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Doing God's Work

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Doing God's Work

BY ASHLEIGH JARDINE

Katie Hahn, a graphic design student at Andrews University, has been on two short-term mission trips and is active in the Andrews community. She enjoys doing God's work and has a passion for missions.



Katie Hahn

When Katie was a junior in high school, she and a group of teens volunteered for a two-week Ultimate Workout mission trip to Chile. Sponsored by Marathon Volunteers International, the students built a church and did community service in the country. The experience was so riveting that Katie went again the following year, this time to Ecuador. In Ecuador, the teens built a school and volunteered in a medical clinic.

"They make you realize what you really need and what you don't need," says Katie about the trips. "They let you appreciate more and be thankful for things you take for granted."

The experiences sparked something inside Katie, and she went on another trip during her freshman year at Andrews. She and several students from the Dietetics Department spent time studying the children's nutrition at an orphanage in Honduras. They also went to different villages and served food to the people.

The experience was exciting for Katie. Her home church, in Reedsburg, Wisconsin, had been raising money a long time for the orphanage, and now she was there.

"After the Honduras trip, I went back to the Reedsburg Church and saw thank-you letters [displayed] from the kids," she says. "It was so cool to see their pictures and actually know who they were."

Following the mission experiences, an interest in community outreach grew in Katie. Recently, she became director of youth Sabbath school at a local Hispanic church. She also has worked at Camp Wakonda and volunteered at a university Sabbath school.

One day, Katie aspires to be a long-term missionary and use her creativity and graphic design skills for Christ.

"Ever since my early missionary experiences, there's been something in my head that says 'I want to change the world,'" she claims. "I can do that through missions and someday, I want to do that."

Ashleigh Jardine is a freelance writer from Berrien Springs, Michigan, where she is majoring in physical therapy at Andrews University.

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