

2010 Vacation Bible School Mission Projects

Children in your Vacation Bible School (VBS) can help meet the needs of children in the United States and around the world: Adopting a special VBS project from the list below is a great way to help kids learn about mission related to American Baptist Churches USA.

Choose one of this year's projects as an emphasis during your VBS and encourage children—and adults—to contribute to a special offering for the project. Encourage your children to pray for the needs of children in the project.

Remember: Do not buy and send items. The missionaries will honor your intent and use your offering to purchase the items needed.

Thank you for supporting these projects in the name of Jesus Christ.

National Ministries Projects

Friendship House, Hamtramck, Mich. (VBS70-NM)

Web site: www.detroitfriendshiphouse.com

One of Michigan's poorest communities, Hamtramck is an urban city that covers just a little more than two square miles, but 27 different languages are spoken here. Friendship House provides food to more than 1,100 people each month, holds community baby showers, helps with rent and utility payments, provides free school supplies and hosts a soup kitchen once a month.

Project #1: Instant Birthday Kits—your gift of \$8-\$10 will help assemble kits that include a cake mix, canned frosting, birthday napkins, plates, cups and maybe a toy and birthday candles. Without these kits, some kids in the community never have a birthday party.

Project #2: First Aid and Personal Care Kits—your gift of \$8-\$10 will help assemble individual Baggies that contain Band-Aids, a toothbrush a small tube of toothpaste, a bar of soap, a washcloth and comb.

Friendship House of Christian Service, Billings, Mont. (VBS212-NM)

Web site: www.friendshipmt.org

Friendship House serves the south side of Billings, Mont. The neighborhood, marked by generational poverty, is one of the few "urban outposts" in Montana that serves both urban and rural settings.

Project #1: Paper Picture Frames—your gift of \$20 will be used to decorate construction paper picture frames for photos of the children and families served. Frames are various sizes.

Project #2: Table Settings—your gift of \$20-\$100 provides decorative summertime table settings for barbecues, potlucks and other meal functions.

Cameron Community Ministries, Rochester, N.Y. (VBS73-NM)

Web site: www.cameronministries.org

Cameron Community Ministries, Inc., is an ecumenical urban community center located in the Rochester, N.Y., Lyell-Otis neighborhood, an area of high poverty. Cameron provides a daily meal program for neighborhood residents (37,000 meals served in 2009), an afterschool program on site and at a nearby school for 175 children, along with a clothing house. In addition, Cameron provides an emergency

assistance program, computer training classes and a weekly Sunday meal and service hosted by churches in the community.

Project #1: Backpacks—your gift of \$10-\$15 will purchase backpacks for children preparing for school. Throughout the year donations of school supplies are received and backpacks are needed for them to carry their books and supplies.

Project #2: Break Week Food Bags—your gift of \$15 will purchase food to send home with children in afterschool programs to supplement meals during school break weeks. Most of children qualify for free breakfast and lunch programs, and dinner is provided as part of the afterschool program, Kid’s Café. Cameron has found families having to stretch their food budgets to cover additional meals when school is not in session, so part of the ministry is sending home staples such as soup, peanut butter, tuna, cereal, cans of fruit and vegetables, pasta and miscellaneous items as part of Break Week Bags.

The Penny Project, National Ministries

Web site: www.14millionpennies.org

The Penny Project is an initiative begun by youth, for youth, that encourages leadership responsibility. The goal is to raise 14 million pennies to represent the 14 million children in the United States and Puerto Rico who live with the hardships of poverty. Youth hope to raise “change” in a way that changes, for the better, the lives of children ages infant to 18 in communities throughout our nation.

Project—raise as many pennies as possible. Some groups set a goal based on the number of children living in poverty in their state or county. Some groups designate a Sunday to bring the pennies to the altar for prayer.

Keep the money collected for the Penny Project within your community; give it to a ministry that is making a difference in the lives of children in need.

Report on the Penny Project Web site (www.14millionpennies.org) the number of pennies raised, how your group raised awareness about children living in poverty, and how your group shared the pennies.

Vacation Bible School Project Report

Project Name _____
Project Number _____
Amount \$ _____
Church Name _____
Church Address _____

How to remit money collected for Vacation Bible School projects

VBS Leader:

1. Complete the information requested on the Vacation Bible School Project Report.
2. Give the report and the money collected to your church treasurer.

Church Treasurer:

1. Record the VBS project number, project name and amount collected on “Line Specifics” of the “Monthly Report of Mission Support” form.
2. Send the money and the form with your church monthly remittance in the usual manner.