



repairing homes and restoring hope

**Commit 1 week...
change 2 lives!**



Good Works Summer Work Camp

Every summer, groups of lively teens and their adult chaperones dedicate a week of their valuable time to serve low-income homeowners through Good Works Summer Youth Work Camp. Some groups return year after year, bringing fresh recruits who willingly don work boots and tool belts for the privilege of becoming physically exhausted, dirty, and totally invested in the lives of people that they just met.

Why would these busy youth groups choose to give up a week of their summer to serve with Good Works? In Matthew 25, Jesus talks about how He would like his followers to respond to the needs they see around them. *"Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me."* (Matt. 25:40). The young people who take part in our Summer Work Camps have the opportunity to put this command into practice. They begin by focusing on the physical needs of their homeowners; as they work side by side, a bond of love forms and they often find themselves sharing their faith as well.

One of our participants revealed her heart's desire when she wrote the following: *"After a week of asking our homeowner to pray with us, on the last day, they finally did. I hope our week with them brought them closer to God; if it did, then that's bigger than any project we did on their house."*

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Work Camp FAQ's

ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Good Works Summer Youth Work Camp is designed for high school students (grades 9-12) and provides an opportunity for them to serve others and grow in their faith. Often working side-by-side with other teens from various faith communities, participants will be drawn closer to each other and to God during a week of learning new skills and experiencing a world where decent, safe housing is not a fact of life.

As the youth work to repair substandard homes in the Coatesville area, they will also have the opportunity to get to know the homeowners who have opened their homes to them for the week. Many of the students have commented that this is the most meaningful experience of all.

Each youth volunteer works on a variety of repair projects. As one of the students shared, *"Most mission trips think we are only capable of painting and cleaning. I learned so much from this trip; with help, I was able to do things I didn't think I would be able to do."*

At a Good Works Youth Work Camp, participants will most likely work harder than they ever thought they could, but they will also have more impact on the life of another person than they ever imagined they would.

LODGING AND MEALS

Housing is provided by Coatesville Bible Fellowship church. Males and females sleep in separate air-conditioned areas and are chaperoned by adult leaders from each participating group. Breakfasts and dinners are prepared by a cook provided by Good Works and are served at the church. Lunch preparation is part of the youth groups' duties. Lunch is eaten at the worksite. Shower facilities provided for daily use.

SAFETY A safety discussion is a crucial part of the camp orientation. Work Crew Leaders, together with the Good Works Tech Staff oversee the application of safe work principles at work locations.

WHAT YOU SHOULD BRING

- A flexible, teachable spirit
- Bible, pen and notebook
- A sleeping bag and air mattress
- Modest casual clothing, work clothes
- Hard-soled work shoes, work gloves, safety glasses

ADULT PARTICIPATION Each group must bring one adult (age 25+) for every 5 youth; if both males and females are registered, an adult male and female must accompany the group. Adults serve as Work Crew Leaders – coordinating the repair work, building relationships between youth and homeowner, and providing transportation to and from the work site.

NEED GRADUATION COMMUNITY SERVICE

HOURS? Some school districts require community service hours for graduation. Good Works Work Camp participants can earn up to 40 hours towards that requirement.

I'M INTERESTED. WHAT DO I DO NEXT?

Visit our website at:

www.goodworksinc.org/volunteer/work-camp and check the details for this year's Work Camp. Click on the registration form link. Mail the completed form with a \$50 per person deposit. The registration deadline is the last Friday in February; forms and deposits received after that date will be awarded on a space available basis only. Questions? Call Good Works Volunteer Coordinator, at 610-383-9247 or send an email to" volunteer@goodworksinc.org. Deposits are not refundable, however they are transferable to another youth.