

FREEDOM

STUDENT/COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Contents:

Overview
Contact Information
History
Meetings

OVERVIEW

WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD?
Don't know where to start?

If this is you, join:

FREEDOM

FREEDOM is a non-hierarchical student and community organization dedicated to **social justice, cultural awareness**, and the **art of human expression**. FREEDOM members meet every week to **dialogue about our society and our lives**. We then come up with **creative ways to address social issues** that affect us.

OUR BELIEF:

We believe that the purpose of human life is to **seek meaning**. Until all people are free to seek their own meaning, we will not truly be free to seek our own. This belief makes us **social activists** – our mission is not complete until all have an **equal opportunity to live well** by their own definition. Happiness lies in **empowering others** to find their truth.



FREEDOM's sign lounging during the first Student Loans Movement protest. Nov 07.



FREEDOM members at the first Student Loans Movement protest. This event raised awareness about the American student loans system and challenged student indebtedness.

OUR METHOD:

Through **non-hierarchical dialogue**, examine the **root causes** of social and cultural issues and **create projects** to address them. **Implement projects by developing connections** among students, community members, and local businesses and community organizations. In a communal context, **analyze the outcomes** of our projects. **Sustain** community and cultural improvement projects to **better the lives of individuals** and **inspire change**.

GET INVOLVED:

So you want to change the world? Come do something about it. **Dialogue** with us about our society and community. **Join a project** (see FREEDOM Projects and Events) that interests you.

Or, **propose a project** of your own. Do you have ideas to improve the campus or community? **Come talk** to us about it. We'll provide **ideas and manpower**.

WE MEET MONDAYS AT 9 PM IN **UCF** (313 Thurstin Ave. at the corner of Ridge).

If you're interested in: *social justice, interconnectedness, living a sustainable lifestyle, exploring other cultures, artistic expression, building community, dialogue as a tool for change, promoting peace, cultural critique, etc.*

...you belong in FREEDOM.



FREEDOM members and community members of Derechos Humanos, Mexico, pose outside of the Casita they have just completed. Over Spring Break 2008, FREEDOM participated in Southwest Good Samaritan Ministries' Casita Project, building a new home for an impoverished family in Mexico.

CONTACT INFORMATION:

Contacts:

- Reise Sample, "president" of FREEDOM: rsample@bgsu.edu
- Bill Thompson, director of the UCF: wthomp@bgsu.edu

Listprocs:

- FREEDOM@LISTS.BGSU.EDU
- FREEDOMDISCUSSION@LISTS.BGSU.EDU

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=5209673745>

HISTORY

FREEDOM was created by a group of students who had been on Engagement Experiences in the South Bronx, the Navajo Reservation, and Peru. In those locations, students learned about culture, interconnectedness, social justice, and art. They also trained as community organizers by working in a service-learning context with grassroots community organizations in the places they studied. Inspired by their experiences, newly conscious of social justice issues, and empowered by their training, these students returned to Bowling Green ready to make a difference on campus and in the community. They began FREEDOM to provide students with a strong, supportive base of peers actively engaged in working for change.

Since Engagement Experiences are supported by the UCF and the UCF's goals and vision were in line with those of FREEDOM, FREEDOM decided to make the UCF its home. Meetings are held at the UCF each week, and FREEDOM uses the UCF space for many projects and events. See the [UCF link](#) [link to UCF **sub-page**] for more information about the UCF.

FREEDOM's diverse events and projects attract students from a number of academic, political, personal and spiritual concentrations. Some students act as regular members, attending most meetings and events, while others are only involved in specific events and projects that interest them. FREEDOM members are often involved with other organizations and projects, connections that enrich the entire group as it works to bring people together to create change.

MEETINGS

We meet **every Monday at 9:00 p.m. in UCF's upstairs room** to discuss problems in our culture and social action issues. From those discussions, we come up with ideas to raise cultural and social awareness on campus, as well as create a community of artists and social activists united for the common cause of living better and improving our world.

Last Update: 11/11/2008 by Rachael Sample, BGSU Service Corps Member, BGSU student, and FREEDOM member.