

The Philadelphia Project

Creating Vibrant Local Communities



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Director: Raymond Garcia

The purpose:

Our goal is to create an opportunity for God to move in the lives of your students. We want to open doors for your leaders to build relationships with the teens. In order to do that, we need to ensure three things: first, that students work in a safe manner to eliminate time spent ministering to injuries instead of hearts; second, that nothing distracts students from what God is doing in their lives and the reason that they are participating in this mission trip experience; third, that our reputation in the community and the impression that our homeowners and others maintain of us remains positive, allowing us to continue to minister God's love to them & ensuring that future groups will be able to enjoy the same experience that you will. To those ends, we request a few things of all groups, leaders, and participants:

1. Each leader will be asked to transport themselves and 5-7 others to and from the worksite, shower facilities, gym, evening activities, and free time events. This requires an insured vehicle and that you have a valid driver's license.
2. All leaders must bring a cell phone. Don't forget your charger. It is critical that you be able to contact our Construction Coordinator in the event that you need additional materials or supplies on your job site, and that we be able to contact you in the event of an emergency.
3. There will be a dress code on the work site including long pants, a sleeved shirt, and closed-toed shoes. This is for safety and modesty. Clogs and crocs are not allowed.
4. You may provide your own tools and safety gear. Please put your name on ALL your tools. We are not responsible for lost, damaged, or misplaced items.
5. Please report any injuries immediately to Raymond Garcia, Site Coordinator. (Cell phone provided upon arrival)
6. You are not allowed to leave your job site during the day. If you need materials, call the Construction Coordinator and request that he send you a runner with what you need. Students are not permitted to leave the site during the day or to be left alone at a site.
7. No smoking, drinking, or cursing is permitted during The Philadelphia Project. CD players, mp3 players, walkmans, secular music, knives, weapons, fireworks, firearms, drugs, and tobacco are NOT permitted at The Philadelphia Project. This includes adults who smoke
8. Prepare your group and be ready to help us pair and split students into small work crews of 2, 3, & 4 students. Most of your students will be paired with one of your adults who will work along side one of our leaders at their site. We may also add students from other groups to work with you. This breaks students out of their comfort zones and breaks down barriers in their lives so that God can move in new and powerful ways.
9. We ask that all groups help us maintain a 1:5 Leader to Student ratio for their team. This helps us keep as many of your students as possible with at least one of your leaders and ensures that students have adequate supervision and relational time with the adults who want to see God move in their lives. Leaders must be at least age 21. All leaders must fill out an Adult Leader Skill Assessment and return it to us, postmarked 14 days prior to your Philadelphia Project event. Leaders are expected to work along the teens on their crew, assist with activities, and reside in the rooms with the teens. Providing adequate leaders of each gender in proportion to your students will help with sleeping arrangements.
10. All youth participants must be in the 9th grade or higher (Summer minimum grade requires teens to be entering the 9th grade in the fall). No young children, including Jr. High age students, are allowed to participate regardless of their parent's/guardian's role in the weekend, with the exception of our Jr. High specific project in July (only students entering grades 6th-9th in the fall are eligible to attend the Jr. High event.)
11. Let your students know that they will be sleeping on the floor, as a group, by gender, and to bring appropriate bedding and sleeping attire. No guys in the girls' room and no girls in the guys' room. Appropriate attire is expected at all times, including free time, while at the gym and at worship.
12. All leaders and members of your group are required to participate in all aspects of The Philadelphia Project weekend. This includes meals, worship times, crew meetings, all site work, evening recreation, and post work debrief sessions. Be on time for all meetings, meals, and activities. Return from you job sites on time. Do not be late.
13. Encourage your group by helping them get to know each other, helping them to get to know your home owner and setting a positive, hopeful, and prayerful tone at your worksite. Complete all tasks with excellence, as unto the Lord. (Col. 3:17) Be a good steward of what we have been blessed with. Do not be wasteful. Be mindful of our relationship with the community and with the homeowner. Treat them with dignity and respect. Please be a gracious host to any media representatives who might stop by your site. We'll provide details on media relations later.
14. Finally, please be flexible to any time changes or 'stuff' that may occur.