

June 15, 2020



Dear Volunteer:

Thank you for your interest in coming to our area to be a part of the rebuilding efforts from our disaster. I hope that in this letter I can address some of your questions as you are preparing your team to come to the area. The homeowners that you will be helping have experienced a very emotional event in their lives and the volunteers do so much to bring them healing. Your team will find themselves going home with a different meaning to life.

As you start to prepare, it is recommended that you have 1-2 different dates that might work for your team so that we can best schedule of work. We will confirm your date with one of our construction managers and let you know. If you are planning this as a church trip, there are several things to keep in mind as you plan:

- Total group size for our job sites needs to be no more than 8 people (including all leaders & volunteers). Larger groups may be split-up into multiple locations as long as our construction manager has the work ready to go.
- At this time, due to COVID-19, we are only scheduling day trip volunteer activities. This means your group must drive back home at the end of the work day and back to the job site for consecutive days in a row. We are trying to limit driving to just over an hour to be respectful of volunteer time and logistics of traveling.
- Any youth must be at least 16 yrs. of age, with a signed parental release. Your team needs a good adult/youth ratio. We recommend 1 adult to 3 youth. The better supervised the youth are, the better your trip will be.
- A majority of the adults should have some knowledge of construction. Please find the enclosed skills assessment sheet in the volunteer packet. Fill this out and return it to me as soon as possible so we have a better idea of your volunteers' skill level. This skills sheet is very important for us to match your team's skills to the right job site.

- Tools to bring will be basic personal hand tools for construction; and any additional list of specifics may be sent closer to your work date. Every effort will be made to have the special tools required to do specialized tasks.
- Coolers for food/ beverage should be provided by your group each day of the visit for water, packed lunches, and snacks, etc.
- Please review the safety protocols for worksite volunteering and brief your group with this information in mind. If people are concerned about COVID-19, rest assured we have taken appropriate steps to keep volunteers, homeowners, and our staff safe. We ask for your cooperation in advance to follow our safety guidelines.

But the most important thing to bring with you and your group will be flexibility and patience.

We are setting up rebuilds in several different parts of Montgomery County that received the majority of the damage from the 2019 Memorial Day tornadoes. We are in the planning stages now so there are still a few things being set up for the projects. Our office is in the downtown Dayton community, centralized where the repairs are taking place. The morning of your first workday a representative from our staff will meet you at your specific jobsite(s) and orient you to the vital work that needs done.

We would like to schedule your trip(s) as soon as possible so we know what our calendar is going to look like. Please be sure to thoroughly read the information and get forms out to interested volunteers. Please compile waivers, skills sheet assessment, and other forms needing signed to return to me A.S.A.P.

Thank you for your interest in a rebuilding trip with the Miami Valley Long Term Recovery Group (MVLTRG) and your patience as we start getting your volunteer group scheduled.

Sincerely,

Emmy Fabich

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