

# A Message from Moriah

## Mentor Work



May 2017

Dear Friends and Family,

There are three parts to our “Abortion: From Debate to Dialogue” training: *Seat Work*, *Feet Work*, and *Repeat Work*.

The “Seat Work” refers to our seminar, which includes teaching sessions along with breakout sessions with a mentor. We like to keep the mentor groups small so that we can personally help each individual work on how to use the tools that are taught from the front of the room. Just as we wouldn't expect someone to know how to fish after only taking a class or reading a book about fishing, we don't expect our volunteers to go out and use what we've taught without some practice. And that's what we're able to spend time doing in our mentor groups. JFA knows that talking to people about abortion is one of the most intimidating and important things a person will ever do and we want each participant to feel as confident and equipped as possible. That's why Catherine Wurts, leader of JFA's trainer certification program, spent a lot of time with Grace (the other current intern) and me, preparing us to be mentors before our trip to Colorado. Because we had three scheduled training events that were going to be well attended, it was important that Grace and I were certified to lead as mentors.

The mentor's role in training our volunteers doesn't end there. Next is the “Feet Work” where seminar attendees put what we've taught into action in real-life conversations at a JFA campus outreach. We encourage our volunteers to listen in on their mentor's conversations when they first arrive on the campus. This way they note how to start a dialogue, as well as how to navigate it to the end, using what we taught at the seminar.

**“I appreciate knowing that those training (us) have actually been on the streets themselves engaging...the culture on this topic.”**

**-Shelly, participant from our Ellerslie training**

Since this was my first trip as a mentor I had the responsibility of helping our volunteers warm up to starting their own conversations. Pictured on the right in orange is Sarah who was in my mentor group. After attending our seminar, she participated with us in all three outreach days. On the left she is shown in the middle listening in on a conversation I'm having with a CSU student. On the bottom left she's pictured having her own conversation. It was exciting to be a part of Sarah's first experience with JFA and help her grow in the skill of creating conversations.



The picture at the top of the page shows me teaching the Biology section of our seminar at the Ellerslie Mission Society.

Above are the groups I mentored at Faith Christian Academy (middle) and Colorado State University (CSU) (bottom).

Last is “Repeat Work”. Our hope is that these trained volunteers will start conversations on their own after attending our events, keeping them productive because of what they learned.

**I want to thank those of you who support me, whether it's through financial gifts or prayer. Your donations made it possible for me to join the team on this trip and your prayers helped me physically make it through our busy week even though I was sick! *In our weakness He is faithfully strong!***

In Christ, *Moriah Newhouse*