

However, not all time was spent working on these projects. God was also encountered outside the office doors through outreach on campuses. Twice a week students and staff went out in pairs to various Boston area universities to engage students in spiritual conversations.

They bonded together through bible studies, reflection and worship nights, and fun activities such as a Red Sox game and the Fourth of July celebration on the Esplanade.

Throughout the project students and staff had hundreds of spiritual conversations with other students and strangers and worked on 14 critical operations projects for Cru. Their growth individually, and as a team, could have not been possible without your support and generosity. Thanks to your partnership they were able to impact the lives of others through their outreach and resource development for the Northeast. Thank you for investing in their lives and consequently the lives of many others.





OUR DEAR FRIENDS,

The Boston Operations Summer Project that we helped staff this summer ended last week, and by all accounts went very well. The students worked hard, were challenged to grow in character and in faith, and experienced life-changing community. Thank you for your investment in them!

You'll find enclosed a newsletter they put together describing their summer.

Please be praying for them as they transition to life back at home and then at school. These transitions can often lead to discouragement as their day-to-day relationships are not so intense. Pray that they'd trust the Lord and view this as an opportunity to bless others with what they've learned.

With love in Christ,

Jaye & Jason