



HOLY SPIRIT PARISH
YOUTH MINISTRY

SERIOUSLY AWESOME CHWC HANDBOOK #1



2025



Catholic Heart Workcamp

Love. Serve. Connect. with CHWC this Summer

Their Mission:

To share the love of Christ as we serve the neglected, brokenhearted and the marginalized in any way needed.

Equally, to inspire participants to live as disciples of Christ through serving others as a way of life; and to foster the Catholic Faith of each participant through the sacraments, prayer and involvement in social service.

CHWC offers youth-friendly, Catholic short-term mission trips. We provide all you need for unforgettable experience. Catholic HEART Workcamp faithfully and enthusiastically serves the Catholic Church and its teachings, and is an excellent opportunity to “love the least of these”.



General Trip Over View

Basic Camp Schedule

- Saturday – travel time to camp
- Sunday afternoon is when we settle in at camp, receive worksite assignment, meet work group for the week and have first camp Mass
- Monday - Thursday are spent at worksites
- Friday is our free day/fun day, then we head home!
- Exact departure/arrival will be determined as we get closer.

Age Requisite

- Youth: Currently in 8th -12th grade
- Young Adult Leader: 18-20 years
- Adult Leader: 21+

Travel

- Travel is provided via Coach bus. If needed, we usually travel through the night and do not stop at hotels.
- Bus drivers are required stops/breaks every specific amount of time so that will be factored into the travel schedule.

Registration

- Registration can be done on the website: www.holyspirit-parish.org/chwc
- First come, first serve. When spots are gone, there will be a waiting list.
- Registration is complete when the online form is filled out **AND** the \$150 deposit is paid. Deposit required for waiting list as well.



Explanation of Accounting System

When a Camper registers, Holy Spirit creates an account in their system. All payments and funds raised will be reflected in this account. Statements are handed out at meetings prior to payment due dates. Fundraising may not yet be applied due to timing and accounting processes.

Cost Break Down

The cost includes the CHWC camp registration fee, bussing, t-shirts, free day activities and other miscellaneous expenses.

- Miscellaneous expenses include postage, copier paper, etc.
- The parish pays for the salaries and registration of the coordinators.

Tool Supply

A \$10 charge will be added per camper to cover the cost of tools. This is a change from bringing tools to be donated.

Scholarships

Our parishioners love supporting our CHWC missionaries, therefore we have a strong scholarship program. Campers must participate in fundraising opportunities to be eligible for up to 50% of total cost assistance. Application form given upon request. Holy Spirit parishioners eligible only.

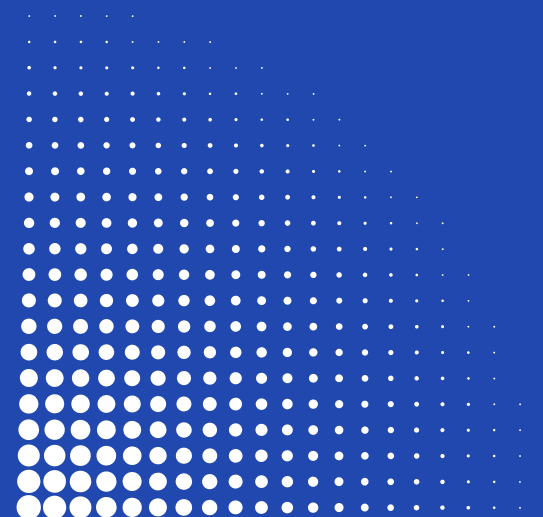
Scrip

Scrip can be used to help with cost of CHWC!

- Follow the QR code to the HSP website and enter a request for your scrip totals.
- When using Scrip as payment, note the amount on your payment slips.



holyspirit-parish.org/scrip-account-balance





Fundraising:

- It is our goal to allow each participant the opportunity to raise money to help cover the cost of the trip as much as possible.
- You may choose to raise all, part, or none of the monies needed.
- If you exceed the out-of-pocket cost of the trip via fundraising, the money will be left in your account for future camps, Youth Ministry activities, retreats, trips and other events, or can be donated to the scholarship program.
- Only money you pay out-of-pocket will be refunded to you; this includes your \$150 deposit. Any fundraised money will stay in the account.

Fundraisers:

Vande Wall's Candy Bars- Stop by the HSP Parish Office during the year and ask for a candy bar box(es). Pay \$80 per box and we put \$34 in your account. Sell candy bars for \$2 a piece.

Checks made out to Holy Spirit Parish

Poinsettia Sale- Starts in November

Easter Flower Sale - Sale is during Lent

Brat Fry's - run Saturdays in Mid-April through May

Flocking Flamingos- runs in May

Sample Cost Breakdown through Fundraisers

Poinsettia Sale: \$61

(sell 8 plants)

Easter Flower Sale: \$62

(sell 4 plants)

Candy Bars \$ 170

(sell 5 boxes of candy bars)

Brat Fry: \$125

(3 youth & 3 parent shifts)

Flocking Flamingos: \$198

(move flock three nights- max. available)

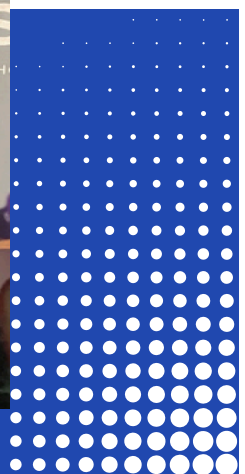
Scrip: \$100.00

Average Funds raised: \$716



Cancellation Policy:

- If you cancel at any time for any reason, the initial deposit of \$150 cannot be refunded.
- If you cancel after filling out the online CHWC application (typically filled out in late Feb/early March), no refund on money paid or fundraised will be made, even if a replacement is found. At this point, we will have paid CHWC for the student spot.
- If you cancel due to an illness (documented by physician note) or a death, a portion of the money paid *may* be refunded provided a replacement can be found.
- If you cancel at any time, fundraised money must be left in the account; it cannot be refunded.





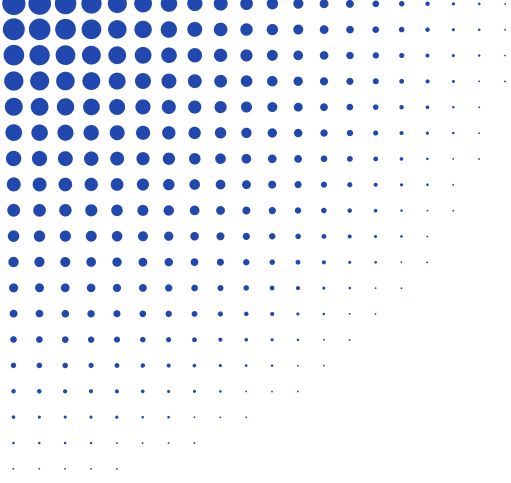
Expectations:

Expectations from the campers and parents:

- Parent/camper will attend meetings and, if cannot attend, notify YM and make arrangements to obtain missed material.
- Parent/Camper will have all paperwork and payments turned in by the due date to avoid late fees and office complications.
- Camper/Adult leader will attend pre-departure gathering (Build & Bond).
- Help with fundraising- several options available.
- Share your experience/excitement with others- be invitational so others may benefit from this life changing experience.
- If a camper has attended a trip before, they will be a positive role model and leader so they can continue to pass on the legacy of CHWC.

What you can expect from us:

- That we will work hard for you with your best interest always in mind.
- We will be organizing all other details of CHWC: t-shirts, advertisements, free-day, trip itinerary, payment details, mailings, accounts, chaperones, buses, working with CHWC, meetings, and so on.
- In regards to fundraising: we will try our hardest to be present at all events; we will meet and coordinate with the Chair People of each fundraiser and be involved where time and energy allows us to be.



Common Questions:

Where is free day?

Campers help vote for free day each year when we have multiple options! We will make that plan in the coming months, but it is a fun day. You also get to vote on t-shirt designs.

Where do we sleep?

Normally, in classrooms of the school that is considered home base. Sometimes they put us in other rooms like gyms or libraries.
SPECIFIC TO 2025 - Leave your air mattress at home! We will be staying in college dorm rooms: girls have 2 floors, boys have 1 floor.

Are there any cots to sleep on? How do we know what clothes to bring?

How much spending money do I need?

At the April meeting, we will provide a suggested packing list (You can also find it on our website), this includes clothing do's/don'ts and extras like air mattresses and other supplies plus packing/storage solutions (tips from the pro's!)

Does CHWC provide food?

Camp supplies 3 meals a day. They offer limited vegetarian options for most meals, and if you have other dietary restrictions, you are able to bring your own food. Please reach out to us if this is the case!

Do I need to be Catholic?

No, you do not. However, we attend Mass every day, offer the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and participate in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Being respectful and present during these times is part of being on the trip for everyone!

What kind of work will we be doing?

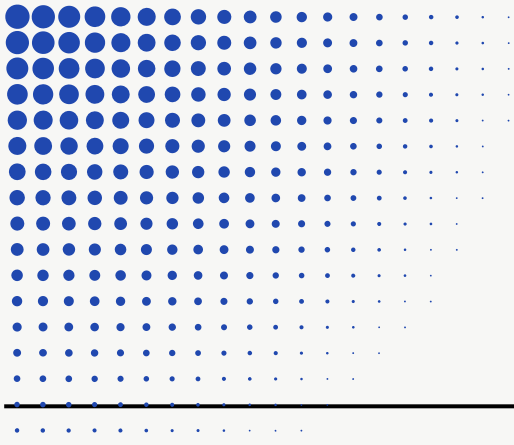
Service projects involve remodeling homes with interior and exterior painting, housecleaning, yard work, building ramps, and minor home repairs. Other service projects include assisting at day care centers for low income families, volunteering at homeless shelters, food distribution centers for the needy, and other non-profit centers for the poor and marginalized.

How are worksites selected?

CHWC works in cooperation with various agencies in each city to choose the sites and work projects. These agencies exist to improve the lives of low-income families, children and the elderly. Sites are chosen according to their need for repairs and assistance where teens and young adults can accomplish the work without requiring special skills. Troubleshooters are utilized to tackle more complicated projects. They will either complete the work themselves or instruct and guide the campers on how to complete the work. As Catholics, we are called to “serve the least of these.” We have a responsibility to help others, which in the case of CHWC includes the poor and middle class. Jesus constantly talked about helping and feeding the poor. CHWC hopes the service week will give campers an opportunity to grow in their Catholic faith. Many campers are able to learn more about God from the residents they serve. Some feel they have met God through a person in a low-income area. CHWC hopes campers can see the incredible generosity and hospitality from people who are considered “the least of these.”

What if I have no home repair experience?

As long as young people come with a servant’s attitude, there is no problem involving them in home repair projects. They match skills to projects. Young people are not asked to participate in projects they are not equipped to handle. There is plenty of work that needs to be done, such as painting, which takes little or no experience.



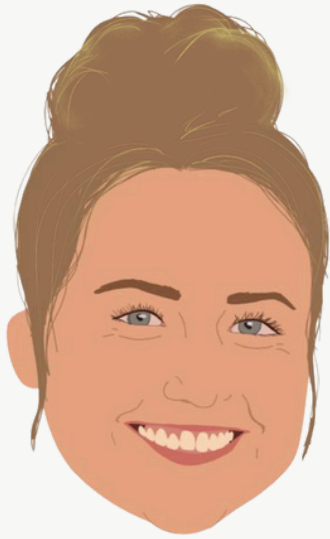
Who will be in my work group?

New relationships and friendships are formed with other people from around the country within your work group. This is one of the beautiful aspects of the HEART Workcamp. Most work teams consist of seven members. There is free time each afternoon and evening for the young people to socialize with their own group members. Adult Leaders will each have a group of teens and potentially another adult. All young adults will be in workgroups with others aged 18-21.

How is safety maintained?

CHWC's bottom line is the safety of its campers. As a service organization, this is their top priority in choosing which communities we will be involved with. Each worksite will have at least one adult per small work group. No camper under 18 years old will be allowed to use power tools. Adults who have experience using power tools may use them at the worksites. Every participant is asked to bring protective safety gear and wear closed-toe shoes. Campers are encouraged to bring a water bottle with them in preparation for hot weather and manual labor, and they are allowed frequent breaks. Home repair projects are well organized and prepared. First-aid kits and emergency care instructions are available at every worksite. Medical facilities are located a short distance from every site. Every safety precaution is exercised to produce a safe and injury-free atmosphere. Unfortunately, no neighborhood is 100% safe, secure, and free of crime. CHWC's policy is to remove work teams from the worksite if they do not feel comfortable. In some cases, teams may choose to finish their work project if the whole team feels comfortable enough to do so. CHWC will contact the local police when we have work teams in neighborhoods that have a high crime rate. CHWC does not send campers to places where there is a clear risk of violence, crime, danger or deemed unsafe. CHWC does not haphazardly send teens into unsafe neighborhoods.

Meet Your Team:



Alex Moehn

Assistant Youth Minister

- moehna@holyspirit-parish.org
- 920-585-6366...texts are great!

Sarah Elmer

Director of Youth Ministry

- elmers@holyspirit-parish.org
- 920-450-6440...texts are great!



Find Us Online:

Website

holyspirit-parish.org/chwc

Social Media

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/CHWCholyspiritparish>

Updates and contact from us:

Once registered, we will add you to our Flocknote to receive quick updates and reminders. Most communication will also be through the e-mail address you provide.



Dates:

**DON'T
FORGET!**

Please contact us if you cannot attend a meeting. Please be timely with payment and form return. If hardship, please let us know.

THERE WILL BE A \$25 LATE FEE FOR FORMS AND/OR PAYMENTS TURNED IN PAST DUE DATE

March 4

MEETING

5:30pm and 7:00pm

- YM Rooms. 2nd Floor of the Kimberly 4k Center. Door 10-W
- Lots of Forms & Fundraisers to cover, account statements

March 13

\$355 Payment and forms due

- PayPal via Holy Spirit website
- Check- make out to 'Holy Spirit Parish'
- Form return in gray drop box located at Holy Spirit Parish Center - Kimberly

May 7

MEETING

5:30, 6:45 and 8pm

- YM Rooms. 2nd Floor of the Kimberly 4k Center. Door 10-W
- Packing, final details, fundraisers, account statements

May 16

\$355 Payment and forms due

- PayPal via Holy Spirit website
- Check- make out to 'Holy Spirit Parish'
- Form return in gray drop box located at Holy Spirit Parish Center - Kimberly

****BUILD AND BOND FOR ALL CAMPERS/LEADERS TBA IN JULY****