



Changing Lives - Transforming Community

Life in the Inner City

Since the 1960s, inner-city neighborhoods across America have witnessed appalling heights in poverty, crime, and drug use. At the same time, these neighborhoods have seen jobs disappear, housing deteriorate, and essential services slip out of reach. Families are fractured, children drop out of school, and churches have left for the suburbs. This unspeakable decline in the standard of living has left urban communities crying for help in a cloud of despair.

Urban Ministry Teams (UMTs)

Urban Ministry Teams (UMTs) are one way HOPE responds to the cry for help. UMTs consist of various groups from around the country, such as youth groups (college and high schools), deacons, and church leaders, who are mobilized for a seven-day immersion in Christian community development. The team emphasizes issues concerning racial reconciliation, justice, and holistic ministry to socio-economically distressed communities.

This is facilitated through hands-on interaction with the community through work projects and strategic interactions with our neighbors to address pressing economic concerns within the community. Serving on one of these teams is an exercise in learning to love and come alongside low-income families. It gives you a vision for racial reconciliation, equips you for urban ministry, and allows you to experience joyful worship in the heart of Chattanooga's inner city.

Transforming Lives

Because we believe that lives are changed and communities are transformed by the life and love of Jesus Christ, HOPE seeks to minister to the inner city in two main ways:

- Engagement: meeting people's emergency needs
- Economic Development: moving people from dependency toward more excellent economic stability

Not only is serving on a UMT an opportunity to be part of the transforming work of Christ in the lives of people in the inner city, but you also need to gain a clearer picture of urban poverty, develop a more profound love for the Lord Jesus, and hear a louder call to serve God's kingdom. Hear God's word through Micah 6:8

*"He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?"*



Urban Ministry Team Details

Group Requirements

- Junior High and above
- One adult for every five teenagers
- Group leaders must be present with the group at all times.
- Must be at least one male and one female for mixed-gender activities
- Adequate transportation for your group; vans are recommended.

Typical Schedule

- Saturday: Teams arrive in the evening for check-in and greeting.
- Sunday: Worship at New City Fellowship, orientation, and fellowship meal.
- Monday through Friday:
 - Breakfast and morning devotionals, work projects review
 - Lunch onsite or at work site lunch
 - Supper and daily evening wrapup.
 - Friday evening is available to see the highlights of Chattanooga.
- Saturday: Leave in the morning.

Accommodations

- HFIC will house participants within our facility, with a partner organization, or with a local church family
- Pillows and blankets/sleeping bags are required; an air mattress is strongly recommended.

Meals

- HFIC provides meals Monday through Friday afternoons. These consist of six breakfast meals, five lunches, and five dinner meals.
- HFIC does not provide a Friday night meal or any Saturday meals, and we also do not provide snack foods.
- HFIC is not liable for participants who handle or consume foods to which they are allergic. Please communicate any medical issues BEFORE you arrive.
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Fees & Registration

- Booking Fee: \$350 This fee is non-refundable but transferable due to extenuating circumstances.
- Individual Participant Fee: \$450 per participant.
- We offer two payment options: 50% due one month before arrival.
- Final payment is due the day of your arrival.