

[Template for Personal Support Requests]

Dear _____,

In June I will be participating in a mission trip to some of the most challenging places within the United States. Correctional facilities are located in our backyard, and house over 2.2 million people. While these are places where justice is served, they can be full of discouragement and despair, perpetuating negative cycles and decisions rather than providing opportunities for change. Most of the people in these facilities will be released at some point and return to our communities!

I will join with 30 other college students from universities across the United States to bring a message of hope and encouragement through Jesus Christ to audiences in these facilities. As the largest performing arts production with this mission in the US, Shining Light has made tremendous impacts in facilities from coast to coast. This summer I will have the unique opportunity to join in this effort.

We will begin with a week of preparation in Maine, which will include a final dress rehearsal with an audience of ladies from the Southern Maine Re-Entry Center. We will then begin 2 weeks of touring, doing ministry in several youth facilities in Maine, New Hampshire, and Boston. We then travel south to offer several events in Rikers Island – New York City's jail complex and the largest penal colony in the world. The tour will end in Philadelphia with visits to Chester State Institution and Riverside Correctional Facility for women.

We will be presenting a 60-minute multi-media performing arts production uniquely designed to engage, inspire, and challenge our audiences. Our entire team will be involved in various roles on stage and in the setup of our extensive stage, lighting, video, and sound systems. In addition to ministering to over 1,000 people in these facilities, we will interact with wardens, facility staffs and other guest speakers who will share about their careers and how they live out their faith in rather challenging, dark places. We will also have some opportunities to sight-see in Maine's Acadia National Park, Boston, Philadelphia and New York City. Former members have found that this trip is an experience that dramatically expanded their understanding of the world, themselves, and God.

While this mission trip is within the United States, we will witness and experience a world next door that few people get to see. The actual cost of the Tour, including travel, food, and lodging, totals over \$3,500 per student. I have already received a large percentage of support through Shining Light's sponsorship fund, and I have committed to raising the required \$950 to cover my share of the mission expenses. Would you be willing to make a contribution to help me in this ministry? It is an investment not only in my life, but in our society, and potentially the future of our world.

Shining Light Ministries is a PA 501(c)3 non-profit corporation. Donations are deductible per IRS rules. Contributions can be done online (see 'Donate' on our website) or be sent to Shining Light Ministries 1600 N. St. Rte. 934 Annville, PA 17003. Please note my name with the contribution.

Thank you for your consideration!