



HOPE

FOR THE INNER CITY

URBAN MISSION TEAM

Leader Packet



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Dear Urban Ministry Team Leader,

Welcome to Hope for the Inner City!

Thank you for your willingness to walk with us as we seek the Lord for spiritual and economic change in our community. Your team's efforts in evangelism, work projects, mentoring, and prayers allow us to multiply our efforts and impact low-income communities in need. Our prayer is that the Lord will use you to live out the gospel through the ministry of word and deed. We do not simply want to be a ministry that is known for what we do, but why we do what we do.

During your week with us, you will be spending time at Hope for the Inner City's campus, New City Fellowship church, and the surrounding neighborhoods.

Please be prayerful and work hard to prepare for your time with us. Our staff will be praying and preparing for your visit.

Blessings,

The Staff at Hope for the Inner City

About Hope for the Inner City

Hope for the Inner City (commonly known as “hope”) is a Christian ministry in East Chattanooga that helps lower-income people in perpetual crisis become self-sufficient. It is a merger of two Christian faith-based organizations with a combined history of 50 years of helping people trapped in poverty. For 37 years Inner City Ministries reached the poor through mercy and youth programs. For 11 years Hope for Chattanooga moved many of these same people from dependency to self-sufficiency. Both nonprofits, separately launched by now-retired New City Fellowship pastor Randy Nabors, merged in 2007. Today, Hope for the Inner City partners with churches and other organizations to bring hope and renewal to Chattanooga’s inner city.

Recognizing that the challenges of poverty are often deep and intertwined, Hope takes a balanced, Christ-centered approach to mercy ministry and community development: meeting the poor’s immediate physical needs (housing, food, medical aid) while also addressing their long-term social development (financial counseling and career coaching).

About Urban Ministry Teams

Serving on an Urban Ministry Team is a seven-day experience designed to equip your youth group, church leadership, or other group with a vision for racial reconciliation, ministry among the poor, and joy in worship in the heart of Chattanooga’s inner city.

Objectives

To help fulfill the mission of Hope for the Inner City in our target communities by revitalizing neighborhoods ,and meeting the spiritual, physical, and social development needs of individuals and families.

To develop Christian leaders with a vision of holistic ministry.

To work with churches to evangelize and make disciples in urban communities.

To teach team members about the issues facing people who live in urban centers.

To fulfill the church's calling to care for the poor, elderly, and widows.

To empower groups to return to their home churches with a vision and passion for ministry.

Fees & Registration

Though all fees are **NON REFUNDABLE**, they are transferable, and may be applied to a different date or team member in cases when plans change due to extenuating circumstances.

Team Booking Fee: \$350

This fee reserves a date for your team. Early booking is strongly recommended.

Individual Participant Fee: \$425

Cost is PER PERSON; covering resource materials, meals, and lodging. Extra spending money is necessary, especially for Friday dinner. Teams must be **no more than 35 people** including leaders for lodging purposes.

Payment:

Your **total payment is due** into our offices **30 days prior** to your teams arrival. We will accept payment by check or money order to our P.O Box (**P.O Box 11854 Chattanooga, TN 37401**).

Forms:

Please ensure that all team members complete the online registration forms given to you by our Director of Community Engagement after you book your team. Paper forms are available on request.

Preparation Checklist

Please review the following task list, and ensure that it is completed prior to your arrival:

1. View and Discuss HFIC's mission, vision, and values. These can be found on Hope's website.
2. Assign individuals for Food Coordination and Facility Security responsibilities.
3. Create a group mission statement.
4. We recommend that you read these books, although they are not required:
 - When Helping Hurts by Stephen Corbett & Brian Fikkert
 - Making Neighborhoods Whole by Wayne Gordon & John Perkins.
 - Merciful by Randy Nabors

Communication:

1. Complete 3 phone meetings with HFIC staff.
2. Communicate team dynamics and prayer requests.
3. Communicate arrival date and time.

Work Project Preparation

HFIC Work Projects are set up prior to your arrival. We will contact you with any particulars that you should be aware of. Please note the following general rules regarding work project dress:

- While on the work-site, please wear regular t-shirts.
- Pants are preferred, but shorts are allowed.
- Only closed toed shoes are allowed on the work site.
- We suggest that you bring a water bottle with you.

Lodging and Food

Housing:

1. HFIC will house participants within our facility, in a partner organization, or with a local church family.
2. HFIC provides sleeping accommodations with floor sleeping space, restrooms, and showers.
3. HFIC does not provide sheets, pillow cases, towels, washcloths, or any other toiletry items.
4. Bringing an air mattress or sleeping pad is strongly recommended.

Food Service:

1. HFIC provides meals Sunday - Friday afternoon. This consists of 6 breakfast meals, 6 lunch meals, and 5 dinner meals.
2. HFIC does not provide Friday night meal or any Saturday meals. We also do not provide any snack foods.
3. HFIC is not liable for participants who handle or consume foods to which they are allergic. Please communicate any medical issues BEFORE you arrive.

Food Coordinator Responsibilities

1. **Food Supply:** The kitchen area has been stocked with a generously regulated amount of food for your team. It is your job to ensure that this food is not wasted or used for unscheduled consumption. If you are running out of food items and need replenishment, please communicate in advance. Remember, we only supply scheduled breakfast, lunch, and dinner meals. We do not provide any snack foods.
2. **Preparation and Set Up:** It is the job of the Food Coordinator to establish a work crew for each meal that will prepare, coordinate, and facilitate the meal. This will also include cleaning up after each meal is over. Dinner meals will be catered, but the team is expected to assist in set up and clean up.

Lodging and Food

Setup Duties - Breakfast:

1. Set out cups, bowls, spoons, and napkins.
2. Set up serving table with all breakfast items.
3. Prepare juice and coffee.
4. Set out and prepare breakfast foods.

Setup Duties - Lunch:

1. The food coordination team should either get everyone's sandwich type request or have teammates make their own sandwiches.
2. Place sandwich, chips, and fruit in a sack, label bags with names, and store them in their assigned worksite cooler.
3. Prepare an igloo with water and ice and take drinking cups with you to the worksite.

Setup Duties - Dinner:

1. Setup the table with forks, knives, napkins, and cups.
2. Setup drinks for dinner.

Cleanup Duties:

1. Refrigerate the leftover food. Leftovers are always available to the team at your discretion.
2. Wash used pots, pans, etc and put away.
3. Wipe down tables and chairs.
4. Sweep and spot mop.
5. Take out the garbage.
6. Crew leader should ensure that all tasks are done before dismissing the crew.

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