

STUDENT LIFE CAMP

EST



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SPECIAL NEEDS AND ELDERLY CARE PROJECT TYPE PACKET

Complete these five items to be prepared for your mission project:

- ☐ Review the Things To Know section below.
 - ☐ Host a mission training meeting with your students.
 - ☐ Review the Project Overview page(s) that are emailed to you a month before camp.
 - ☐ Communicate with the Site Contact(s).
 - ☐ Finish final preparations and training with your students using the information in this document and your Project Overview.
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ONE: THINGS TO KNOW

MAKING PROJECT ASSIGNMENTS

We start group placement with prayer and the project type(s) you selected. We also consider group size, transportation and the ages of students. Ultimately, a community's need decides where churches serve.

CHANGING AN ASSIGNMENT

Changing or canceling is extremely difficult because it will directly affect the community partners, as well as other churches that will have to be switched around to cover that loss. Student Life cares deeply about our personal relationships with the organizations we serve. Many depend on Student Life for help with projects they cannot accomplish on their own, which is why we do everything possible to honor our promises.

TRANSPORTATION

Transportation to and from sites is the responsibility of the church group. If you are at multiple sites with only one vehicle, Student Life will provide drop-off directions at Check-In.

LEADERSHIP AT SITES

Student Life will check on you at sites, but will not be with you all week on site as you serve. Your adult leaders are responsible for your group and will guide students following the Site Contact's instructions.

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EVERY GROUP NEEDS TO BRING

- **Cooler(s) and Water Bottles** – You can bring at least one round water cooler per site for ice water to refill personal water bottles. Please label all coolers with your church name, city and state.
- **Closed-Toe Shoes** – Every person is required to wear closed-toe shoes while on site. Tennis shoes are preferable (not canvas).
- **Snacks** – These provide a helpful boost while burning extra calories working hard in the summer heat!
- **Supplies** – Your Project Overview sheet lists the supplies provided as well as smaller items you should bring. Feel free to bring any additional supplies you think would help, labeled with your church name so they don't get mixed up.

COVID-19 CONSIDERATIONS

As invited guests, we ask you to follow the leadership of your Site Contact and any regulations/procedures that their organization has in place regarding COVID-19. This could include wearing masks, hand washing, and participating in health screenings. We will do our best to communicate those expectations with you before you arrive.

TWO: MISSION TRAINING MEETING

VISION CAST

Explain the type of work they can expect to do and how that supports the local community. Include these tips on how to have a great week:

- **Be Prayerful** – The best way to prepare for your mission project is through prayer. Remember, your ministry at the site consists not only of the work you do, but also your interactions with your contact.
- **Be Servant-minded** – Come prepared to do everything they ask with excellence.
- **Be Flexible** – Student Life does everything possible to prevent changes. However, plans do sometimes change. If anything regarding your mission project changes drastically, you will be notified immediately.

SHARING THE GOSPEL

We want to be prepared to give an account to anyone about our faith and why we are serving. Spend time having students think about their personal testimonies and answers to the following questions and statements:

Special Needs Care

- Your life before Christ...
- How you met Christ and how He changed your life...
- Today Christ impacts your life...

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- Staff Members: “You are more comfortable around our residents than other teenagers typically are.”
- Residents: “Thank you for spending time with me.”

Elderly Care

- Your life before Christ...
- How you met Christ and how He changed your life...
- Today Christ impacts your life...
- Staff Members: “Thank you for spending time with our residents. You are different from a normal volunteer group of students.”
- Resident: “I grew up going to church, but can’t go anymore.”
- Resident: “I love the Lord and am a faithful believer.”
- Resident: “I don’t believe any of that faith stuff.”

Also remind students that they can display the Gospel through their attentive listening and genuine love and acceptance for people different from them. Their presence and attention will mean so much to the residents. Prepare students to ask questions about faith and past life experiences, and also explain how many residents could be heavy-hearted and hurt by the past. It may take time for them to open up, or it may not happen at all.

Some helpful resources to consider using are included below:

- <https://www.namb.net/evangelism>
- https://www.navigators.org/topic/evangelism/?post_type=resource&APC ode=E294&qclid=EAlaIQobChMImLuavdyb1wIVBgeGChlQcga-EAAYAyAAEgJYCPD_BwE

THREE: REVIEW PROJECT OVERVIEW SHEETS

Around 21 days before camp you will receive a Project Overview Sheet for each project you are assigned. Please review to learn things like what to wear, the project address, supplies that will be provided, and other expectations to share with your group. We include all the information we know in advance to help your group prepare for the week of camp!

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Project Assignment Overview Norris Ferry Community Church, Shreveport, LA

Project: The Gardens Independent & Assisted Living

Date: Tuesday-Thursday, June 4 - 6, 2019

Number of People for Project: 18

Time: 12:30 - 3:30

Kids Club Curriculum: N/A

Organization Description: The Gardens is a faith-based senior living community in the Springfield area. The residents here enjoy wonderful meals and lots of activities to keep them young at heart!

Project Details: You will be visiting with the residents at the Assisted and Independent Living facilities here. There will be some fun activities together (possibly a picnic at the end of the week), but the schedule of daily activities is still coming together.

They can't wait to plug you all in to visit with the residents! Please call Nicole to touch base about more details ahead of time.

Project Location Address: 2730 S. Nettleton, Springfield, MO, 65807

Contact Information

Contact: Nicole Fite

Preferred Contact Method:

Phone ☐ Email ☒

Phone Number: 417-881-1330

Organization Website:

www.bethesdaSeniorLiving.com

Email: nfite@ba.org

Supplies Provided By

Student Life or The Gardens Independent & Assisted Living

- ☐ Kids Rec Supplies
- ☐ Craft Supplies
- ☐ Painting Supplies
- ☐ Yard Work Supplies
- ☐ Cleaning Supplies
- ☐ Board Games
- ☐ All Supplies Provided by Site
- ☐ Paint Provided by Site
- ☒ None Needed

Norris Ferry Community Church

- ☐ Craft Supplies (optional)
- ☐ Pop Up Tent (optional)
- ☐ Work Gloves
- ☐ Sunscreen and Bug Spray
- ☒ Closed Toe Shoes
- ☐ Bibles to Donate at Site (optional)
- ☐ Site Waivers

FOUR: CONTACTING YOUR SITE CONTACT

Please directly contact (email or phone call) the people you will be serving by using the Contact information included on your Project Overview(s).

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Familiarize yourself with the organization or area by reading the brief Site Description on your Project Overview. Also visit their website, if provided, so you know what they do year-round. Remember, not all Site Contacts or organizations with whom we partner are Christian.

EMAIL OR PHONE CALL TIPS

1. Your contact may be working with multiple groups throughout the summer. Please introduce yourself as the Group Leader for the "Student Life volunteer group" that will be partnering with them on the specific dates and times listed on your Project Overview.
2. Exchange cell phone numbers.
3. Find out where to go and who to look for upon arrival.
4. Ask project specific questions.
 - a. Are there activities you would like us to plan to lead?
 - b. What is the general schedule for each day?
 - c. Could we lead a time of worship or Bible study?

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- d. Are there any work projects we could also help with while there?
If so, what supplies would we need?
 - e. What COVID-19 guidelines do you have in place for us to follow?
5. Confirm the location address.
6. Remind them of your estimated arrival time (12:30 p.m.).
If you are traveling in a bus dropping off multiple groups, please let the contact know of your potential "late arrival."
7. If required, send Site Contact completed volunteer waiver forms before camp.

FIVE: FINAL PREPARATIONS

PROBLEM SOLVING

Our staff will always help you to come to a solution, but these are great to review in advance before camp.

YOU GOT TO YOUR SITE, BUT NO ONE IS HERE.

- Call the number on your Project Overview to make sure you are at the right location.
- No answer? Notify your Squad Leader for additional contact numbers.
- Have a prayer time while Student Life finds a solution.

NOT MANY RESIDENTS ARE PARTICIPATING SO SOME STUDENTS AREN'T ENGAGED.

- Ask your Site Contact if there are any work projects your group could help with (weeding, painting, pressure washing, cleaning, organizing, etc.).
- Ask if you can assist with dining room clean-up.
- Ask if any residents enjoy room visits. Send students in groups to sit with them, read, share stories, etc.

YOU NEED ADDITIONAL SUPPLIES.

- Think through if you could postpone that part of the project until the following day.
- If you need supplies immediately, contact your Squad Leader. Do not be shy about requesting additional materials since supply needs are a top priority. We want you to serve well!
- If supplies are needed for the next day, let your Squad Leader know. They will arrange a time to meet you to get what is needed.

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SOMEONE IN YOUR GROUP HAS GOTTEN INJURED.

- Take care of the injury! Assess the situation quickly and take appropriate steps.
- Alert your Squad Leader immediately.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

Some locations will have their own detailed schedule. This is a sample schedule you can use if no instructions are provided. Feel free to be creative as you want!

Elderly Care Locations

12:30	Arrive. Make an introduction and tour the facility.
1:00	Visit with residents and help them return to their room or activity center from lunch.
1:30	Lead an afternoon activity. Be creative and talk with your Site Contact about your ideas for crafts, games, a Bible devotion, singing, nail painting, etc.
2:15	Break students into groups to visit with residents. Discuss things like family, faith, history, etc.
3:00	Depart

Special Needs Locations

12:30	Arrive. Make an introduction and tour the facility.
1:00	Visit with program participants and help them with lunch clean up.
1:30	Lead an afternoon activity. Be creative and talk with your Site Contact about your ideas for crafts, games, a Bible devotion, singing, themed parties, etc.
2:15	Break students into groups to visit with program participants. Often this can look like doing something together while they visit (activities, cleaning tasks, homework, etc.).
3:00	Depart