

DioCal Interns Report to Diocesan Convention 2015

The 2014-2015 year marked the fifth year of DioCal Interns and that particular anniversary seemed a good time to reflect on what we have learned so far. Thus we had a 'hybrid year' in which all of our interns were second year interns who explored the next stages of intentional Christian community while also creating best practices based off their experience.

In the mean time we established a relationship with the Church Divinity School of the Pacific in order to immerse our interns more fully in the life of the church while providing a larger space in which the intentional community might grow inwardly and outwardly. This partnership with CDSP began in earnest this fall with the arrival of our sixth class of DioCal Interns. Before the intern's arrival numerous volunteers invested time, talent, and treasure in preparing and stocking the new living quarters.

This year's group comes from a variety of time-zones and experiences. Our interns are Raphael Flores, who just graduated from UC Santa Barbara, Brian Gossling who joined us after working with immigration justice in Florida, Emma Snyder who graduated from Princeton University last June, Rebecca Bland from Mount Holyoke, Rebecca Magee who comes from the UK where she last served in a similar internship year through the Church of England, and Isaac King who graduated from Eastern Mennonite University.

We are blessed once again with a strong and diverse range of internship sites: BRAID mission, Interfaith Power and Light, the Diocese of California, Dolores Street Day Laborer's Program, and Episcopal Community Services.

As in past years this group has already spent time on retreat at the Bishop's Ranch, constructed a rule of life, visited several parishes, said daily morning prayer since the end of August, and committed to modeling a life of service and faith as found in the baptismal covenant. We remain grateful to the people of the Diocese of California for all the support provided to this important ministry.

Submitted by Tom Poynor, Program Director