

First Congregational Church H.O.M.E. Mission Trip

Work Release Form

First Congregational Church of Ridgefield, CT sponsors volunteers in a program of home repair and construction ministry, called H.O.M.E. (Homeworkers Organized for More Employment). Each year we spend months preparing for our summer trip to Maine to repair and/or construct homes. Our preparation includes activities aimed at developing skills for home repair, learning about the region and people of Maine, working as a team with our own volunteers and with other groups of volunteers, and fund raising.

Volunteers participating in H.O.M.E. will be expected to be involved in specific home building and repair projects. These projects can include activities such as roofing, carpentry, sheetrocking (drywall), digging, building steps, footers and piers, plumbing, glasswork, insulating, painting, flooring, masonry, electrical wiring and other facets of home repair, remodeling and renovation. These activities include, but are not limited to, the use of power tools such as saws and drills, as well as use of hand tools. These activities will also require climbing, with or without supplies, tools and materials, as well as working in high places such as rooftops, small or confined spaces such as crawl spaces, and other facets of construction work. In addition, other projects may include cutting and delivering firewood, indoor and outdoor cleanup and general maintenance, and working in H.O.M.E. craft shops, Americares, or other programs. These activities may be done in any type of setting, including remote, rural, urban, small and large towns.

Participants are also expected to attend meetings at First Congregational Church and elsewhere to plan activities, to develop skills, to learn about the people and places where homes are being repaired or constructed, to learn to work as a team and live in community and to raise funds. These activities are varied.

Participants may, in their free time, engage in non-sponsored recreational activities, including but not limited to, hiking, swimming, basketball, volleyball, baseball, football, cone ball, Frisbee, or other sports or recreational activities of their choosing. Planned or sponsored recreational activities may include, but are not limited to, dinners, picnics, visits to places or people of local cultural interest, and local entertainers.

Many of the activities of the Participants require travel in vehicles owned/rented and operated by volunteers. The trips to Orland, Maine require travel in such vehicles. Also, the trips to Maine include staying in churches, schools, tents and living in community.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Participants are not required to engage in any work or recreational activity in which they feel they are not able to participate safely.

RELEASE AND MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

I have read the above Statement of Activities and I understand the nature and extent of the activities in which I (or my minor child or ward) will participate. I release and discharge the First Congregational Church of Ridgefield, its trustees, employees, agents, and all persons connected with H.O.M.E. from any and all liability, claims and causes of action of any type whatsoever arising out of, or in any way connected with, participation in the activities of H.O.M.E. and to indemnify and hold harmless such parties from any loss, claim or liability they may incur as a result of such participation.

I understand that it is the policy of the First Congregational Church to prohibit the use of drugs or alcohol during trips. Any use of drugs and/or alcohol will result in the immediate return home of my child at MY EXPENSE. I, or my designee, will be required to pick up my child for any behavior the leaders deem excessively disruptive to the group or the communities we visit. I have discussed this with my son/daughter and we are aware of the consequences and are willing to comply as stated.

Further, I give my permission (consent for my minor child or ward) to be treated by competent medical personnel as a result of any accident or medical emergency while involved in the activities of H.O.M.E. I understand that in the event of an emergency or non-emergency situation in which medical treatment is required as a result of participation in the H.O.M.E. project, every reasonable effort will be made to contact the persons listed on the reverse side. If the listed persons cannot be reached, I authorize the adult(s) accompanying me (or my minor child or ward) on the H.O.M.E. project to secure competent medical treatment for me (or my minor child or ward), including on the recommendation of qualified medical personnel, hospitalization, injections, anesthesia, or surgery.

I agree that my insurance company will be used for such medical care expenses and I acknowledge that I am responsible for any medical expenses not covered by my insurance. Date: _____.

I agree to allow any photos taken of me during, before, or at clean up of this trip to be used as promotional collateral at FCC, in the trip DVD, on the FCC website, and in any local News articles about the trip. Date: _____

Participant Signature/I certify I am 18 years of age or older

OR

Signature of Parent or Guardian of Minor Participant

Signature of Minor Participant