

## **Volunteers in Mission Guidelines**

*(Approved September 16, 2003)*

*(Amended July 2004)*

### **Our Purpose:**

Volunteers in Mission share Christ's love in ways which make a Christian difference. We witness through work by:

- Honoring God in all we do
- Living in community
- Experiencing the people
- Caring and listening
- Being patient and flexible

### **Our Task:**

Our task is what we do (or the physical work we do) with our abilities and is always secondary to our purpose of making a Christian difference. Although our task is distinct from our purpose, the two are joined together so that Christ may be lifted up

### **Guidelines for Conference Workcamps/Applying for Funds**

(All funds through VIM are for materials only. Each camp will be considered separately by the VIM coordinator)

*These guidelines are set for accountability purposes and to assist smaller churches who may not be able to send workcamps on their own.*

- Request must be submitted by August of each year. The following financial guidelines must be met:
  - A statement describing the project, estimated cost for each participant, how leftover funds will be used.
  - All funds must go through the conference treasurer.
- **The workcamp must adhere to the Conference Safe Sanctuaries Policy. See Conference website [www.susumc.org](http://www.susumc.org) See "Supervision" on guidelines for youth.**
- The workcamp must be representative of the conference – multiple churches from multiple districts.
  - Up to 3 persons from any one church may apply (if the camp isn't full by 6 months prior to workcamp date, then others from the same church may apply.)
  - In order to encourage new campers, we suggest that only 1/3 be repeat campers. (We recognize the value of taking skilled campers)
  - Age limits to the camp depend on the work site.
  - We recommend that workcamps outside the US take only those who are 18 and older (at the discretion of the team leader).
  - The team leader must check with the site for possible age restrictions.
- The workcamp must be advertised by the VIM coordinator.
- The workcamp leader must be approved by the VIM committee.
  - Leader and Co-leader must take VIM training or meet with VIM coordinator or have led conference workcamps in the past.
  - There must be a co-leader for all workcamps.
- Evaluation forms must be completed by the team leader and each participant. (If these are not submitted, it may jeopardize funding for future workcamps)

- \$10 per member of each workcamp should be contributed to the Conference VIM (if persons participate in more than one workcamp per year, this only needs to be paid once.)

**We encourage churches to support Volunteers in Mission Advance Special #64864**

**Leftover funds may be used in the following ways to be chosen by the team leaders of the workcamp:**

- Given back to the mission to which the workcamp participated
- Give back to the participants
- Given back to VIM fund
- Scholarship Fund (not yet established) for future participants
- Established, recurring camps may save funds in an escrow account for future camp costs.