“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

– Margaret Mead

ABOUT ABP

ABP has trips during the summer, Veterans Day weekend, winter, MLK weekend, and spring break. These trips range from 4 days to 8 days in length based on at least one of the many social issues of youth and mentoring, disaster relief, arts and recreation, domestic violence, animals, different abilities, wildlife preservation, education and literacy, environment, homelessness, hunger, elderly, and health.

There are many reasons for students to take part in alternative breaks; some of these include meeting new people, lack of service experience, interest in a specific social topic, desire for experiences that could influence their future, and resume building. However, most go because of their passion for the project.

Alternative breaks are to act as a catalyst for local action with strong direct service and ultimately creating an active citizen. Active citizenship, the driving force for alternative breaks, is meant to change the volunteer’s views of their place in society; their community becomes a priority in their values and life choices.

Once back from an alternative break small changes can be made in day to day life to be an active citizen such as voting, recycling, donating, and much more. Many people come back from alternative breaks changed! They either change their major, get more involved on campus, continue volunteering and staying up to date on the social issue. Some even join a service organization such as AmeriCorps or the Peace Corps.

ORGANIZATIONS WE HAVE WORKED WITH AND HOW TO BECOME MORE INVOLVED

Teach for America is a national teaching corps that requires a 2 year commitment in a classroom. The mission is to provide a successful education for low income communities and hope for all children in the nation to receive an excellent education. For more information about how to apply, visit: www.teachforamerica.org

Junior Achievement programs affect K-12 students to foster readiness, entrepreneurship, and financial literacy skills, and use experiential learning to inspire students to dream big and reach their potential. To find out more about becoming a volunteer or educator visit: https://www.juniorachievement.org

GET INVOLVED: BECOME AN ABP COORDINATOR OR PARTICIPANT

• Visit the following website: www.ucf.edu/knightconnect
• Click the “Log On” button located on the top right hand corner of the page
• Log in using your PID and myUCF password (You may be asked to set up a profile before proceeding)
• Click on the “Organizations” tab and scroll down until you find Volunteer UCF
• You must “join” the organization
• Once you are a member, click “Forms” on the left hand side
• Here you can access the various applications available