



Summer Mission 2024

Informational Sheet

What agency will we be using for our Mission experience?: Catholic HEART Workcamp

What is Catholic HEART Workcamp?:

Our mission at CHWC is two fold. First, to share the love of Jesus and serve the neglected, broken hearted, and marginalized in any way needed. The CHWC mission is to revitalize communities and beautify homes for the elderly, disabled and those who cannot afford needed repairs. Second, to inspire participants to live as disciples of Christ through serving others as a way of life and to foster the Catholic Faith of each participant through the sacraments, prayer and involvement in social service.

Service Possibilities:

Each day will be spent either renewing homes by doing such things as scraping, painting, and minor repairs; or helping to build new homes for low income families, working to revitalize blighted neighborhoods by boarding up or tearing down unoccupied buildings, cleaning up vacant lots; helping at day care centers for low income families by assisting with the children's programs, working at homeless shelters or refurbishing the buildings; or helping at centers that distribute food to the needy. You'll bring hope to disadvantaged people. You do not need to be an experienced carpenter or painter to participate.

How do Mission Trips Work?:

Preparation begins in October, with six preparation sessions. At the camp, work projects commence right after breakfast on Monday morning. Participants are assigned to a work site for the week, sometimes more than one if work is completed quickly. Lodging arrangements have been made with a local school. Our group will room together by gender, and teens will shower and dress in the nearby field house. Each day begins with an inspirational morning program including daily Mass and ends with a program of games, music, witness and prayer.

Who can go?:

Anyone who is in 8th Grade and high school this year and participating in STORM Youth Ministry. We will have to limit the number and there is an application to fill out that must be returned with the deposit (non-refundable if you are chosen to go) by October 22, 2023 to Jennifer Olson. **Even better, return by October 1st to give us a better idea of how many spots to reserve!** Priority will be given to those people who are active in STORM. Everyone going must attend at least one of the Retreats this year and make a commitment to be at all of the Preparation Sessions from 7:00-9:00 pm: Monday, October 23 - teens and parent(s), Thursday, January 18 - teens, Monday, February 12 - teens, Wednesday, April 17 - teens, Tuesday, May 7 - teens, and Monday, June 17 - teens and parent(s). Teens please request off of work.

Where and When are we going?:

Registration opens October 4, but we hope to go to Nashville, Tennessee. Knoxville is another option the same week. We are planning our trip to begin on Sunday, June 23, 2024 and to end on Saturday, June 29, 2023. We are considering a free day activity of line dancing, the Grand Ole Opry, and Mammoth Cave.

What are the costs?:

We are going to ask participants to contribute \$200 and to get sponsors for another \$100 (if you choose not to get sponsors, you pay \$300). The actual cost of the Workcamp is \$495 per person. Add to this the cost of chaperones, van rental, gas, and meals along the way and the cost of the trip is approximately \$800. We will be doing group and individual fund-raising to offset the cost of the trip and participants will be required to help with this. This will include service to our Parishioners for a donation. An initial deposit of \$100 (non-refundable if you are chosen to go) is due by Sunday, October 22, 2023. **This deadline is very early, but will allow us to apply for more spots if needed.** Two additional payments (or the fundraised money) of \$100 will be due January 15 and March 15. The estimate of \$300 is based on the assumption that you will work 6-8 Masses, attend all 4 teen preparation meetings, attend both car washes, and work at least one two hour service fundraiser. If you don't help with this fundraising, your fee will be higher. If you know you can't make something, for example the summer car wash, you can work extra service fundraisers to make up the difference, or you can just pay the extra. **Helping with the Trivia Night Fundraisers will reduce your fee by \$50 for each one.** At the June meeting, you will pay any balance you have left from missed meetings or fundraisers and will commit to the summer fundraisers. We are also thinking about adding in a couple of individual fundraisers. Sponsorships is another great option for individual fundraising. You can send out letters to friends and family asking them to sponsor you. The money they send is a donation and will offset the cost of your trip. I have an example letter and forms if you want to participate in this. These individual fundraisers can reduce your fee below the \$300 minimum or can decrease your fee if you aren't able to do all the fundraisers. Several participants fundraised their entire fee in past years. **We do not want money to be the reason someone doesn't participate! If money is an issue, contact me and we can see if we can find you a sponsor!**



Our Whole Group at Young Neighbors In Action 2023



Playing Cards



Building a Deck With Our Resident



Removing Siding From a House



Biking to Pick Up Compost



Doing Dishes



Lip Sync Battle During Catholic Heart Workcamp



Celebrating Mass



Our Group at the City Museum on Our Free Day

Application To Participate In the Summer Mission Trip

If you decide that you are interested in participating in the trip, please complete this application and return it with your \$100 deposit (non-refundable if you are chosen to go) to Jennifer Olson by Sunday, October 22, 2023. Priority will be given to those who are active in STORM.

If you can turn your form in by October 1, that would be appreciated to give us a better idea of how many spots to reserve. After that day, it will be based on availability.

We have a limited number of spaces available, so please turn your information in as soon as possible.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone #: _____ E-mail: _____

Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____ Male Female (Circle)

Current School & Year: _____

Parent's Name(s): _____

1. Have you participated in a Mission Trip before? When & Where?
Why are you interested in participating in the Summer Mission Trip?
What do you hope to get out of the experience?

2. What do you wish to share with the people you encounter on the Mission Trip?
What skills and/or gifts do you possess that may be helpful on a trip of this kind?

3. Do you have any allergies or medical conditions? Please list them.

Commitment

I understand the nature of this Mission Trip experience. I agree to cooperate with the Joliet Diocese Code of Behavior and to be financially responsible for the cost of the Mission Trip and to help with all fund-raising. I understand if I do not help with fundraising, I will have to pay more. I am also willing to participate in the formation meetings to prepare for our trip that will occur in the months prior to our departure in June 2024.

Signature of Participant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent: _____ Date: _____