

Living In Faith Everyday in Every Way (LIFE 12) An Experience of Community Living

Living In Faith Everyday in Every Way is an experience of community living. Participants work, pray, eat, recreate, learn, and relax together during the week-long service program. During the day we will extend that sense of community to the children and families with whom we are working.

Preparation for community living begins long before the service week. It is an attitude that involves everything from how you learn and pray together as a team, to how you pack your suitcase or bag. What does "community" have to do with getting packed for the trip? Consider the following when you pack:

Less is best. Bags need to fit comfortably in the van we're using to travel to our *LIFE 12* sites and in the housing facility. Think, as you pack, in terms of minimums (how little can I get away with packing) instead of maximums (how large a suitcase can I get away with and what's the most I can squeeze in before it splits at the seams).

Keep it simple. Expensive, brand-name clothes and gold or silver jewelry may have their place in life, but when you're working with folks struggling to survive on minimum wage (or less) those things can get in the way. Pack clothing that's simple, neat, and clean. Plan to spend more than a single day in each pair of jeans or shorts that you pack. Choose your clothing to match the work to be done. ***Leave expensive rings, chains and earrings behind at home.*** (Sacred Heart cannot be held responsible for lost or stolen articles.) Sure, we want to look presentable at all times, but let's keep focused on the work we're doing instead of how we look doing it!

Think of packing as a team task. Everything you'll need for the week doesn't need to be stuffed into your own suitcase. Many items can be shared by several people (or by the team as a whole) instead of bringing multiples of everything, decide as a group on the minimum you need, then pack accordingly.

Ready, set, pack! Pay close attention to the clothes and supplies recommended in the **Bring Alongs and Leave Behinds** lists.