

A Sampling of National Ministries' Current Volunteer Opportunities December 2008

Post Katrina, Rita and Galveston: Gulf Coast

The rebuilding of the Gulf Coast region continues. Many families still need help with skilled and unskilled construction tasks. Volunteers are needed for a variety of construction tasks at various sites: including Biloxi, Gulfport, Pearlinton and Pass Christian in Mississippi; Belle Chasse, Covington, Lake Charles, Metairie, Slidell and New Orleans in Louisiana; and Beaumont, Galveston and Port Arthur in Texas. Volunteers must pay their own transportation and living expenses; current fees range between \$5 a day per person to \$200 a week per group.

Summer 2009 Opportunity for All – Ecumenical Work Week, New Orleans

Three years after Hurricane Katrina devastated the Gulf Coast, residents continue their efforts to rebuild. But they need our support. The faith community was there as first responders. We will continue to be there for the victims of this storm until the work is done. Come to New Orleans as we worship, witness and work together to help those in need as they rebuild their homes, churches, communities and lives. An Ecumenical Work Week is scheduled for August 2-8, 2009 in New Orleans, Louisiana. This week of ministry and fellowship will not only help those still experiencing the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina but will highlight the need for continued work and ministry in this impacted region.

Summer 2009 Opportunity for Youth Groups – Alderson Ministerial Association, ABC of West Virginia

Spend the summer fixing up the homes of low-income families, elderly and disabled persons. Workweeks are available June 7 through August 16. Youth, college or adult workers are needed.

Sturgis Rally Ministry 2009, a short term mission opportunity in the Black Hills of South Dakota, August 1-9, 2009

Each year, the Departments of Evangelism of the American Baptist Churches of Nebraska and the Dakotas come together to form the ABC Emergency Services Center for Sturgis Bike Week. Attendance at the 2008 Rally was estimated at over 445,000 participants. The ABC Emergency Services Center is housed in the basement of the First Baptist Church of the Northern Hills in Deadwood, South Dakota. The Center is designed to assist those who become lost or stranded due to a variety of circumstances, including accident, abandonment, mechanical breakdown or injury. The Center also works closely with the law enforcement and social services agencies to minister to those who are truly in need of help.

Christian Center of Anadarko, Anadarko, Oklahoma

The Christian Center of Anadarko mission serves the Native American community in the greater Anadarko area and ministers to the needs of the general population. The Center provides alcohol and drug addiction recovery, family services, senior ministry and more. Volunteers are needed to help with general construction, routine office work, grounds maintenance and landscaping.

Murrow Indian Children's Home, Muskogee, Oklahoma

This residential home for orphaned Native American children needs volunteers to help with general construction, routine office work, grounds maintenance and landscaping.

Hopi Mission School, Kykotsmovi, Arizona

As the only private Christian elementary school on the Hopi Reservation, the Hopi Mission School offers kindergarten through sixth grade classes. Volunteers are needed to help with general maintenance and landscaping. Certified teachers for grades 1-6 and teacher aides are also needed.

City Gate, Inc., Washington, DC

City Gate is a multi-faceted urban ministry working with at-risk youth and other marginalized groups. Youth and adult mission groups are invited to participate in week-long urban ministry projects. Available short- and long-term volunteer opportunities include: tutoring/mentoring children and youth; working in summer day camps; serving in the hunger ministry or international hospitality/language ministry; working with at-risk youth; and working on repair/construction projects. A stipend and housing may be provided for summer and long-term volunteers.

Rainbow Acres, Camp Verde, Arizona

Rainbow Acres is a unique Christian community dedicated to helping mentally disabled adults (called "Ranchers"). The community provides a safe, Christian environment where "Ranchers"—supervised within the community by Rainbow Acres staff—learn to grow mentally, physically, socially, vocationally and spiritually. Several volunteers are needed to serve as academic teachers/assistants, tutors, house parents, substitute house parents, vehicle/building/grounds maintenance workers, and crafts and garden/greenhouse workers.

Mustard Seeds and Mountains, Inc., Northfork, West Virginia

Mustard Seeds and Mountains is a nonprofit interdenominational Protestant faith mission community development organization that assists poor communities by developing redemptive relationships and helping them learn to solve their problems. Working through churches, Mustard Seeds volunteers are needed for these opportunities: helping with home repairs for low-income families, and elderly and disabled persons; staffing year-round Bible clubs for children; organizing recreational activities and after-school tutoring; teaching literacy skills; and more.

For additional information and a complete list of all volunteer opportunities, please contact Victoria Goff, at vgoff@abc-usa.org or 800-ABC-3USA, ext. 2449.