

World Vision Family Vision Trip 2004

Purpose:

To unite the family in service to others, corporate worship, cross cultural experience and fun activities.

Sponsors:

World Vision and its Vision Appalachia Ministry Partners — World Servants and Appalachia Community CARE (ACC)

Trip Dates:

June 13th thru June 19th

August 1st thru August 7th

Where:

Philippi West Virginia

For:

Families

Cost:

\$350 per person

\$175 (Ages 3 to 9)

No Cost for children under 3

Cost Covers:

- All meals
- Housing
- T-shirt
- Worship & Devotional Materials
- Cross-Cultural Mission Training
- Project Set-Up and Staffing
- Community Set-Up and Leadership Development

Cost Does **NOT** Cover Travel to and from West Virginia

Here's What We Are Planning:

Construction and Ministry Projects:

- Construction/Completion of Recreational/ Community Facilities throughout Appalachia and Chestnut Ridge Communities (North-central West Virginia)
- Children and Youth Outreach Opportunities
- Community Tours and Activities

Other Events:

- Family Focused Program Activities
- Community Cook-Out and Celebration
- Wednesday "Day-Off" which allows your family to visit various spots throughout West Virginia
- Worship at a Local Church

Family Registration



Please Complete and send with your trip deposit to:

Appalachia Family Vision Adventure
ATTN: Maria Haines
34834 Weyerhaeuser Way South
Federal Way, WA 98063-9716

Trip date: **August 1-7 2004**

Family name _____

Family Members _____ Age/ Gender M or F

Family Members	Age/ Gender M or F
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Address _____

City _____

State _____ zip _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone: Home _____

Office _____

Fax _____

Mobile _____

Have you ever been on a mission trip before? _____

Location of that trip? _____

How did you hear about this trip? _____

Costs & Deposit

To reserve your family's place in the 2004 Vision Trip, please give a deposit of \$25 per family member. The total cost is:

\$350 per person

\$175 (Ages 3 to 9)

No charge for children under 3

Cost Covers:

- **All meals**
- **Housing**
- **T-shirt**
- **Worship & Devotional Materials**
- **Project and Program Set-Up and Staffing**
- **Community Set-Up and Leadership Development**

Cost Does **NOT** Cover Travel to and from West Virginia or Day Off Activities

The entire amount will be due by June 1, 2004. If for some reason your family needs to cancel your registration fees will be refundable according to the following schedule:

Date	
March 1 2004	75% refund
May 1, 2004	50% refund
June 1, 2004	Full amount Due no refund

You may pay via check or credit card. If via credit card please call World Vision 1.253/815-2698.

Orientation Materials

Prior to joining us in Appalachia, we will provide you with reading materials and activities that you and family can use to help prepare for your week in Appalachia. These will enhance your experience. In fact, we've found that there is a world of difference between families that have taken time to orient themselves to where they are going and those who have not. Topics include:

- Team Building
- Cultural Differences
- Cross-Cultural Communication
- Conflict Management
- Story-Telling
- Debriefing
- Re-Entry



ABOUT APPALACHIA

Appalachia is a 200,000-mile-square region that follows the spine of the Appalachian Mountains from southern New York to northern Mississippi. The Region is large – 399 counties in 13 states, including all of West Virginia and parts of 12 other states: Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, and Virginia.

The region's culture has been greatly influenced by geographic isolation. Pioneering spirited Europeans followed in the footsteps of Native Americans to forge homes in remote hollows and built communities along unknown streams and rivers. Although the region's original settlers represent the Dutch, Irish, English and some French, the largest groups in number and influence were the Germans and the Scot-Irish.

The culture's history represents a fascinating combination of the American experience but is often stereotyped today because of this heritage: dialects, specific rural lifestyle and subsistence agriculture, godlessness or godliness, family feuds, excessive parental affection, industrial work, exploitation of labor, organized resistance of workers to exploitation, and a severe lack of resources.

What many people do not realize is that Appalachia includes thriving cities such as Pittsburgh and Birmingham and is contiguous to Atlanta, Cincinnati and other major cities. On the other hand, of the 406 counties in the Appalachian region, well over half of them are rural and over 25 percent of them are termed distressed by the Appalachian Regional Commission. Thirty-two percent of the population resides in these rural counties—compared to 15% in the total U.S. population living in rural counties. The majority of the population is white; 7.3% are African American and less than 1% are Native Americans.

Most of the people who live in Appalachia are descended from strong, independent, and hard-working individuals. In the last 30 years, there has been a painful break with the past, as industries that once produced good jobs are gone. In many cases, nothing has come to replace the lost opportunities for employment. These economic challenges are the reason your help is needed in Appalachia. The focus of World Vision is to bring a "hand up" and the message that our Lord means for all of us to live a full and abundant life. Thank you for helping us accomplish our goals.

Brief History of the Ministry of Chestnut Ridge

In 1959, Rev. Frank Peoples, a gifted African American pastor and traveling evangelist, moved to Barbour County and began a ministry that continued 37 years, ending with his death in 1996. During his ministry, he established a community church, led installation of a public water system, and began to address the community's most pressing needs.

In 1980, Ruston Seaman, hitch hiking through the Black Hills of South Dakota, was given a ride and lodging by Rev. Peoples. Ruston subsequently moved to West Virginia with Rev. Peoples and began his ministry as children's pastor at Peoples Chapel Church. In 1982, a small athletic committee from Chestnut Ridge contacted World Vision and requested funding to build a basketball court in the community to provide for some positive activities. A third of the money was raised within the community, a third by a local college group, and a third came from World Vision. In the summer of 1983, the Pender United Methodist Church of Fairfax, VA sent its first team to help the community build the basketball court. The Pender Church, to the present day, has stayed involved with the community ministry.

One successful project gave rise to another, and World Vision was asked to help support the development of a community coop store and later a portable saw mill enterprise. World Vision provided the seed money for these ministries, as well as the technical help for the first non-profit community organization to be formed.

In 1990, the co-op store evolved into Appalachian Community CARE, a child and youth outreach ministry, instilling Christ, hope, and leadership in the youth of Chestnut Ridge and surrounding areas. In 1992 and 1993, World Servants, an international short-term mission organization, joined with ACC to construct the Chestnut Ridge Community Center. In 1994, Ruston and Donna Seaman were married and became the Appalachian directors for World Servants. By directing the energies of 1,200 volunteers each summer, the process of expanding community center development has emerged as a powerful model for ministry.

In 1996, the Community Center burned down due to an electrical fire. The facility was rebuilt and is slated for completion in the summer of 2002. With Rev. Peoples death in 1996, a fund was established for the construction of a Family Life Recreation Center for the community. To date, \$30,000 has been raised and the project is slated to begin in the summer of 2002.

In 1998, World Vision, World Servants and ACC entered into a formal partnership that is known as Vision Appalachia. A brief description of the partnership is included in this packet. Your mission team will be joining forces with other churches and local community members to help bring this vision into reality. You will be playing a critical role in the Community Transformation process of the Chestnut Ridge Community.

In 1999, the Storehouse of Vision Appalachia was launched as a ministry of World Vision to bring resources [building materials, personal care items, school supplies] into the hands of the people in the region.

In 2000, the employees of World Vision selected Vision Appalachia to be the employee campaign ministry of choice for that year, raising resources and awareness of World Vision's commitment to ministry in America.

In 2001, Greg Croston became the first missionary from the community traveling to Peru and Paraguay. World Vision helped raise the support so Greg could be hired by ACC to become the first Youth Outreach Workers hired as a member of the new Vision Youth strategy being deployed across the country.

In the area of recreation and discipleship, the first pilot project of a World Vision short-term mission trip was facilitated by World Servants in the Brownton Community of Barbour County in the summer of 2001.

Vision Appalachia's Community Transformation Initiative

Strategy of the Ministry

Your family will come alongside the leaders in the Chestnut Ridge community of West Virginia, to share in holistic ministry. Vision Appalachia is focused on helping small communities; churches and their leaders develop significant and relevant Christ-centered outreach ministries that address the spiritual, educational, physical, social and financial needs of the communities being served.

The Appalachian Community Transformation Initiative is a community-based ministry strategy that seeks to address the long-term and systemic causes of hopelessness in small rural communities suffering the adverse effects of insufficient physical and financial capital to effect change. Building on fifty years of experience in rural communities around the world, World Vision and the ministry partners of Vision Appalachia have created a dynamic and synergistic ministry of developing community leaders equipped to meet the needs within their neighborhood. One significant part of this strategy is to engage churches from across the country in short-term mission projects that build long-term partnerships to advance the kingdom of God in Appalachia.

The challenge of reversing cycles of decay and hopelessness in small communities requires the joining of community leaders from the neighborhood with energized volunteers from churches across the country. Together, these leaders can accomplish things that would not be possible otherwise. World Vision's Vision Trip 2004 is calling groups together as did Nehemiah of old to rebuild the wall of the city. In this case, we are calling others to help build ministry facilities and to encourage the leaders and future leaders of the Chestnut Ridge community.

Vision of the Ministry

During six weeks of ministry in the summer of 2004, our goal is to recruit, train and deploy 400 volunteers of varying ages and experience from a variety of congregations around the country to build a Family Life Recreation Center and complete the construction of the Chestnut Ridge community center. This initiative will complete the fourth stage of development for the community; the final stage slated for 2004 is a job creation center. The Vision Appalachia office is located in the community, and the completion of the projects will mark the twenty-year anniversary of World Vision's commitment to the Appalachian ministry. During the mission week, a variety of specialized children and youth outreach ministries will take place including sports camps, outdoor concerts, community gatherings and bible clubs for kids.