

Mission Possible III – Media & Fact Sheet

Who we are: Wallingford's Most Holy Trinity Church formed a Mission Ministry in 2015. As Wallingford's largest Catholic parish, *Mission Possible Team* completed two successful trips to:

- ✚ 2015 - Refurbish and open a Catholic school in Appalachia
- ✚ 2016 - Provide disaster relief & home reconstruction in NY
- ✚ 2017 – Provide disaster relief in NJ

How did this mission start? In Fall 2014, Fr. Powers visited *Most Holy Trinity Church* to appeal for help in a region overwhelmed by poverty, isolation and despair. A parishioner, Sergio Sensini, approached Father Walsh and Christine Mansfield with an idea for a mission trip. A committee formed, and faith in action launched!

When are we going? Trip Dates: August 13th – August 17th

Where exactly are we going?

The 2017 trip travels to Ocean County, New Jersey to support homes ravaged by Hurricane Sandy in 2012. As resources dwindle and time elapses, our team partners again with **St. Bernard's Project**, an award winning non –profit organization formed to help every person recover from the disaster. Our team partners with the New Jersey chapter, based at Camp Evans, Wall Township.



Why partner? St. Bernard Project successfully leads national disaster recovery across the U.S. and shares lessons learned, prevents common barriers to recovery, and standardizes a sustainable and effective vertically integrated model for disaster recovery. Victims represent low- to moderate-income residents, and consist of families with small children, the elderly, disabled persons, veterans, and under- and uninsured persons.

Why Rebuild?

Although Hurricane Sandy hit the Atlantic coast five years ago, 100 homes remain destroyed or unbuilt. St. Bernard's Project is one of two organizations remaining to help the last return home.



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What will our volunteers do?

Volunteers travel to a house, which accommodates 8-12 volunteers at a time.

- Provides flexibility and well-supervised work sites, with onsite AmeriCorps members at all times to oversee construction, answer questions, and provide background about SBP and homeowners
- Engages volunteers in a variety of activities, i.e. drywall and door installation, mudding, flooring etc.

What is a typical Volunteer Day?

AmeriCorps' site supervisors train and guide unskilled volunteers and provide safety equipment. A sample day:

9:00 am	Volunteers Arrive/Orientation	12:30 pm	Lunch (Church provides)
9:30 am	Travel to Construction Site	4:00 pm	Clean/Wrap Up
9:45 am	Meet Site Supervisors	4:30 pm	Goodbye
10:00 am	Safety Briefing and Training		

Trip Cost:

- Application and \$100 non-refundable deposit, which includes SBP donation, travel food, Team T-Shirt
- Adults over age 18 are invited to apply to travel.
- Successful completion of the Archdiocese of Hartford *Virtus* program and background check

What is covered with the \$100 fee & Parish donations:

- *Lodging:* 4 night stay at historic SBP, *Camp Evans*, (2201 Marconi Road, Wall Township, NJ), a former Army base with dormitory accommodations (mattresses, bunk beds and showers), onsite kitchen and convenience stores nearby.
- *Transportation:* Church provides van transportation, with group leaving after 9 a.m. Mass August 13th, and returning by dinner, August 17th.
- *Meals:* Trip includes meals for breakfast, bagged lunches, and dinner from August 13th – August 17th.
- *Safety Equipment & Training:* Partners SBP and AmeriCorps provide onsite training and safety equipment.

Fundraising: Donations are accepted to defray the trip costs and support the disaster relief program.

Thank you to the many parish friends who generously donated and supported the Irish Dinner this year and previous Pasta Dinners.

Marketing: Follow Mission Possible updates at:

- *WebSite Page:* <http://www.mhtwallingford.org/MinistriesGroups/MissionTrip.aspx>
- *Twitter:* @MHTMissionPossible
- *Facebook:* @Most Holy Trinity Church Mission Possible

Contacts:

- **Volunteer information & Parish Contact:** Father Walsh, 68 North Colony Street, Wallingford, CT 06492, Phone: (203) 269-8791 Fax: (203) 269-0880; htrectory@snet.net
- **Questions:** Christine Mansfield @ 203-623-0278 or cmansfield@discoverytrain.com
Bob Hyland @ bodger@snet.net
Sergio Sensini @ 203-606-9255 or ssensini@ulbrich.com