



SOUTH PADRE ISLAND
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Over 1,000 college students volunteered during Spring Break at South Padre Island

SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, TX - If you drive down Padre Blvd. in the mornings during Spring Break, you can spot a group of students jumping up and down trying to grab your attention. They are holding up a sign that says, "Free Pancakes."

The group is part of Beach Reach, a mobile ministry, made up of college Christian students. This year, more than 1,000 students from around the country traveled to South Padre Island to spread the word of Jesus Christ.

Beach Reach provides spring breakers who have been drinking a free ride as they share the gospel of Jesus Christ. Over 100 vans were transported to South Padre Island to help spring breakers safely reach their desired destination.

"Every year we find spring breakers that have been become separated from their friends, in distress because of over indulging, or need help in various ways. I received an email from a mother thanking us for getting her daughter safely to her hotel after being abandoned by her friends. This is why we do Beach Reach," said Susan Young, the coordinator for Beach Reach.

In addition to the free morning breakfast and rides, Beach Reach also provides spring breakers with sunscreen and a midnight breakfast.

Each evening, Beach Reach volunteers gather for prayer and worship at the South Padre Island Convention Centre. For the second year in a row, the South Padre Island and Convention Centre waived the facility rental fee for Beach Reach, as a tribute to the group for all they do for the South Padre Island community.

“The communication and support of all city administration has enabled us to enlarge our ministry to help out in other ways to provide a safe spring break for those visiting the island,” continued Ms. Young.

South Padre Beach Reach began in 1980 with 20 students and has since grown to hundreds of volunteers. This model has spread to other spring break destinations, such as Florida.

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