

## **WELCOME TO LSJI 2025!**

We look forward to welcoming you to the 2025 Lasallian Social Justice Institute (LSJI) in El Paso, Texas, from July 21-26, 2025. Please carefully review the following important information to help you prepare for an outstanding professional and personal formative experience.

# **Program Overview**

LSJI is a Regional formation program that helps provide an intentional group of Lasallian Brothers and Partners with the opportunity for an immersive experience in understanding and living Gospel values through the lens of social justice.

LSJI 2025 invites Lasallian educators into the heart of one of today's most critical humanitarian challenges: migration at the U.S. – Mexico border. Building on the transformative "El Otro Lado" student immersion program, LSJI 2025 will create a space where Lasallian educators can engage deeply with the complex realities of life in the borderlands of El Paso, Texas, and Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua.

El Paso and Ciudad Juárez are a unique border region where national security concerns intersect with profound human needs, LSJI participants will encounter the lived experiences of migrants, border communities including our own Lasallian ministry (Cathedral High School), and those working to address the challenges of migration. Through site visits and guided reflections, educators are invited to understand the nuances of immigration that extend beyond headlines and political rhetoric. At this crucial moment in our nation's history, LSJI equips Lasallian educators with the knowledge, experiences and practical tools needed to address these challenges through the lens of our shared mission and values.

Throughout the week, participants will:

- witness firsthand the human stories that illuminate the complex dynamics of migration
- explore the diverse factors and history driving migration across the border
- develop frameworks for discussing immigration issues in educational settings
- build practical skills for compassionate response within their own communities

LSJI 2025 invites Lasallian educators to discover how to walk with both their students and those at the peripheries. Participants are empowered to return to their communities as informed, empathetic educators who can foster dialogue and return to our educational ministries better equipped to serve all those entrusted to our care.

#### **Who Should Attend**

Anyone engaged in ministries within the Lasallian Region of North America (RELAN) is invited to participate in LSJI. Educators who have experience with service immersion opportunities in a Lasallian high school, college/university, San Miguel school or child care agency are particularly welcome to participate. Lasallian Youth moderators and service coordinators may be interested in the program.

## **Registration Fees**

\$1,100.00 per person (does not include transportation to/from El Paso).

Registration includes accommodations; breakfast, lunch, dinner and socials; program materials; and transportation to sites throughout the program schedule.

#### **Registration Deadline**

Christian Brothers Conference must receive the online registration form and payment by Friday, May 9, 2025. This program will be able to accommodate 15 participants and will be limited to a maximum of two participants from each ministry. When the program is fully subscribed, a form will be available on the LSJI webpage to begin a waiting list. If any participant spots become available, Christian Brothers Conference will contact participants in order received from the waiting list form. If you have questions regarding registration, contact Sarah Laitinen at slaitinen@cbconf.org or 202-529-0047 x109.

#### **Travel Information**

The opening day of LSJI is Monday, July 21, 2025. Participants will be responsible for getting themselves to Cathedral High School (1309 N. Stanton Street, El Paso, TX 79902) via rideshare or taxi from El Paso International Airport. Please plan to land at El Paso International Airport no later than 1:00 p.m. MDT on Monday, July 21.

LSJI will begin on Monday, July 21 with registration from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. at Cathedral High School and will conclude by 11:30 a.m. on Saturday, July 26.

If you are unable to provide your travel information on your registration form when you register, please **send it to Steven**Torres by email at <a href="mailto:storres@cbconf.org">storres@cbconf.org</a> by May 9, 2025, with your arrival and departure dates and times. It is advised to book your airfare soon, as options can be limited and early booking can help keep airfare costs low.

## **Airport Information**

On Saturday, July 26, ground transportation will be provided to the El Paso International Airport. In planning your departing flight, please plan to depart no earlier than 2:00 p.m. to ensure you are there for the entirety of the program.

Please <u>click here</u> to read more about El Paso International Airport.

## Housing

LSJI Rental Property 3937 Flamingo Drive El Paso, TX 79902

Check-in: Monday, July 21 from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m. Checkout: Saturday, July 26 at 11:30 a.m.

LSJI participants will be housed exclusively on a rental property (containing four baths, full kitchen, two living areas, dining room, playroom, outdoor seating, air conditioning, etc.) with each person sleeping in a shared room with one other participant of the same gender. The property has four bathrooms that will be shared among the participants. Bed linens and towels will be provided. Soap, shampoo and other personal amenities are not included. A washer/dryer is available on-site. Participants will be sharing communal meals in the dining room facilities and preparing meals together in community.

Please keep noise to a minimum and be respectful of others, especially at night and after socials. Loud noise may disturb others who might be enjoying quiet time or sleeping.

## What to Pack

Summer weather in El Paso is hot, with average daily high temperatures in the mid 90°s and low temperatures in the 70°s. Over the course of the week, we will engage in various activities requiring specific dress. We recommend the following packing list: a mix of professional and business casual clothes including shorts, long pants, a hat to protect your face from the sun, sleeping clothes, comfortable clothing that may get stained, a water bottle, a pair of closed toe shoes for a morning hike and personal toiletries. Please plan to bring sunscreen and sunglasses as well.

You will also need to bring your passport or green card with you with an expiration date no earlier than December 26, 2025.

#### **CHRISTIAN BROTHERS CONFERENCE POLICIES**

#### Travel

All travel arrangements and costs, including airfare, train and bus are the sole responsibility of the participant. Ground transportation to El Paso International Airport at the conclusion of the program is included in the registration fee.

# Photography/Video

By attending the Lasallian Social Justice Institute and its events, participants understand and agree that their image may be captured by Christian Brothers Conference and may be used without compensation in photographs, videos, motion pictures or any other recordings or other record of this event that contains the image for any purpose, including for future advertising of the program.

## **Registration Cancellation**

No participant is registered until Christian Brothers Conference has received an online registration form and full payment.

**CANCELLATION AND REFUND POLICY**: Christian Brothers Conference will grant refunds for registration cancellations received before Friday, May 23, 2025, less a \$50.00 administrative fee and a credit card processing fee. No refunds will be granted after May 23, 2025. Cancellation notices must be in writing and sent to Steven Torres (<u>storres@cbconf.org</u>). Refunds for incorrect or duplicate registrations will be granted, less a \$50.00 administrative fee and a credit card processing fee.

#### Questions

If you have questions regarding this information or any other aspect of LSJI 2025, please contact Sarah Laitinen at <a href="mailto:slaitinen@cbconf.org">slaitinen@cbconf.org</a> or 202-529-0047 x109.