Organization and implementation is a collaboration of BSU faculty and the Peacework Development Fund, Inc.

Anthony D. Songer, Professor
Department of Construction Management
Professor Songer has led international service projects in Belize and Vietnam. He is committed to providing exceptional authentic context learning experiences to students.

Karen Breitkreuz, Assistant Professor
School of Nursing
Dr. Breitkreuz has collaborated with Dr. Songer for 4 years, and has also led student trips to South Africa, Guatemala and Nicaragua. She has also served in Croatia, El Salvador, Ecuador, Guatemala, India, Bolivia, and Malawi.

Peacework Development Fund, Inc.
Peacework was founded in 1989 and is a program of the Peacework Development Fund, Inc., a 501(c)3 non-profit organization in international development, education, and service. Donations and payments for expenses related to volunteer service are tax-deductible within current IRS rules.

For more information, please contact
Tony Songer 426-3716 or tonysonger@boisestate.edu &/or Karen Breitkreuz 426-3409, or karenbreitkreuz@boisestate.edu
Village Network

The Village Network at Boise State University is a collaboration among Faculty and Students, Peacework, and communities in the Corozal District of Belize. The international service component of the initiative creates strategic partnerships that address root causes of poverty and disparity in emerging economies around the world. Projects employ the unique resources of universities and their affiliates in collaboration with community leaders abroad. By working alongside citizens in the host community, students, faculty, and corporate sponsors participate in unmatched educational, social, and professional engagement and enrichment.

Student Involvement

Student participants enroll in a spring course, “Global Citizenship and Social Responsibility”. Students investigate the concepts of global citizenship and social responsibility. Additionally, student teams develop project plans for specific projects that will be accomplished during the in-country spring break experience. Students participating in the service project work together in teams on the specific project identified. Students may be selected to lead the team effort for that day. Mentoring and feedback is be provided by corporate mentors and faculty. A group debriefing on observations, and lessons learned will occur at the end of each day.

Service project students gain experience in:

- project leadership skills (project leader skills are heightened in resource poor settings)
- social responsibility within multidisciplinary teams
- multicultural immersion and the power of collaboration
- team leadership dynamics
- personal growth

Village Partner—Corozal Belize

Partner schools include Libertad and Chan Chen primary schools in the District of Corozal, Belize. Service projects will include working in classrooms with teachers and children as well as working on designated projects which assist the schools infrastructure and mission. These projects may include school gardens, playgrounds, water distribution, among others identified by school officials.