

Sample Invitation to Apply: Mission Groups

Smokey Mountain Resort Ministries

Thank you for your interest in Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries. We have a great need for, and appreciation of, mission groups, and we are pleased that you would consider a mission trip with us. We use approximately 28 groups per summer in our campground ministries.

If you are interested in bringing or sending a mission team from your church, just let us know directly by filling out the enclosed application form and returning it as soon as possible.

Assignments are usually made by November or December. After your assignment has been made, we will contact you to confirm your date and answer any questions you might have at that point. We will also send you an information packet to begin the process of preparation.

The next important event to plan for is the leader orientation. This session must be attended by at least one leader. You will find this time to be most beneficial in the planning process. The fee for the two-day orientation session is \$65 per person. The amount will cover lodging for one night, three meals and a useful orientation notebook. The first day of orientation is spent in teaching and the second day is devoted to a field tour of ministry sites—a video camera is helpful here. If you decide to participate in our program, you will receive an orientation reservation form with more details concerning the session.

Other financial charges for serving with SMRM will include a \$10 registration fee for each individual participating in the mission trip. This cost is used to fund the mission group coordinator position. There is also a \$2.75 badge fee for each individual attending. This fee covers the cost of our identification badge that mission group participants wear during their visit.

The weekly schedule is as follows:

Sunday: Arrival and field orientation with the mission group coordinator. This will be a 30-45 minute session (time is scheduled during orientation).

Monday – Friday: Day camps for children in campgrounds 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. (Your mission group divides into smaller mission teams to cover campgrounds.)

Family evening programs [FEP] in campgrounds 8:00 – 8:45 p.m. (Your group performs for 45 minutes in a different campground each evening.)

Friday evening: Immediately following the FEP, your group will meet with the mission group coordinator for a time of closure.

Saturday: Departure in the morning.

You are responsible for all transportation, housing, programs, and supplies for the trip. Upon your assignment and orientation, we will make suggestions that will assist you in your preparation. As you know, our resort area is an open mission field. Through the years we have seen God do great things here, and we hope you will consider ministering for God in the Great Smoky Mountains. Again, thank you for your interest. If you have any other questions, please give us a call. And if you have decided that we are your next mission field, go ahead and fill out the application form and mail it in to the address above so that we can reserve your place with us for this coming summer!

Adapted from Smoky Mountain Resort Ministries' Web site invitation to inquiring mission groups. Used by permission.