

Information for Parents about YouthWorks Green Bay

Who is YouthWorks?

YouthWorks is a youth mission organization created to serve youth, communities and the church. It is a multi-denominational ministry that provides youth with a life-changing experience by allowing them to be the hands and feet of Christ and to see God move in a new way. The mission trip opens their eyes to both situations and relationships in different communities and allows them to serve side by side with their peers, learn from leaders and deepen their relationship with Jesus.

For the last fifteen years, YouthWorks has partnered with thousands of churches to provide week-long mission trips to communities across the U.S., Mexico, Puerto Rico and Canada. In this last summer alone, over 38,000 youth and adult leaders from over 2,000 churches went on YouthWorks mission trips!

Tell me about Green Bay.

Established in 1634 on the shores of Lake Michigan, Green Bay is the oldest settlement in the Midwest. Both Native American and European influences have made the city what it is today—a melting pot of tradition and culture. Perhaps the city's proudest tradition in recent history is that of its beloved NFL football team, the Green Bay Packers. Each year, fans pack the grounds of Lambeau Field, often in freezing temperatures, to cheer on their team with great excitement. The city welcomes visitors to ride the rails at the National Railroad Museum or experience Native American culture at the Oneida Nation Museum. Green Bay has often been rated one of the most family-friendly cities by many national surveys, which is perhaps just one reason that 102,726 people call it home today. Green Bay's frequent recognition for low crime and low cost of living tend to mask the fact that there still are many families in need here. Over 10 percent of the population lives below the poverty line, including nearly 13 percent of those under age 18 and 9 percent over age 65. Local homeless shelters serve an average of over 300 people per day, mostly children.

What happens during a typical YouthWorks day?

Youth will assist in meal preparations, participate in personal devotion time, work at the various ministry sites, experience fun and cultural evening activities and engage in a "Club time" that includes worship, games, skits and a talk. The ministry work incorporates a variety of opportunities to minister to the community of Green Bay, whether through serving children, visiting the elderly, and assisting local ministry organizations.

Safety is our top priority.

YouthWorks sets up safe sites in which youth can do real ministry and encounter God. Each site is run by four well-trained, organized staff. Each person is certified in CPR and First Aid. The staff lives in the community all summer long creating relationships and becoming very familiar with the area. Our "rule of three" is set up to ensure that your teenager will never be anywhere alone or without a supervising adult. We also require that each adult leader attending the mission trip (from all groups that attend) has had a background check completed on them within the last three years. Additional rules and boundaries will be explained on site by our staff to ensure that each person knows specific ways to accomplish a safe and meaningful mission trip.

**There is also a page on the YouthWorks website that has been created just for you!
Go to www.youthworks.com and click on the "parents" tab to learn even more about YouthWorks.**

