Chile Teaching Experience

Purpose
The Chile Teaching Experience has existed for nearly 20 years. This program allows pre-service teachers opportunities to use teaching skills in diverse settings. The program is situated at the Thomas Jefferson School in Concepción, Chile.

Impact
Students live with a host family for one month. The students reflect on what they learned about children, teaching, and how to adapt when an outsider to a culture. Without exception, each student returns with a new understanding of how children in their future classrooms may feel if they are new to American culture or if English is their second language.

Accompanying Ohio State faculty provide professional development for the school’s teachers. These include workshops, classroom visits, and sharing of American school materials. The visiting students share new teaching ideas with their mentor teacher, bringing what they have learned in their teacher education program at Ohio State to the teachers of Thomas Jefferson.

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