Faith to Affect Change July 17, 3:30-4:30pm Pacific Time

SierraServiceProject.org/Change







Ana De Almeida Amaral is a nineteen-year-old student activist at Stanford University. Ana is deeply passionate about working to end institutional racism in education and centers her activism in her love for her community and her commitment to justice. Her advocacy began as a 10th grader at High Tech High Chula Vista in San Diego, where she co-founded and taught the first Ethnic Studies course at her school. Since then, Ana has dedicated herself to training educators on anti-racist teaching practices. She has shared her work with educators from around the world, presented her advocacy at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, had her work featured in Forbes Magazine, and been recognized nationally for Ethnic Studies as a National Gold Award Girl Scout.



Annie Judd is from South Hill, VA and has been serving with YUGO Ministries for three years. Annie lives and serves full time at YUGO's campus in Ensenada, Mexico. Annie is part of a staff team who are passionate about reaching the people of Mexico with the gospel of Jesus by hosting short-term missions teams. On a day to day basis, Annie leads the ministry's volunteer program which provides opportunities for students and adults to use their gifts to serve the Lord Jesus on the missions field. As a gifted administrator, Annie also serves as the Administrative Assistant to the CEO & President.



Emily LaSalle is a senior studying Music and Political Science at California State University, Long Beach, and a three year SSP participant. Following the passing of her father, Emily became a national advocate with the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. Annually she travels to Washington, DC to advocate for cancer research funding. In Long Beach, Emily stewards relationships with those affected by the disease, manages fundraisers, and builds awareness. Outside of pancreatic cancer advocacy, Emily is passionate about lifting up the voices of members of historically marginalized communities, and encourages others to use their stories to catalyze change. Emily holds a fellowship on a congressional campaign in Massachusetts and works on policy related to education, survivor justice, and national service.



Maleah Minyard is a rising junior at John Horn High School in Mesquite, Texas. Her love of advocacy stemmed from her family and love of theater – among the most socially active and diverse communities out there. Maleah has been involved in social justice for as long as she can remember: going to marches, protests, signing petitions, and publically speaking when asked. But, for the most part, the role she plays in the movement is educating herself, listening to people who know much more, and talking to others about what she's learned when appropriate. Her passion stems from the desire to see humanity be what it was truly meant to be, and to play a part in that in anyway she can: "I want to do whatever I can to make waves and forward movement because it is simply the right thing to do."



Travis Proffitt is the Director of Academic Diversity Initiatives and Instructor in Peace & Social Justice Studies at Emory & Henry College. He is a 2004 graduate of Emory & Henry, holding degrees in Religion and Public Policy & Community Service. He completed his M.A. in Social Justice at Loyola University Chicago in May 2008. In 2017, he began doctoral studies at The Union Institute & University, where he is pursuing a Ph.D. in Humanities and Culture. His research focuses broadly on diversity in Appalachia, with his forthcoming dissertation research on religious diversity and identity in rural Appalachian communities.



Lauren Wong is an experiential educator that has blended the worlds of higher education, outdoor education, and faith. Her expertise is in creating unique leadership experiences that are socially conscious and foster curiosity for self and others. Lauren is a recent graduate of The University of San Diego's Higher Education Leadership program, where she researched best practices for promoting gender equity in outdoor adventures. She attended the Evergreen State College in Olympia, WA and received a bachelor's in Feminist Economics. Lauren is currently serving as a Next Gen Trail Leader for the American Hiking Society and is passionate about advocating for expanded access to outdoor spaces for all! She is so grateful for her early experiences at Lazy W Camp and SSP for introducing her to facilitation, leadership, and the outdoors!