



2018 Student Service Learning Exit Survey

Wings For L.I.F.E. (WFL) appreciates your completion of this form. This information will be used by Wings for L.I.F.E. to identify ways to better help participants; plan supportive programming; provide data for grant applications; and help educational leaders, correctional officials, and others evaluate the outcomes and effectiveness of a person attending WFL.

What did you like about Wings For L.I.F.E.?

1. I like the fact that Wings For L.I.F.E. is ALL about second chances. Everyone is treated as child of God. No judgement here!
2. My favorite part was the dinners/mixers, or when I was able to meet people who were formerly incarcerated and from halfway houses such as the Women's Recovery Academy. Being able to intermingle with the ladies reaffirmed my desire to work with women as a social worker in the future.
3. The staff and founder are great at creating a very welcoming atmosphere, a judgement-free zone where it's safe to share your vision and experience. The topics of the program are tailored toward the needs of its clients. It's free and the locations are quite convenient. It's very inclusive, everyone is encouraged to bring their families, and children have their own tutoring program. Wings provides parenting classes.
4. Wings was an amazing program to work with. I liked that everyone there was working on improving themselves and that no one was judging attendees for their past actions. I also liked that Wings was bringing actual members of the community into the meetings instead of just providing information about the topics.
5. How open everyone is and accepting of each other and backgrounds. I was able to see how we all relate to each other as children of God, in a very practical sense.
6. Gathering of people from all circumstances to share an evening meal and to get to interact with one another. Having inspirational speakers who also shared their stories of hardship and success in changing their lives.
7. What I enjoyed about Wings was the unity that the people have when they attend the gathering. How everyone communicated with everyone on a first-time-met basis.
8. I like that the program teaches you to communicate with people. There are so many people my age especially who don't know how to properly talk to someone and here everyone learns these skills - not just the people who have to attend. I also like that there is value in what is being taught and, in general, you just become a better person.

9. Wings does such important work in working toward making the lives of families who are incarcerated even just a bit easier. They treat everyone with compassion.
10. I enjoyed meeting all the new people, hearing their stories, and even offering assistance.
11. I really like the overall message of WFL. It's incredible to see the motivation behind this ministry and all the wonderful people who put their lives into it. Such a positive environment!
12. I love how welcoming everyone was and how they greeted you with open arms.
13. I love what the organization stands for. I love how you guys have raised up a community.
14. I loved the dinner discussions held every Monday night and the educational PowerPoint presentations.
15. Meeting new people and working on public speaking.
16. I loved the emphasis on family, inclusion, and education. I loved that ice breakers were used to help break down barriers and help everyone feel comfortable.
17. I liked how everyone was taught important life skills and good communication skills.
18. From what I heard and saw on several evenings I attended, there were topics that were very beneficial and could be useful to me.
19. What I like the most about WFL is how welcoming and eager they are to offer help to all people who come to Wings For L.I.F.E.
20. The mixers are an excellent way of making attendees feel more comfortable with each other. This initial activity helps a person relax and focus on everything Wings has to offer.
21. I loved the opportunity to meet all of the people I probably would not have met otherwise. It really made me get out of my comfort zone by forcing me to talk to new people and work as a team to accomplish the nightly tasks. I also loved meeting all of the staff members; every one of them had unique stories and incredible insight about the world.
22. I loved how I got to meet new people from all over New Mexico and learn about their past. Also, how great they are with helping others find homes, clothing, and food.

What did you learn at Wings For L.I.F.E. that you have used in your life, or will use in the future?

1. I learned from Ann's experience that, no matter what life throws at you and how down and out you are, if you believe in yourself and have the dedication and desire you can build an empire.
2. I learned that people are very alike. If you treat others with respect they will return it to you and others. Ann and her staff have shown me that all people need to be appreciated for their own particular talents and gifts.
3. The presentation by Mr. Torres on how to apply for a job seemed extremely useful and up-to-date. I will definitely use some of his tips in the future. Parenting classes were good, too.
4. At Wings I have learned how to interact on a more personable level and understand someone's issues, even if I personally have never been in that situation. This will help me in my career when I am interacting with people from all backgrounds.

Transforming lives to break the generational cycle of incarceration since 1995.

5. I enjoyed meeting people and learning from them. I was able to interact with people who I had seen differently previous to interacting with them.
6. Again, a lot of what we learn there is about everyday life skills. You learn communication, people skills, manners, and how to set a table properly. Wings really just makes you take into consideration everything that is being taught to you and I think a lot of people include that in their lives.
7. I've learned to treat everyone equally and judge people less. I've learned to serve everyone.
8. Don't judge a book by its cover. A lot of us are very similar, but only one wrong decision changed that. Be accepting of everyone.
9. I have an entirely different view on returning citizens and have seen what a difference a ministry like this can make. The parenting and financial class have been wonderful and life changing.
10. How to communicate effectively with my family members.
11. I learned that they offer a lot of assistance in helping people. Information given for programs that are available for assistance. To be humble and kind.
12. I learned how close this organization is and how much they care about one another. They try their best to help returning citizens to keep from going back to jail or prison and welcome family members with support. I will use this knowledge in the future if someone I know runs into trouble with the law by suggesting this place to others.
13. You cannot judge anyone by their cover... You have no idea what they may be going through.
14. I enjoyed the talks given on developmental psychology. I don't have kids but I help with my boyfriend's son and it was very insightful on his behavior and how I can improve it.
15. I have learned how to make better small talk with strangers and with this I have been working on talking to others around me.
16. That the program provides support, assistance, and information for families when they are in need of help.
17. I have learned the importance of treating all people as equally deserving of help. It is nice for people reentering society to have a nice meal and nice conversation.
18. I learned how to effectively communicate with a child, family, coworker, and a perfect stranger.
19. The first thing I learned is how to properly set up and host a meal. Although that may not seem like a very important task, in the future I plan to entertain either for family events or networking. Second, I learned how to be more comfortable talking to people I don't know. Through the use of mixers, open seating at the tables, and work in the children's classroom, I interacted with many new people.
20. To never judge a book by its cover. There was not one person I met who was mean or rude in spite of their background. They were all so nice.
21. I learned that no matter where you may go, you always treat people with courtesy.

Why would you recommend that leaders in the CNM/UNM community continue to encourage students to attend Wings For L.I.F.E.?

1. Wings For L.I.F.E. is all about helping the unfortunate to progress in life. They help the community in so many different ways by touching people's lives. They are inviting and approachable. They are about success.
2. Wings For L.I.F.E. teaches students to treat others like you would like to be treated. It also teaches students and returning citizens everyday skills they need in life; how they should meet and greet others and become comfortable speaking in a public forum; and how to host dinner parties and other public events.
3. Getting to know all the clients at Wings' events helped me to broaden my perspective, which is absolutely crucial for me as a future social worker. I truly encourage anyone who is interested in a macro level social work and community service field to do your practicum and volunteer at Wings. It's a very unique hands-on experience that you get at Wings. Ann Edenfield Sweet is a wonderful mentor/instructor and a very caring and dedicated individual who wants to make a change with all her heart.
4. I would recommend Wings to other people because there isn't another program that is doing what Wings does. Only at Wings are people able to work with those who have been incarcerated in a casual environment. Wings also provides great resources that can benefit UNM students as well as those who attend the meetings on a weekly basis. Wings will teach you how to address difficult topics and what you can learn from each of them.
5. Because the experience is overall hopeful and inviting, people seem to be inspired to become better at Wings, and they offer a ton of support.
6. You learn so much here about people and about yourself. Wings teaches you more than what you go there for and it helps you in everything. You learn what work ethic is, manners, and even leadership.
7. I enjoyed my volunteer time at Wings. For UNM teaching students, it would be very beneficial to have more children involved for us.
8. Wings gets you out into our community and proves a practical application for social science overall. It brought me out of my comfort zone and really opened my eyes to the difference and impact I can make in our community.
9. Because the participants can learn to value the little things in life like setting a table, talking, or learning something new from someone.
10. I believe this program is amazing for returning citizens and their families. Definitely something to have your mind busy with.
11. When CNM students attend the program, it helps when the student shares the education and what is available for assistance to attend school, and why it's important to have an education. It can help motivate people at Wings.
12. I would recommend leaders in the Corrections Department to allow residents to attend Wings for L.I.F.E. because the evidence shows that rehabilitation groups help keep returning citizens from reentering the criminal justice system.
13. From talking to other volunteers, they really enjoy going.
14. Because it is such a unique experience that grants a unique perspective on a group of people who aren't always recognized positively.

15. This is a great place to intern because you get to meet so many new and amazing people and you get to see how the Wings program is changing lives.
16. To inspire future individuals or students to get involved with the program, or even just to attend an evening to listen to presentations on topics that might be interesting to them.
17. I think it's a wonderful, low stress situation. It's not a scary place to go to whether you are new to the organization or a regular. The organization appreciates any and all help you can offer.
18. It's an environment that promotes healthy relationships from all different backgrounds. It encourages all who come to reach out to the community with the purpose of positive impact.
19. It has been said multiple times that Wings deals with the people no one really wants to deal with. Without this opportunity, I do not believe I would have had the chance to interact with these individuals or would have really wanted to. It taught me that everyone deserves a chance and that families need support when a family member becomes incarcerated. I think it is important for these leaders to keep recommending Wings because it gives all of their interns a new perspective on returning citizens and their families.
20. Because it is a great experience for everyone and it makes you feel so good about yourself for helping people in need.
21. It has really opened my eyes to the injustice within the judicial and penal system.

What additional topics or issues would you have liked to have seen addressed at Wings For L.I.F.E.?

1. Maybe have more people who have been recently released from incarceration share about how to function and feel normal again in society.
2. I think Wings does an excellent job of covering topics for returning citizens.
3. Consequences of child maltreatment, motivation to change, self-care, building self-esteem, symptoms of mental health problems and ways to address them.
4. I think it would be beneficial for Wings to have career days (job fairs) or to have job developers give career presentations at the meetings. This would help returning citizens to decide what they want to do and inform them if they can get a job in a particular field because of their past charges. This could be in coordination with the meetings that discuss interview etiquette.
5. I think it is important to make sure returning citizens and the general population have more interaction with each other. We seemed to self-separate.
6. I think the discussion topics are spot on. You really get to know people, and learn a lot from them.
7. I thought all of the topics/issues were extremely relevant to everyone and the group discussions were all very effective.
8. I believe everything was addressed.
9. To also let them be aware about education. To get information on education and what they offer for low-income individuals. To have a workshop on jobs, resume building, and how to conduct an interview.

10. Some additional topics I would like to see addressed at Wings for L.I.F.E. International is the importance of medical insurance, how to prepare low-cost food, how to write a resume and cover letter, and information on jobs/employers who hire returning citizens.
11. Nutrition and education.
12. More personal experiences from returning citizens.
13. From what I heard and saw on several evenings I attended, there were topics that were very beneficial and could be useful to me.
14. I thing addressing education/college enrollment more would be beneficial. (student loans/scholarships, etc...).
15. During the period that I attended Wings, I felt that most topics needed to reenter our culture and extended cultures were addressed. We talked about family, school, work, religion, politics, and life skills. All of these issues were expounded upon with facts, statistical data, and individual experiences.
16. None really. I think Wings for L.I.F.E. International touched on all the necessary topics on Monday evenings. They covered a different topic each Monday night.
17. I think it would be helpful to offer adult education classes since there aren't many kids who participate in the tutoring program.

Additional Comments:

1. Thank you for everything. All your help and concern. Thank you for opening up your home to me. I will be forever grateful.
2. I would like to be able to continue participating in the Wings program, especially to be trained to minister in prisons and how to reunite families.
3. I hope to eventually gain some training in order to help out in the prisons.
4. I would have loved to work with more kids more often. Some nights we only had a few kids.
5. Fantastic program.
6. This is a great organization with a great staff. I just want to thank Yolanda, Don, Anthony, and Ray, for being such amazing role models with open hearts and allowing me to participate. Ann and the other people at Wings have established an amazing organization. Ann, you need to learn how to speak to people and make them feel appreciated. Overall this was an amazing experience. Thank you. ♥♥
7. Yolanda, Dominic, Anthony, and Michelle are really great. They work hard and made me feel welcome. For future banquets, I would recommend Ann have faith in her volunteers a little more. They really do work hard and do an amazing job with organizing things. Overall, Wings is a good place for returning citizens to go. Thank you for everything.
8. I am glad something like this exists for returning citizens.
9. This is such a great place, and I have loved working here.
10. I believe this program has benefitted families who need support and assistance. A great program, volunteers and staff.

11. I've enjoyed my time volunteering for Wings for L.I.F.E. International. I've felt like the help I offered has been appreciated and has been 100%. Well worth it. Thank you for all the hard work it takes to allow us students to help out.
12. Thank you to everyone who contributes and makes this opportunity happen. It is greatly appreciated.
13. I enjoyed meeting all of the new people and working with the staff to complete my hours. I wish everyone the best of luck and hope to visit again soon! Thank you for the opportunity.
14. I love how Wings For L.I.F.E. International is helping others.
15. I just want to say thank you for allowing me to take part in Wings For L.I.F.E.
16. I completed my 15 hours of volunteer work with Wings. Thank you!