

# Emily Bastine '04



“My job is serving others.” To Emily Bastine, this is also a way of life. In Greeley, Colorado, Emily spends her days working at the University of Northern Colorado with Campus Crusade for Christ, an international organization that focuses mainly on giving college students in 160 countries an opportunity to hear and respond to the Gospel. “A typical day for me includes meeting with students and talking about their relationship with Jesus,” she said, referring to her 40- to 50-hour work weeks. “I also lead a couple of Bible studies on campus and attend the weekly Campus Crusade meeting with anywhere from 300-500 students.”

Emily was graduated from the University of Indianapolis in 2004 with a bachelor of social work and Spanish. While at the University, she spent time volunteering at Laurelwood Community, at the Crisis Pregnancy Centers of Indianapolis, was part of the Social Work Association on campus, and also taught Sunday school at a local church. To practice her Spanish, she spent time working at local community centers with the Hispanic community. “Volunteering is important to me,” she said, “because it gives me an opportunity to love others the way that Christ loves me. Getting involved in different communities and with different people gives me a glimpse of how it is to walk in another’s shoes.” Emily isn’t one to sit back and wait for someone else to take the initiative. “Indianapolis and communi-

ties all over the nation have very real needs that someone should do something about. For someone to step in and make a difference, that’s what it’s all about.”

Going beyond the University to help others was nothing new to Emily. She volunteered in high school, so when she arrived at UIndy, she began to look for ways she could branch out, taking the University’s motto of “Education for Service” seriously. “Volunteering in high school allowed me to start to develop a servant’s heart and attitude toward others,” she said. “The opportunities for me at UIndy to continue to grow in love and service to others were endless.” Emily traveled to Virginia with the University on an Appalachia Service Project work trip, and she also helped to lead and plan activities with Campus Crusade for Christ at the University. “I’m so thankful that I had all these experiences,” she said. “They all helped to change my perspective to my purpose in life.”

As Emily works with college students in Colorado and thinks about the students at UIndy, she hopes that they will take advantage of opportunities that are around them. “I would encourage students to get involved with something that they are passionate about,” she said. “There are so many areas that need willing hands and feet. If you love kids, spend time with underprivileged students who come from single-parent homes. If you are passionate about unborn babies, serve at a pregnancy center. If you love to serve the homeless, head downtown on a cold night and pass out gloves and scarves. The city is bursting with opportunities to find your niche. Take advantage of it. You may not have tomorrow to do it but you do have today.” —Jennifer Huber

*Photo: Emily Bastine with her friend Skye with whom she worked closely in campus ministry in Colorado. Personal photograph used by permission of Emily Bastine.*