

CHRIST IN THE CITY

Knowing, Loving, and Serving the Poor

Year in
Review
2017-2018

10
Things You
May Not Know
about Christ in the City





Myron
A friend of Christ in the City

Year in Review 2017-2018

10 Things You May Not Know about Christ in the City

01

OUR FOUNDING

Christ in the City is one of the many fruits of St. John Paul II's visit to Denver. Mark Bauman, President of the Board, shares the story.

02

WE'VE EARNED THAT "STREET CRED"

Our consistent presence on the streets helps us establish credibility and trust with our homeless friends.

03

A FORMATION PROGRAM

In addition to serving the homeless, missionaries receive intellectual, spiritual, and human formation.

04

FUNDED BY INDIVIDUALS

See how your contributions sustained our program in 2017-2018.

05

LUNCH IN THE PARK IS NEVER CANCELLED

Despite the weather, holidays, etc., our friends on the street are counting on us to be there.

06

FRIENDSHIP BEYOND THE STREETS

It's not just about getting housing.

07

"LOVE UNTIL IT HURTS"

Inspired by the words of St. Teresa of Calcutta, we seek to love and be loved more deeply.

08

TRANSFORMING CULTURE

Christ in the City is contributing to the evangelization of culture by presenting a new approach to serving the homeless that encourages mercy, empathy, and love.

09

A SCHOOL OF LOVE

Community living is a privileged space to grow in internal freedom, generosity, solidarity, and reconciliation.

10

IT'S A LIFELONG MISSION

How Christ in the City alumni continue to be missionaries in the world.

Christ in the City is a Catholic missionary program dedicated both to forming young adults, volunteers, and the greater community to be lifelong missionaries and to knowing, loving, and serving the poor.



Alexis
Christ in the City Missionary



1 JPPII, Dr. Jonathan Reyes, and a conference in Peru INSPIRED OUR FOUNDING

In 1993, Pope John Paul II visited Denver for World Youth Day. He inspired a movement of young people to be apostles of the New Evangelization. Within the Archdiocese of Denver, this has borne much fruit.

In 2009, Dr. Jonathan Reyes was living in Denver when he recognized a division within the Church: one group focusing on evangelization and another on service to the poor. He had the idea to combine the two, and while speaking at a conference in Peru, he shared the following:

"I believe it is possible to recruit young volunteers from around the country to dedicate a year or two of their lives to live in the city and serve the poor, preach the Gospel, study the Catholic social tradition, and build a life of prayer. I have met these young people and they are looking for just such a ministry."

No one realized it at the time, but this was the beginning of Christ in the City. Dr. Reyes found a student of his at the Augustine Institute who was zealous to lead such an apostolate. He then approached my wife and I about his idea. After some prayer, we knew this was what the Holy Spirit wanted.

In 2011, Christ in the City began with fifteen young adult missionaries who committed themselves to living in community, learning about the faith, and serving the poor. In August of this year, we began our eighth missionary year with twenty-seven missionaries who are committed to the same things.

Pope John Paul II and Dr. Jonathan Reyes inspired and helped create Christ in the City; you have made it possible for the mission to continue and to grow. Thank you!



With much gratitude,

Mark Bauman
President of the Board

2 We've earned that "STREET CRED"

With God's grace, the generosity of our missionaries, and the help of many supporters and partnering agencies, we have developed a know-how and credibility in serving the chronically homeless. Because of our extended presence on the streets, anyone wearing the Christ in the City logo is trusted and protected by our homeless friends.

When we go out on the streets, we seek to be the face of Christ to all those we meet; to encounter those experiencing homelessness and form authentic friendships with them; to accompany our friends on the street as they navigate the many challenges of searching for housing and employment, fighting addiction, and reconciling relationships, among other difficulties.

In teams of three, missionaries walk the same street routes regularly. Because we walk the same routes, we are able to develop personal relationships with many of the homeless we encounter.

As trust is built, we are able to accompany our friends on the street to medical, housing, or prenatal appointments, or to enjoy healthy friendship over coffee. Often times, this friendship becomes a turning point in both their lives and the lives of the missionaries.

Through these friendships, missionaries give testimony to their Christian life. It is not uncommon for our friends on the street to join us in prayer or for Mass. We facilitate retreats for our friends on the streets to be able to grow deeper in their faith. We've even had the joy of accompanying some of our friends through RCIA and they have joined the Catholic Church!

Each year, our expertise grows as we continue to form authentic relationships with our friends on the street and to work with partnering agencies to better know, love, and serve all those we encounter.

28,000
hours
of street ministry
in 2017-2018

212
college students
from across the
country served with
us in week-long
mission trips.

BEING HOMELESS...

“Just to know there were people who still thought I was a good person, who treated me like a good person: that changed everything for me. Self-esteem is one of the first things you lose when you're sleeping in a gutter.”

- Friend on the Street

4,000+
encounters with the homeless

6
street teams

walking the same
routes regularly
to be a consistent
presence for our
friends on the street.

3

It's much more of a
FORMATION PROGRAM
than you might think

HUMAN FORMATION

Learning what it means to love and be loved by living in community

SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Daily Mass, Liturgy of the Hours, Adoration, personal and community prayer, retreats

INTELLECTUAL FORMATION

Courses in Social Doctrine of the Church, Theology, and New Evangelization, option to earn college/masters credits

APOSTOLIC FORMATION

Service to the poor, college outreach, leadership development, internship experience in nonprofit operations



AS A SEMINARIAN...

"My summer at Christ in the City taught me two things which changed my life: how to love and how to be loved. God willing, as a priest, every aspect of my ministry will look different because of the opportunity Christ in the City gave me to encounter the immense brokenness present in so many people's lives."

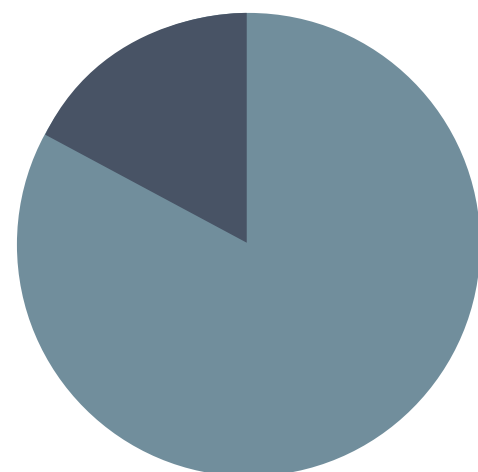
Donald Morris
Seminarian, Archdiocese of St. Louis

YEAR-LONG MISSIONARIES SELF-ASSESSMENT 2017-2018 SCALE FROM 1-7

	upon arrival AUG 2017	upon program-end JUL 2018	% GROWTH
I know myself a great deal.	4.1	5.8	41%
I see myself as God sees me.	3.5	5.2	49%
I have a great capacity to love.	4.7	6.2	32%
I identify myself as a missionary in every area of my life.	3.8	6.1	61%
Church teaching is a reference for all aspects of my life.	4.9	6.2	27%
I have a deep appreciation for my identity as a man/woman.	4.9	6.5	33%
I am equipped to encounter the poor regularly in my Christian life.	4.4	6.4	45%
I am comfortable consoling and being with others in difficult times.	5.2	6.4	23%
I am able to stay calm and think critically in stressful situations.	4.5	6.1	36%
I am able to speak with family and friends about matters of faith.	4.1	5.7	39%

4 We are funded primarily BY INDIVIDUALS

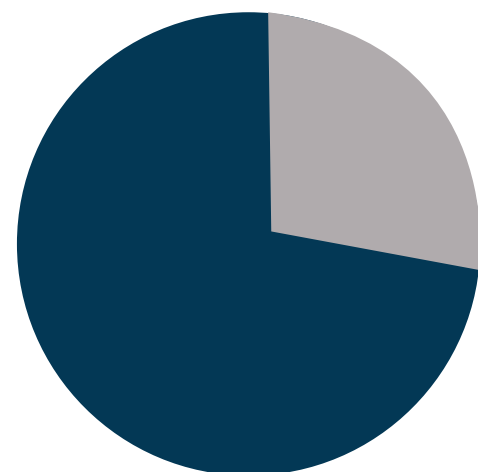
WHERE THE FUNDS CAME FROM:



82% INDIVIDUALS & PARISHES
18% FOUNDATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

TOTAL REVENUE: \$914,600
(includes in-kind contributions)

WHERE THE FUNDS WENT:



72% MISSIONARY FORMATION & HOMELESS OUTREACH
28% ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

TOTAL EXPENDITURES: \$844,900
(includes in-kind expenses)



OVER \$200,000
IN IN-KIND DONATIONS



291 HOURS
OF SPECIALIZED SKILLS DONATED



\$56,000 IN FOOD
FOR MISSIONARIES & HOMELESS

A Sustainable Model

Christ in the City is sustained by community support. Not only do generous in-kind and financial donations help keep costs low, but they bring others into the mission.

In 2017-2018, missionaries reached out to their local contacts to fundraise 28% of what it takes to run Christ in the City. By fundraising in their hometowns across the country, missionaries invited new supporters to join the mission through their prayers and financial gifts.

Christ in the City raised the remaining 72% of funds needed, primarily from individuals locally. By contributing small monthly donations, large one-time gifts, and in-kind donations, individuals made Christ in the City possible and provided a strong base for our organization.

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS:

\$7,500

covers the cost of house rent for one month

\$2,500

covers the cost of missionary classes for one month

\$1,500

covers the cost of street ministry uniforms

\$500

covers the cost of missionary transportation for one month

\$250

covers the cost of community building activities for one month



MONTHLY GIVING:

\$100

helps missionaries share meals with friends on the street

\$50

covers the cost of our chapel supplies

\$25

helps provide fresh produce for the missionaries

5 Lunch in the Park is NEVER CANCELLED



A HUGE THANKS!

2017-2018

LUNCH IN THE PARK SPONSORS

Risen Christ Parish

Notre Dame Parish

The Assumption
Greek Orthodox Cathedral

St. Thomas More Parish

Kelly Bates

John Capone

Holy Name Parish

Holy Ghost Parish

Augustine Institute

Knights of Columbus
Council 1498 - St. Mark's

Regis High School

Regis University

FOCUS

Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish

St. Mary's Parish Littleton

Our Lady of Loreto Parish



19,200 meals served

Lunch in the Park is a time for the greater community to join us in sharing a meal and conversation with our friends on the street.



1 blizzard

The consistency is so important!
Despite the weather, holidays, etc. our friends
on the street are counting on us to be there.

**In December 2019 - Lunch in the Park
will fall on Christmas Day!**



10,600 hours volunteered

No matter what, since our friends are still
on the streets, we still serve lunch.

LET'S SPEND MORE TIME TOGETHER! VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

AT LUNCH IN THE PARK

- Every Wednesday & Second Saturday of each month
- Downtown Denver // 12-2PM
- Donate food and/or time
- Serve 300+ people weekly
- Training details at www.christinthecity.co

JOIN US FOR NIGHT MINISTRY

- Wednesday and Friday evenings // 6:30PM
- Walk 16th Street Mall with the missionaries
and meet our friends on the street

OFFER SPECIALIZED SKILLS

- Construction
- Gardening & Landscaping
- Interior Design
- Computer Programming
- Web Design
- Hair Cuts at Lunch in Park

AS A CHRIST IN THE CITY "HOUSE MOM"

- Organizing donations
- Preparing a meal with the missionaries
- Unloading food truck & organizing kitchen

ON SUMMER PROJECTS

- Preparing the house for the new missionaries
- Deep cleaning and organizing
- Extra help needed August 1st-16th

— **CONTACT ALISON FOR MORE INFORMATION** —
volunteer@christinthecity.org or 303.952.9743



AS A PRIEST...

"Christ in the City made the Gospel
come alive for us as we entered into
friendship with the homeless. Our
priorities transformed in the days we
spent with them as we experienced the
joy only love can bring."

Rev. Benjamin Holdren
Diocese of Lincoln, NE



Jake
A friend of Christ in the City

6 Our friendship extends BEYOND THE STREETS

While we strive to help our friends on the streets find housing, a job, and freedom from addiction, our ministry is not measured by their willingness or success in doing those things. Our mission is to be a friend and to reflect the love of Jesus Christ.

We are not an agency that provides social services, yet as a good friend would do, we spend hours learning the resources, studying mental illness and addiction, and networking with local agencies so we can better love and accompany our friends.



AS A SOCIAL WORKER...

"What I love about partnering with Christ in the City is that they can provide the homeless with the emotional support that I, as a social worker, am not able to. But when we can partner together to have the emotional support and the social services support teaming up, that gives someone a platform to springboard to a better life."



Elisabeth // Community Outreach Worker
St. Francis Center, Denver

Local agencies know how important healthy relationships are for the homeless. This is why our mission doesn't stop even if our friends find housing.

Often after finding housing, our friends feel even more isolated than before. They are used to the noise and busyness of the streets and now find themselves alone in a quiet house.

For these reasons, many of our friends continue to come to Lunch in the Park each week. Not always because they need the food, but because they know they will find the genuine community and friendship they are looking for.



SUPERBOWL SUNDAY with a friend ~~on the street~~ in housing

"One of my favorite memories from the year was Super Bowl Sunday. All of us missionaries were invited to watch the game at our friend Jake's brand-new apartment. He had been on the street for over a year and had just gotten into housing.

He was so excited to host us. He made us all kinds of food and was constantly serving us and making sure we were having a good time.

I loved getting to see Jake like this.

His generosity and tremendous desire to do good for others never ceases to inspire me. This was also a moment to appreciate the value of community. Our friendship with

Jake doesn't stop now that he is off the streets. He still comes to our Lunches in the Park and we get to visit him in his home.

Our mission was not to serve Jake until he was no longer homeless, but rather, to encounter him with the love and mercy of Christ. Our mission is to do this for each person we meet.

And in doing so, the Lord has continued to reveal Himself in beautiful ways."



Sam // Elgin, TX
Alumnus '17-'18

7 Our motto at CIC is "LOVE UNTIL IT HURTS"



AS A MISSIONARY...

I just recently got the news that a dear friend on the street passed away.

His name was Randy. He was a joyful man, always laughing and smiling and never taking himself or his situation on the streets too seriously. We grew to become very good friends.

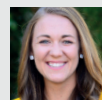
During my time home on summer break, I thought about him every day and prayed for his safety. After I returned, I remember the first time seeing him. We were stopped at a red light, and I saw Randy flying a sign on the corner.

Without thinking, I jumped out of the car and ran to him. I was so excited to see him! I embraced him in a hug - one that was long anticipated. The emotions of that reunion are hard to relay. I put both of my hands on his cheeks and said, "It is so good to see this face." With that, the light turned green and I had to run back to the car so as to not be left behind.

That was the last time I saw Randy.

He passed away on the Feast Day of Saint Teresa of Calcutta. It would be two weeks before I got word of his death. I trust that she is very close to Randy and interceding for him in a special way. The emotions surrounding his death were heavy. He died an alcoholic and all alone, but very, very loved.

I am praying that he finds his way to Heaven and I beg you to also pray for the repose of his soul. I want nothing more than to enter Heaven someday, to see Randy in all of his glory, to embrace him, and to once again grab his face and be able to say "it is so good to see this face."



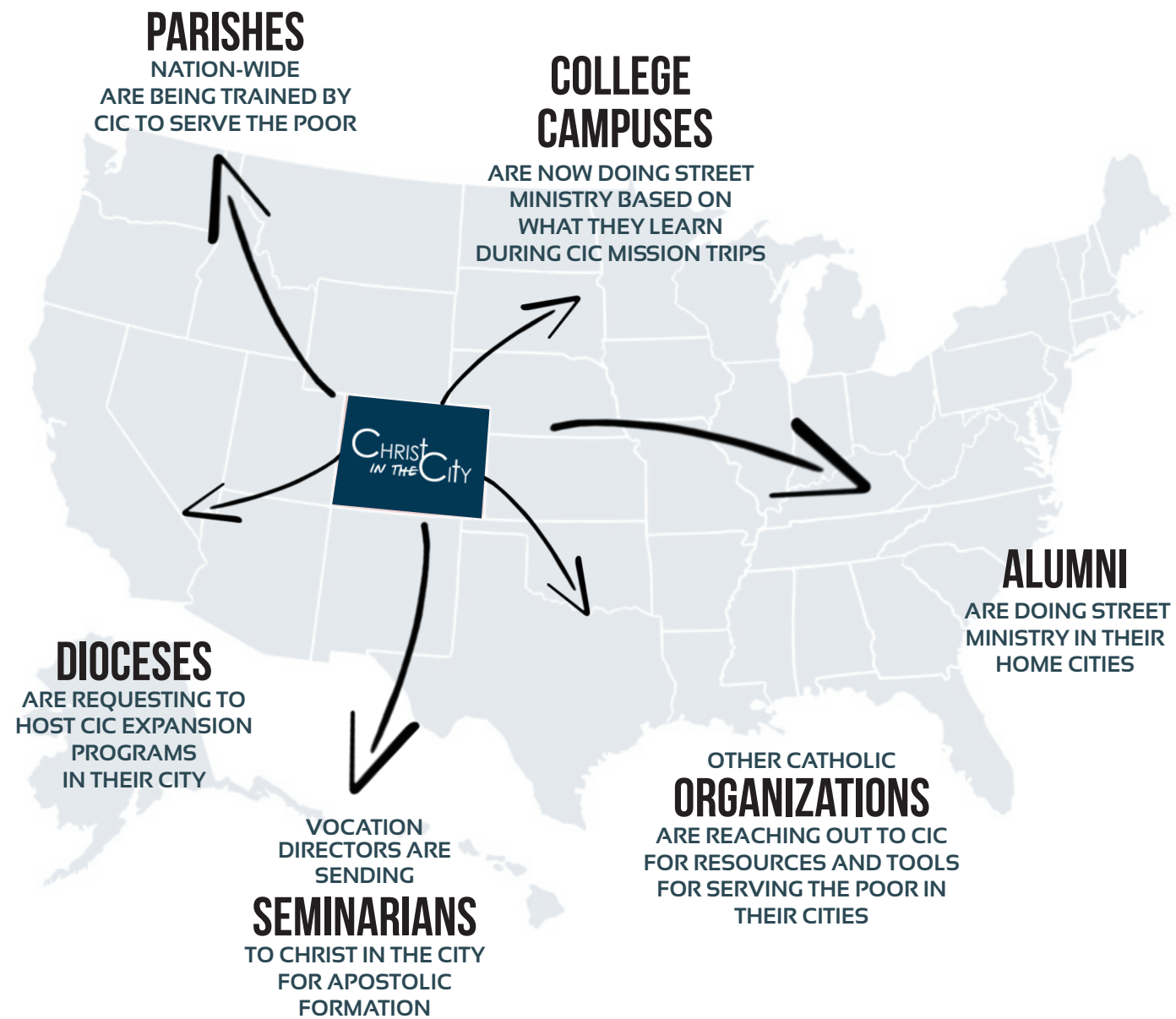
Anna // North Platte, NE
Christ in the City Missionary



“We must learn to love, to
love until it hurts,
and then we will know
how to accept love.”

St. Teresa of Calcutta

8 Transforming culture IS AN INTEGRAL PIECE OF OUR MISSION



AS A VISITOR

“After my time at Christ in the City, I was on fire to go back and share this mission in my hometown. I feel like I’m now able to look at the hardest person in the world for me to love and still come to the realization that they’re made in the image and likeness of God.”

Kendra // Appleton, WI
Summer 2017



THE CALL TO TRANSFORM CULTURE

In addition to serving our friends on the street, Christ in the City seeks to contribute to the evangelization of culture. By this is meant a conversion of hearts away from harmful, hurtful, or judgemental preconceptions about those experiencing homeless and toward mercy, empathy, and authentic love. This goal of transforming culture, along with missionary formation and homeless outreach, is an integral piece of our mission.

IT TAKES A TEAM



CHRIST IN THE CITY STAFF



9 Community life is
A SCHOOL OF LOVE *(and we happen to live in an old school)*



1
old school

2
separate wings:
male & female

3
shared Christ in the
City vehicles

4
pillars of formation

5
core virtues lived

Reverence
Humility
Joy
Availability
Magnanimity

DO YOU KNOW WHAT IT FEELS LIKE TO BE HUMAN?

I didn't.

I came to Christ in the City with a distorted vision of the reality I was living in. I had myself convinced that I was living my best life, but instead I was a shell of a person. Each day I put on an aching smile, pretending that my heart wasn't hollow, broken, and barren. Each day I lied to myself that the societal pressures I had fallen to weren't that bad, continuing to self-sabotage to avoid confronting the desolate state of my soul.

And then I arrived for my first day as a year-long missionary.

Surrounded by immense amounts of love and joy, I was overwhelmed. It was foreign to me and it felt like I was learning a new language, as I hadn't experienced such feelings for the past four years. At first I couldn't identify what it was, but I knew I wanted it for myself.

So I prayed.

Immediately I realized that the love and joy my fellow missionaries were experiencing was from living a life with Christ. A true, beautiful, authentic life with Christ that was so integrated into their entire selves. I wanted that life. But first, I had to change. I had to give up the world. I brought my sins - all of them - to Jesus and slowly began to dissociate from each one.

Pouring His abounding love, mercy, and forgiveness into me, I was transformed from the inside out. With a driving desire to seek the Lord, my once hollow, broken, barren heart began to heal. Each time I gave a little bit more of my heart to Him, I began to feel a little bit more human.

The world may satisfy us temporarily, but we can only experience our true, fullest humanity if we experience it with Christ. Having had this realization, I now can't get enough. I want to live!



Erica // Cranston, RI
Alumna '17-'18



Dillon // Tacoma, WA
Alumnus '17-'18

We couldn't do what we do as missionaries *out on the streets without the community we have and the formation we receive, all of which is centered on Christ.*

Community life serves as the overall context to live the mystery of Divine Love. The community can be considered a school of love: a privileged space to grow in internal freedom, generosity, solidarity, and reconciliation. Whether it be cooking, cleaning, laughing, or just spending time together, it is the first space to learn how to be a missionary through loving and giving oneself, sincerely forgiving each other, and being available to our brothers and sisters in need of help.

Living in community encourages friendship, solidarity, listening, dialogue, fraternal correction, and encounter with the love of Christ that we seek to share with our friends on the streets.



AS A PRE-MED STUDENT...

“I am studying for my final medical exams. I am studying for Jesus because in every hospital bed I see Jesus lying there.

At Christ in the City, He gave me new eyes to see and a new heart to love Him, first in the Eucharist and then in His disguise on the streets.

In our little chapel He drew all of us missionaries so close to His own heart and to the foot of the cross in a very real way. My street ministry route was the same as a hospital ward: people suffering, often alone, close to death. I learned that many patients need consolation more than medicine, that I can be an instrument through which love, grace, and mercy flows, and how to love with the Heart of Mary as at the foot of the cross.”

Anna Rose // County Antrim, Ireland
Alumna '16-'17

AS AN ENGINEER...

“Recently, it's been common for a co-worker to pull me aside for a deep conversation.

I grabbed a beer with him a few weeks ago simply to hang out and talk more. We talked about our futures, whether we are happy, and what decisions we can make in our lives that will be beneficial to us.

Afterwards, this co-worker was deeply thankful that I had taken the time to become interested in what he was interested in and confessed that no one had approached him like this since he had moved to Denver.

To be honest, it's not likely at all that I would've been able to have such a raw conversation with a co-worker about what will bring us happiness in life without the formation I received during my two years at Christ in the City.”

Trey // Mobile, AL
Alumnus '14-'16



10

It's a LIFELONG MISSION

How Christ in the City alumni continue to be missionaries in the world.



AS A HUSBAND & FATHER...

“Christ in the City taught me that anything worth doing is worth sacrificing for.

My time here prepared me to be a better husband and father. I have found throughout my life that God uses these deep and intense experiences to mold us into the people we are meant to be. I am excited God has meant for me to be a father to my son and a husband to my wife. Without Christ in the City, I wouldn't be half the person that I am today.”

Carl // Denver, CO
Alumnus '12-'13



AS A PSYCHOLOGIST...

“During my time as a missionary with Christ in the City, I was exposed to poverty in a very profound way.

CIC greatly contributed to forming me in what it means to be human, to be poor, and how to humbly and freely encounter others in their own poverty—whether they are flying a sign on a street corner, a friend at a coffee shop, or the person staring back at you in a mirror.

After Christ in the City, I went and got my Masters in Counseling Psychology. I try to encounter those I get to serve through my job with that same missionary spirit. We are all only human, and the task at hand is (as CIC loves to remind us) to ‘love until it hurts.’ That love means being loved by God in the midst of our own poverty and being called to love those around us in the midst of their own poverty.”

Senite // Denver, CO
Alumna '11-'12

Photo courtesy of One Billion Stories


4/5 September 2018

For Emma,
for friendship

1
3
1

Forever

Thank you so much Em, for being my friend, first and foremost. Thank you for teaching me about being a friend and for making me feel loved and cared for. I am forever in your debt, and will cherish the year of knowing you for the rest of my life.

If I never see you again in this life I'll catch you in the next. 

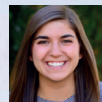
Zachary

A friend of Christ in the City



“Christ in the City has allowed me to see the beauty in my own weaknesses and has shown me how I can better give and receive love.”

Emma
Lincoln, NE
Christ in the City
Missionary



CHRIST
IN THE CITY

www.christinthecity.co