**Spirit of the Cornerstone 2016**

Informational Letter

BAHÁ'Í HOUSE OF WORSHIP

WILMETTE, IL 60091

PURPOSE – to strengthen Bahá’í youth through:

* Service to the Temple
* Study of the Bahá’í Writings and Ruhi series
* Personal Transformation
* Interaction with the local Bahá’í community
* Participation in local core activities

*Whosoever arises for the service of this building shall be assisted with a great power from His Supreme Kingdom and upon him spiritual and heavenly blessings shall descend, which shall fill his heart with wonderful consolation and enlighten his eyes by beholding the glorious and eternal God! - ‘Abdu’l-Baha*

WHO: Bahá’í youth ages 15 to 25.

WHAT: A summer youth service program at the most holy Mashriqu’l-Adhkár, located in Wilmette, Illinois near the shores of Lake Michigan. Youth have the honor and opportunity to serve: greeting and welcoming visitors from across the globe to the Bahá’í House of Worship and Welcome Center, and assisting with tour guiding, Holy Day and other special programs, and receptionist duties. The unique, spiritual environment provided by the Mashriqu’l-Adhkár, coupled with daily social/spiritual interaction with visitors, staff and other Bahá’í youth and community, results in a truly memorable and transformative experience, contributing to lifelong learning and understanding of the importance of the necessary relationship between worship and service in building capacity in individuals and communities.

WHERE: Participants are housed with Bahá’í families near the House of Worship. Study and service is in the new Welcome Center, and in the Bahá’í communities in the immediate vicinity of the House of Worship.

WHEN: Anytime from June through to the end of August.

HOW: Are you interested? Email, call, or write for more information and an application.

APPLICATION: An application process is required. All youth who can demonstrate maturity and sincere devotion to the Faith will be considered for acceptance. Good physical health with family or personal medical insurance. The ability to communicate in English is required and second language skills are beneficial. Prior experience with independent living is highly recommended. Youth may select a period of two weeks or more between June 1st and August 31st. Please submit applications prior to June 30th.

COSTS: Housing, meals and transportation will be provided by host families. Youth will be expected to pay for their travel to Wilmette from their home state. It is suggested some spending money be provided.

MODEST DRESS: Volunteers are representing the Bahá’í Faith and must reflect the high moral standards of the Faith. Dress must be modest: **Male volunteers:** suits or sports jackets and ties, shoes should match or coordinate with the outfit. Jackets may be removed during hot weather, but not ties. **Female volunteers:** business dresses, pants (not cropped or capri) or skirts (no higher than knee length) with jackets, tunic tops or other appropriate professional tops. Shoes must be professional; no sandals but peeped toed shoes are permissible.

CONTACT:

The Bahá’í House of Worship

Spirit of the Cornerstone Program

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