



Diocesan WorkCamp is only one week each summer but preparations begin 14 months before that. There is a significant need for financial donations to help cover the rising costs of building materials. We also need many adult volunteers prior to WorkCamp and during the week. Please consider supporting WorkCamp and the young people of the Diocese of Arlington.



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*Your generous contributions to the Bishop's
Lenten Appeal make WorkCamp possible.*



WorkCamp is...

Since 1990, the Catholic Diocese of Arlington has had the privilege of sponsoring a one week high school youth WorkCamp for repairing and improving residences in rural counties within the Diocese. WorkCamp has assisted hundreds of residents in the Blue Ridge/ Piedmont, Northern Neck, and Spotsylvania areas.

Warmer, Safer, Drier

The focus of the work during the week is to make residents' homes warmer, safer, and drier. A few examples of the work we perform include building wheelchair ramps, replacing windows, installing new doors and floors, and replacing roofs. Smoke detectors and Carbon Monoxide detectors are installed in each home that needs them.

Community Support

Local social service agencies, churches, and other community organizations recommend the projects to us. A "doable" project for us must be within the WorkCamp area of expertise, financial resources, and time frame. Over \$300,000 of supplies, materials, and food are purchased in the region each year to support this program.

No Strings

There is no cost to the resident. In an effort to respect the privacy and dignity of those we serve, we do not institute income eligibility requirements. We are eager to serve all who are in need regardless of religious affiliation, race, physical ability, or income level.

Volunteering

Approximately 800 high school teens from the Diocese are divided into crews of five and perform work closely supervised by dedicated adult leaders and volunteer contractors. Those volunteering as contractors are adults who have expertise in home repair and may include licensed contractors. Each young person must finance his or her participation by raising approximately \$500 through group fundraising activities at their home churches. We also need volunteers to serve at our homebase facility throughout the week of WorkCamp.

Contact your parish WorkCamp Stakeholder if you would like to volunteer at WorkCamp!

Sharing

A key element of WorkCamp is the interaction the young people have with the residents throughout the week. On the last day of WorkCamp, the residents are invited to join the crew that worked on their house for lunch and to share the experience of the week. This Celebration Day takes place at the WorkCamp homebase.

Homebase for WorkCamp is usually a local school made available through the generosity of the local school district. The teens and adults eat and sleep at homebase and attend programs in the evenings designed to strengthen their spirituality and share the day's experiences.

One Week in Early Summer

WorkCamp is usually the first week after schools in the DC Metro area begin summer break. Groups arrive early on Saturday evening. After a Sunday of team building and (more) safety training, the crews fan out on Monday morning for four days of repair and improvement to the homes in the surrounding communities. On Friday, we prepare to greet the residents for Celebration Day!

