

ASP 2010 E-mail # 1 Begin the Journey.

Dear ASP Friends,

We are a group of 83 volunteers. We are the group from North Carolina! We welcome everyone to this group and especially new ASP volunteers. We represent at least 3 different churches!

On June 27st we'll be heading to Breathitt County, Kentucky. The people who need our help are some of the most needy in our country. Please begin to pray for our week of service and the whole ASP summer. You are part of something very important!

What's been happening before we go on ASP? Field coordinators have been working year round to make contacts and help facilitate the success of the summer ministry. Over 125 college age summer staff persons are deep into training. They will be setting up and serving for the summer at one of the 25 ASP summer centers. The staff has one week to set up and a few days to close the center. A center is a school, community center, old hospital or anywhere that the volunteers can sleep, shower and eat. ASP lasts for eight summer weeks. ASP is a faith based relationship relay team. In just a few weeks the first team will begin work on ASP week one. All of ASP is about Jesus and servanthood.

Every minute think servanthood, and you'll understand and relate to ASP. If you stop thinking servanthood..... you will have stumbled, fallen and lost your way. The culture of our ASP experience depends on this way of thinking.

How does ASP choose the families to help? ASP has a field coordinator for a region who works with community action agencies, social services, non-profits, churches, and government agencies throughout the year getting the word out to folks in the community that have homes that need emergency home repair. Field coordinators attend interagency meetings, ministerial association meetings, and a variety of other community action team meetings. The field coordinator then shares by showing past work done on homes, distributes information about ASP, goes over the referral form, and hands out detailed information about what work was done in that specific county or a neighboring county that the staff tallied the previous summer. This includes the number and types of projects as well as the economic impact that ASP had on the community.

After these weeks of training in Jonesville, VA, the ASP summer staff has a week (called Set-Up Week) before volunteers arrive, to accomplish a number of tasks at the center. One of the most crucial is securing homes. The staff has been trained to consider a number of things when choosing homes. They look at:

Warmer, safer, drier (emergency home repair)

Budget

Distance from center

Safety for volunteers

Time to complete the project

### Volunteer skill level

There are a number of other factors that come into play when choosing homes. It is a difficult process, but everyone has the utmost confidence that our staffs will choose families in an unbiased fashion. Community contacts are encourage to help prioritize referrals for the summer staffs and collect referrals from all groups of people, including people of all races, elderly people, single-parent families, and people without children. Once a family is chosen, the staff fills out a work agreement with the family. This agreement ensures that any work not completed in the allotted 8-week time frame will be completed by the staff at the end of the summer. The work agreement also states that families cannot drink or do drugs while volunteers are on site. The agreement states that the staff will stop work on a house if there is any danger to the volunteers. It also states that a family is encouraged to assist the volunteers if they are able to. Those families that are unable to be served are contacted in a timely fashion. There is a lot to do. ASP takes on the worst of the worst situations. It's not a simple process.

Thinking about our paper work.....

Does anyone have a change in medical insurance or a change in medical issues of importance? E-mail me if you do. If your medical insurance has stopped or will be stopped during ASP - no problem, tell me – we'll get a short term policy to cover you on ASP. **DO NOT COME ON ASP WITHOUT MEDICAL INSURANCE. CALL ME..... 273-7547. I GET SHORT TERM POLICIES EVERY YEAR. IT IS NO PROBLEM. I AM HAPPY TO HELP.**

Please begin checking your e-mail every few days. It's ASP e-mail season! We shape the culture and success of our group through training day and e-mails.

You will receive your ASP t-shirt and a devotional guide at training. When you signed up for ASP you signed that you will be present at training on MAY 23rd. It is important and sets the stage for our week of service. The meeting is mandatory. We'll have fun and a meal is being prepared. We will cover a wide variety of information to make our week on ASP a success. I look forward to seeing you a little before 2:00 pm this Sunday.

Check on your friends ...friends don't let friends miss training day or ASP e-mail.

ASP TRAINING DAY, MAY 23rd 2:00 to 6:30 p.m. at Hinshaw UMC, 4501 High Point Road. Greensboro, NC 27407

### **Important.....**

Read and reflect on the theme scripture for ASP 2010: I Corinthians 9:24

“EYES ON THE PRIZE – RACING TO SERVE ”

Yours in Christ,  
Jim Waynick