



## 2007 INFORMATION PACKET

### RED BIRD MISSION WORK CAMP PROGRAM

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Michael Wolff, Director  
Community Housing Improvement

We appreciate your interest in the Red Bird Mission Work Camp Program. The Work Camp is the action arm of the Community Housing Improvement Department of the Red Bird Mission. The Work Camp makes valuable contributions to the ministries offered to the community by Red Bird Mission. The work, the enthusiasm, and love shared during the Work camp experience have had a profound effect on the lives of the participants, staff and community.

The goals of our Work Camp program are fourfold. **First**, we hope the time spent working and sharing together will help your group to grow in Christian love. Also, we hope that each individual will use the time away from their normal environment and routine to reflect and pray about the problems and joys in their own life and be spiritually enriched. **Second**, we wish to help each individual understand what Red Bird Mission is and why it is important to the Appalachian region of Southeastern Kentucky. **Third**, make the daily work beneficial to the Mission and the surrounding community. **Fourth**, we hope during your stay here you will learn of the beauty and the richness of the mountains and the people who live here, and will compare their struggles and problems with those of your own communities.

Work Camp fees and the project selection process were changed in 2006. We have taken these actions to better serve the community and provide better stewardship of the resources made available to us. Hopefully these changes will simplify your preparation and fund raising process.

**The following information will assist you as you begin to think about a Work Camp experience at Red Bird Mission. Please read it thoroughly, copy it, and distribute it to each person involved in your group.**

## WHO SHOULD APPLY

The Work Camp program at Red Bird Mission welcomes both youth and adults. We accept youth fellowships, young adult and adult groups, intergenerational groups, and district and conference groups. We ask that for every five youth, there be at least one adult. We find it is best if the youth have completed at least the 9th grade and keep in mind that it is the responsibility of the group to supervise any young children. Generally, six to eight groups are scheduled each week and a good group size is up to around 20 however we will try to accommodate any group size. Families and Family groups are welcome too.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

We are a Work Camp in the Appalachia Mountains and our cabins are located up on the hills from the main dining area. Workgroups will stay in air conditioned/heated cabins set up as bunk houses with multiple bunk beds suitable for regular twin mattresses sheets or sleeping bags. The typical bunk house is set up to accommodate between 10 and 20 people with men in one cabin and women in another.

Notes: A. We have **BUNK BEDS** in all of the cabins and some members of your group will be on top bunks. Linens are not provided and private rooms are not normally available. Requests for private rooms must be made no less than 60 days prior to your arrival and are subject to availability and an additional \$50.00/person charge. (See notes under the "Work Camp Lodging and Rates" section)

B. We are a Work Camp in the Appalachia Mountains and our cabins are located up on the hills. You may want to take this into consideration if you or members of your group have mobility problems.

C. You can not request a specific cabin or lower bunks and we cannot guarantee to any group either a specific cabin or a lower bunk assignment

## FOOD SERVICE

All groups will be fed together in our dining hall, the "Cardinal House." Cost for meals is included in the total Work Camp fees. This includes breakfast, lunch and supper; Sunday evening throughout the following Friday night except for Wednesday lunch and dinner. Each group will be expected to participate in meal clean up during the week according to an assigned schedule. Saturday breakfast is on your own, however, cereal, bread for toast, milk and coffee are provided for you. You will need to provide for anyone who requires special dietary needs. We have refrigerators and storage available if required.

Wednesday is the day off for both staff and work camper volunteers so you should plan site seeing and to meals away from campus on Wednesday. **Lunch and dinner will not be available on Wednesday.**

## GROUP DEVOTIONS

Prior to breakfast each morning, we begin by meeting for devotions in the Cardinal House at 7:15 am. Each group may participate in the devotions. Each group should plan other times when their members can share their daily experience and be enriched in their spiritual lives and we would encourage you to consider asking other groups to share your times of sharing.

## WORK

We will have a variety of projects each week. Red Bird Mission will work with you to assign construction projects that match the skills of your group. At least one member of your group should understand general building concepts and preferable will have some construction knowledge.

All groups are asked to supply some members of their group to help with the upkeep of the grounds, kitchen and supply barn. Not all projects are in the community. On-campus maintenance helps supply our Mission infrastructure which permits us to continue ministry in this community.

Everyone should plan to work on the selected construction project. Other work **may be** available depending upon personnel needs of our other Ministry areas. (Campbell's label room, Craft/Community stores, Community Outreach, Early Childhood Development, Conference Office and possibly the School).

**Please expect to have all members of your group work on the chosen construction project unless other arrangements have been made directly with the Community Housing Improvement Director.**

You will need to provide your own transportation for your group to and from the projects. In some instances, qualified drivers from your group may be asked to drive a Mission vehicle to assist with the delivery of tools or materials to the jobsite. A valid driver's license is required and drivers must meet our insurance requirements.

When organizing your group it is helpful to have some individuals who are properly skilled to perform construction tasks to lead the group because some groups will be working independently. We do have staff to assist you, but they may be working 4 or 5 jobs and rotating around from project to project.

## WORK SCHEDULE

The work schedule consists of four days of work and one day for touring the area. Work hours will be Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with one hour for lunch. Wednesday is the day off for the entire Work Camp including staff, so please plan to sightsee and to schedule lunch and dinner away from campus on Wednesday.

## **EVENING ACTIVITIES**

Our evening activities begin at 7:00 or 7:30 each night and end by 9:00. Evening programs are designed to help you understand the Red Bird Mission and its importance to the Appalachian region of Southeast Kentucky.

Some free time is available in the evenings. During your time at Red Bird Mission, you will have the opportunity to interface with community residents both on and off campus. The area surrounding the Red Bird Mission has little activities available so the Mission campus is open to the public and frequently youth from the community utilize the recreational facilities in the immediate vicinity of the Work Camp. Visiting groups need to be aware of this and should provide adequate adult supervision for their own youth.

One of our evening activities is a talent night. Please plan your talent presentation before coming so it will be interesting and uplifting to the whole Work Camp. Time for your presentation should be limited to no more than 10 minutes per group. We will conclude the week with a time of sharing and communion on Friday evening.

## **CURFEW**

All Work Campers are asked to be in their cabins by 10:00 pm each evening with lights-out by 11:00 pm. Your group may be sharing the cabin with others and it is important for you to get adequate rest and to be good neighbors and allow others to do likewise.

## **INSURANCE**

Each group must provide their own health and accident insurance covering travel to and from Red Bird Mission, and while you are here. Low cost insurance may be available through your conference office.

## **SMOKING**

Smoking is not allowed in the Red Bird Mission vehicles or buildings. USE OF ALCOHOL OR DRUGS IS PROHIBITED on Mission grounds or while participating in Work Camp activities

## COST

There is a non-refundable application fee of \$100.00 to help cover administration costs and assure your group's commitment to a Work Camp experience. If you submit your application via the Internet, please mail your deposit as soon as possible. If mailing your application, the fee should be sent with your application. Our office must receive your deposit within 30 days of your application or we cannot hold that date for your group. You will receive written confirmation of your scheduled reservation only after receipt of your application and application fee.

We have a single rate fee of \$230.00 per person. The \$230.00 individual fee will cover all food, housing and project supplies. If you are unsure of the total number of participants it is necessary to estimate as closely as possible the number of people you expect to participate. **You must send one half of this amount (\$115.00 per person) no later than March 15th** and the balance of \$115.00 per person will be due upon arrival at Work Camp.

If your group size should change we will adjust the fees for up to 5 people but all other fees are not transferable or refundable.

Some of the larger and/or more complicated construction projects will also carry an additional material cost. If your group has the resources we would appreciate working with you on these larger projects.

## Work Camp Lodging and Rates

Work Camp Cabins Standard cabin lodging is included in the Work Camp fee.

Queendale Dorms: \$50.00 per person in addition to the regular Work Camp fee rate.  
(See notes 1-3 below)

### **Dorm Notes:**

1. Bedding is not supplied.
2. All Work Camp volunteers requesting Dorm housing must contact The Community Housing Improvement Director, a minimum of 2 months prior notice is required.
3. Dorms are available on a first come-first serve basis and are not always available.

### **Age Associated Notes:**

1. The Work Camp program is not set up to handle small children and youth under 16. However, the following rates apply:
  - A. 0-7 yrs of age –Free.
  - B. Children 8-12 years of age are ½ the standard Work Camp fee
  - C. Teenagers 13 and above @ Standard Work Camp rates.

If your group size changes please let us know. It may be possible to increase the number of people in your group over the amount that you send in, but you would need to call and make sure there is space. Some times we can accommodate a few extra people.

### **TRAVEL AND ARRIVAL**

Each group will be responsible for providing their own transportation to and from Red Bird Mission, the job sites and for the evening activities and tour day. Cars and vans are more convenient than large buses since groups are given work assignments in different locations. Persons from your group may be asked to drive a Red Bird Mission vehicle. Due to insurance restraints no one under 24 years old will be permitted to drive a Red Bird Mission vehicle.

**Please try to arrive between 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. on Sunday.** If you arrive early, please wait at the Cardinal House, a staff member will be there at 3:00 p.m. to greet you. If you are detained and will not be arriving by 5:00 p.m. please call our office @ 606-598-5133 and let us know your estimated arrival time.

Red Bird Mission has 10 full hookup spaces available for campers or motor homes. If you would like to bring a camper to stay in, you will need to let us know at least 4 weeks in advance so we can reserve a spot for you. The \$230.00 Work Camp applies to individuals using the camper pads in lieu of Bunk House cabins

### **MEDICAL INFORMATION**

We would suggest that each group obtain medical information and a release form from the parent or guardian of each youth who participates.

**TETANUS SHOTS:** If you have not had tetanus shot in the last several years you might consider having one. Each youth and adult should consult their doctor or health center on this point. Many county health departments will give free tetanus shots.

**MEDICAL PROBLEMS:** If anyone in your group has any unusual medical problems, be sure all the adult counselors are fully aware of the situation and a medical release should be obtained in case medical attention is required while at the Red Bird Mission. Please let the Red Bird Work Camp staff know of these conditions prior to arrival.

### **GROUP LEADERS**

The group leader plays an important role in the Work Camp program and his or her enthusiasm and willingness sets the tone for the entire group. We depend on the group leader to lead your group's work team, to make the people assignments, meet with the staff, to discuss needs and to supervise the work on the projects. Our staffing

limitations are such that we may not always have a staff crew leader to work with your group, so please choose your leaders in this area carefully.

After being accepted to the Work Camp program at Red Bird Mission, we will mail you a leader's packet with resources and suggestions to stimulate discussion. You, the group leaders, are familiar with the capabilities and interests of your group. We rely on you to make certain that time is scheduled for the group to study the material we send and to prepare your group spiritually and intellectually for their time at Red Bird Mission. Experience has shown that those groups who have given time and study to their purpose in coming to Red Bird Mission have had the more fulfilling experiences.

### **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

After you have read through and shared this information with your group and are enthusiastic about coming to Red Bird Mission for a Work Camp experience, fill out the attached application and send it to:

**Red Bird Mission – Work Camp  
70 Queendale Center  
Beverly, KY 40913  
(606) 598-5133**

DIRECT ALL E-MAIL INQUIRIES TO: [Workcamp@rbmission.org](mailto:Workcamp@rbmission.org)

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE: "WWW.RBMISSION.ORG" FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND ON-LINE APPLICATIONS.

### **SCHEDULING OF WORKCAMP**

WE DO NOT CONFIRM DATES OVER THE PHONE. BOTH THE APPLICATION AND APPLICATION FEE MUST BE ON FILE TO CONFIRM YOUR RESERVATION.

IF WE DO NOT RECEIVE YOUR 50% DEPOSIT BY THE 15<sup>TH</sup> OF MARCH YOUR RESERVATION MAY BE CANCELLED

Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and it is recommended that your application be made 12 to 18 months prior to your visit. As soon as an application comes in it will be processed and your group will be notified.

Red Bird Mission welcomes workgroups throughout the year and we have many needs in spring and fall as well as summer. The months of June, July and August are the most popular times and fill up first.

We will start accepting applications for 2008 on January, 15<sup>th</sup> 2007.

**PLEASE KEEP THIS INFORMATION PACKET!**

MUCH OF THE INFORMATION MAY NOT BE REPEATED IN FUTURE MAILINGS! IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO PASS THIS INFORMATION ON TO YOUR WORK CAMP LEADERS AND EVERY VOLUNTEER PLANNING TO PARTICIPATE IN WORK CAMP.