

IMPORTANT NOTICE
37th ANNUAL
BALTIMORE COUNTY CHRISTIAN WORKCAMP
July 20-24, 2020

The 2020 Baltimore County Christian Workcamp (BCCW) will be conducted as scheduled. The BCCW, an all-volunteer led organization, hosts a one-week Workcamp every July, where volunteers of all ages -- both skilled and unskilled -- work together in teams to provide services to the needy in Baltimore County. And, there are many individuals and families who need our home repairs and assistance again this year.

However, due to the continuing effects of COVID-19, there will be many changes as to how we operate in order to keep both our volunteers and the people we serve safe and healthy. Most notably, **we will be only performing tasks that can be done outside the homes** with suggested smaller teams of up to six, but most certainly no more than 10 volunteers.

In addition, there will be no large gatherings of volunteers. So, unfortunately, our usual Sunday evening auction, orientation, and kick-off dinner will not be held; and we will not be providing breakfast, food for preparation of lunch, or dinner each day, as has always been our tradition.

Our present guidelines for the 2020 BCCW are provided below. Please take the time to read them before you decide whether or not you wish to volunteer this summer.

If you have any personal concerns, especially regarding health issues related to COVID-19, we strongly encourage you **not** to volunteer with BCCW this year. Also, if you have or have had any symptoms of this virus over the previous two weeks or believe you may have been in contact with someone who does, please do **not** endanger others by volunteering. Of course, if you have volunteered, do not show up if you have any symptoms or believe you have been exposed to anyone in July.

If you have any interest or decide to volunteer, please start by sending an email to bcchristianworkcamp@comcast.net, providing your name, phone number, Zip Code in which you reside, what day(s) (or the whole week) you can volunteer, and any related skills you may have or preferred type of work. If you hope to volunteer as a team, only one person should send the email, providing the information for the other members.

We ask that you send your email as soon as you can. In past years, we have been able to accommodate all volunteers, even those who just show up on a particular work day. But, this year there obviously are limitations on the number of viable outside sites and the number of volunteers who can serve safely on each site. Therefore, we may not be able to provide a work site for all who wish to volunteer. Thus, we need to know in advance of those who would like to volunteer so we can try and coordinate their participation.

Once the email is received, further information will be provided to you about the next steps to take in order to volunteer this summer. We will work with you to try to determine an appropriate work site.

Please read all the additional 2020 BCCW guidelines below, before making a final decision to volunteer:

- The Workcamp will only be working on outside projects (including ramps) where enough space is available to provide proper social distancing most of the time.
- Since we will not be entering the homes, nearby public restrooms will need to be used during the day.
- The intention is to conduct the work during the scheduled dates, July 20-24. However, allowance might be made if a team wants to perform work sometime in the fall.
- All volunteer fees will be waived for the 2020 BCCW.
- Volunteers are strongly encouraged to wear masks on the work site and use liquid soap/hand sanitizer regularly, and frequently, drying with paper towels.
- If a volunteer is experiencing any symptoms of COVID-19 or has been in contact with anyone who has COVID-19 in July, they should not volunteer.
- If appropriate, tools used by more than one person may need to be sanitized at the end of the day.
- Work teams will be smaller than six volunteers in most cases -- unless it can be determined that the space available at a particular site would allow a limited number of extra volunteers to also work safely – but certainly no more than 10.
- As always, if a volunteer, at any time, does not feel safe on a worksite – for whatever reason, health related or otherwise – they should leave immediately and notify a BCCW leader.
- We realize that many projects will take longer due to the various safety precautions.
- It would be best if volunteers attempt to put together their own teams. However, if they volunteer as individuals, we will do our best to place them on a team. Under the circumstances, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Please stay safe and healthy during this difficult time.