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Homecare Hospital Director Lay Krang believes that volunteers such as Kreider have a large positive effect on the communities they serve. Homecare Hospital is located in Durban, South Africa. "Our programs give people the opportunity to change lives by harnessing the compassion and commitment for high-impact, community-based services for the poor and needy," Krang said.

In addition to his efforts with the HOPE *worldwide* program, Kreider plans to intern with the International Church of Christ. "Faith is important to me so I will be working a lot with the families at the church," Kreider said. "I also love working with kids."

Kreider hopes for this community service-focused gap year to help him decide on his educational path. "I will probably go to school after this trip," Kreider said. "I wasn't sure what I was going to study or what school I want to go to, so I thought I could take some time off and figure some things out."

Counselor Erin Taubman believes that options such as these can be beneficial for students. "Taking a gap year can definitely help for students who need a little bit more time maturing or thinking about what their post-secondary options really are," Taubman said. "It is the best way to take the time to think about what good options there are."

Taubman especially encourages travelling to make the most of a gap year, such as Kreider's travels to Africa. "Taking a gap year to travel is the best option for students to learn about different cultures and see what there is outside of high school," Taubman said. "It is best to travel when it is a personal decision, such as someone looking to grow as a person before making a decision."

Kreider plans to take this step to gain experience and develop as a person before taking the next step in his life. "This trip is about me trying to figure out what I want to do in life," Kreider said. "I'm hoping this opportunity will help me figure out what I want to do with my future after high school."

Noah has been raising money for his trip by working at Jimmy John's, babysitting, selling his possessions, and just about anything he can do to raise money. If you would like to read more or donate, please visit: <http://donatetonoah.weebly.com/>

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• **Rwanda Update Part II: Gitarama ICOC**

ICOC HotNews — Tuesday, 22 April 2014

A small house church resides in the poverty stricken village of Gitarama, Rwanda, where most people eat one meal a day (if that much) and where most have never even slept on a mattress. Attending church...

• **South Sound Church of Christ Accepting Applications for Summer Internship**

Willie Price, Tacoma, WA — Monday, 21 April 2014

The South Sound Church of Christ, located in Tacoma, Washington, is now accepting applications for our 2014 summer internship. Our interns will help serve, shepherd, and develop our teen and campus...

• **All Arizona Worship Service**

Gary Sciascia, Arizona — Friday, 18 April 2014

On Sunday March 23rd, nearly 800 gathered in Phoenix for an all-Arizona worship service. Disciples, friends, and family came together from all corners of the Phoenix valley, Yuma, Flagstaff, and Tucson. It was...

• **Come Home: David Lamb (1977-2014)**

Steve Staten, Chicago, IL — Thursday, 17 April 2014

David Lamb, age 36, a performer and songwriter who founded Brown Bird died on Saturday, April 5 of a sudden recurrence of leukemia. First diagnosed while on their fourth national tour in May 2013, David endured three rounds of intense chemo and received...

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DT DISCIPLES TODAY

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Virginia Teen Featured in Paper for Planned Year of Service

Written by South Lakes Sentinel — Reston, VA

Editor's note: The following article was published here by the South Lakes Sentinel, the newspaper of South Lakes High School in Reston, Virginia.

Through the Virginia Church of Christ Around the World, senior Noah Kreider has worked with homeless shelters and recreational centers around the country mentoring kids.

As president of Truth Be Told club, Kreider encourages people to learn about the Bible and incorporate its passages into their own lives.

After making his mark on communities in America, Kreider hopes to extend his impact on the world. Kreider anticipates his move to South Africa in July in an effort to better find himself while assisting others in need. Kreider plans on spending a minimum of three months in Durban, South Africa to provide hope and assistance to those in need.

"I get a visa for three months, but I applied for an extension because I want to be able to be there longer," Kreider said. "I will be working with different rec centers and families in the community to help support the different needs they might have."

Kreider plans to work with a program called HOPE *worldwide*, an international charity that works with sponsors such as American Red Cross to respond to emergencies and offer long-term assistance.



• **UPCOMING EVENTS**

DT Hawaii Fellowship Cruise for Singles and Marrieds

Hawaii, USA
April 27-May 9, 2014

2014 HOPEworldwide Global Summit

Long Beach, CA USA
May 16-18, 2014

US International Campus Ministry Conference

St. Louis, Missouri, USA
July 4-6, 2014

Vietnam Church 20th Anniversary

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
July 5-6, 2014

ICOC International Leadership Conference & Delegates Meeting

Singapore
August 22-30, 2014

International Singles Conference

Denver, CO, USA
September 26-28, 2014

CONNECTING DISCIPLES IN
CHURCHES AROUND THE WORLD

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