TO: Campus Ministers, Student Activity Directors and Student Life Teams

FROM: The Office for Lasallian Education at Christian Brothers Conference and the District of San Francisco New Orleans

DATE: January 13, 2017

RE: Lasallian Social Justice Institute, El Otro Lado: Guides in the Encounter, July 10-14, 2017

CC: Lasallian Chief Administrators (Presidents and Principals)

The Office for Lasallian Education at Christian Brothers Conference (CBC), in collaboration with the District of San Francisco New Orleans (SFNO), is pleased to offer the summer 2017 Lasallian Social Justice Institute (LSJI) with El Otro Lado: Guides in the Encounter. The immersion/professional development program is based on a popular program for students offered in SFNO. The experience is for educators who are interested in becoming guides in the encounter between their students and the migrant community. The program will combine immigration immersion experiences with professional development focused on advocacy practices and resources. Educators will travel to El Paso, Texas, and Cd. Juarez, Chihuahua, Mexico, to address a Lasallian commitment to association for the educational service with the poor and the Rights of the Child.

The program will focus heavily on advocacy training and provide an in-depth study on immigration issues. Living simply is an important element, which will allow participants to fully immerse in the experience as they walk in the migrant shoes through service, prayer and dialogue. There will be an element of service during the week, but participants should expect to spend half of their time learning, collaborating and discussing how to best guide young people to be advocates for the immigrant groups in their communities. We encourage educators or other individuals who work directly with students who will or have participated in immigration related experiences to apply. Participants must be willing to share resources and commit to writing a proposal for an advocacy program/activities to be presented at their school for the 2017-2018 school year.

**Attendance and Cost**
The cost is $900.00 per participant, and includes food, lodging for four nights, transportation, conference materials and a water bottle. Only 18 spots are available due to lodging limitations. Participants will stay at the Columban Mission Center in El Paso, Texas, from July 10-14, 2017. The experience is meant to offer a community style living, where participants live, pray, eat and learn together. An open mind and an open heart are recommended as participants will live simply for the week. The experience will emphasize the importance of collaboration between participants as they walk together in their journey to encounter the migrant, and the students in their communities.

**Schedule and Travel Information**
El Otro Lado: Guides in the Encounter will begin on Monday, July 10, 2017, at 5:30 p.m. It is imperative that we begin on time and as a whole group, as this sets the communal tone for the week. It is recommended that participants arrive at Columban Mission Center between 3:00-4:30 p.m. on Monday July 10, 2017. Participants should plan to depart after breakfast (10:00 a.m.) on Friday, July 14, 2017. For travel purposes, El Paso International Airport is the closest airport. Transportation will be available from and to the airport.

**Commitment Contract and Payment Deadline**
A Commitment Contract is attached. This contract serves to reserve spots and must be signed by a moderator and an administrator from your school. A $425.00 non-refundable deposit payable to De La Salle Institute must accompany the signed Commitment Contract. This non-refundable deposit will ensure your school the specific number of spots you reserved and aid in planning. The Commitment Contract and non-refundable deposit deadline is Friday, March 31, 2017. Schools, not individual participants, will be billed for the program. Payment in full for all participating is due no later than Friday, May 12, 2017.

**Orientation and Pre-Reading Material**
In order to fully prepare for this experience, the planning committee will send a packet of pre-reading materials and questions. It is important that participants allow time to review this information prior to the program. To assist with planning, organizers will set up a call with each participant. The purpose of the call will be to review important information about the experience, what to expect, etc. Organizers will contact with each participant directly.

**Registration Information**
Participants will be able to register online beginning Wednesday, February 14, and must register by Monday, May 1, 2017. Please be advised that no late registrations or changes will be accepted. Registration will take place online via the Christian Brothers Conference website at www.lasallian.info. You will receive an invoice from the SFNO Office of Education once you have registered. Questions about online registration should be directed to Katie Batt at (707) 252-3877 or kbatt@dlsi.org in the SFNO Office of Education. Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Alma Mejía-García at (520) 270-3860 or projectlwob@gmail.com.

LASALLIAN DISTRICT of SAN FRANCISCO NEW ORLEANS

CHRISTIAN BROTHERS CONFERENCE
LASALLIAN REGION OF NORTH AMERICA
RÉGION LASALLIENNE DE L'AMÉRIQUE DU NORD

LASALLIANS WITHOUT BORDERS