

OHIO IMPACT/HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRIES GO TEAM 2019
GO Team Member Application Deadline: Thursday, February 21, 2019
GO Team Leader Application Deadline: Thursday, February 14, 2019
Approximate Trip Dates: July 14-20, 2019
Trip ID# OH0719



IMPACT

Purpose: On the shores of Lake Erie, about 15 miles west of Cleveland, sits the beautiful and unique Lorain County. As a blue-collar working county built on the backs of steel workers and shipbuilders, this is an area that finds deep pride in its rich history. Drawn by a surplus of jobs in the early 1900's, individuals from all over the world settled in to call Lorain County home. This created a beautifully diverse community that is still very present today.

However, as changes began to take place in these different industries, jobs began to dry up leaving several challenges in its wake. As families scrambled to find employment, basic needs such as adequate food and shelter proved hard to meet. Lorain County suffered another hit in 2008, when the country faced its greatest financial crisis since the Great Depression. Across the U.S. savings were lost, jobs disappeared, and poverty swelled. Lorain County was especially affected as Lorain's poverty rate jumped by a third, claiming 33.7% of all county residents.

In 2013, Next Step began a relationship with Lorain County after a local pastor extended the invitation to be a part of the community restoration effort that was taking place. Next Step's work here is led by local organizations who are working day in and day out to serve their community holistically. In partnership with Neighborhood Alliance's Senior Meal Delivery Program, Next Step students are able to offer home repair assistance to senior citizens throughout the county. We quickly recognized that home repair is just a platform to form deep and genuine relationships rooted in the love of Christ. Many seniors struggle with feelings of isolation and loneliness. When they open their door for construction work to be done, we see it as an open door to show the love of Christ in a way that offers hope and dignity.

Next Step students will also have the opportunity to serve alongside several local churches and organizations in community projects and outreach as part of the beautiful restoration process taking place in Lorain County. Every person you meet, nail you hammer, and organization you work with, is an opportunity to come alongside the momentum taking place in Lorain. A momentum of renewal and hope.

Next Step Ministries is committed to building long term relationships with each community they are in. This will be our 10th year partnering with Next Step Ministries.

Trip Dates: The trip will take place July 14 - 20, 2019.

Team Members: The team will consist of High School students and adult leaders. Please know that team space is limited - applying does not guarantee acceptance on this trip.

Application: Please submit the application online by February 21, 2019. By Friday, March 8 we hope to email all applicants notification regarding your acceptance on the trip. At that time we will ask you to read and return a Team Covenant regarding your conduct on the trip, dates of mandatory team meetings and stating your commitment to the team.

Cost of Trip: Each participant will have an individual support raising goal of approximately \$600-670. We will work as a team to cover the cost of this trip. The team leader will help students raise funds through support letters that can be sent to parents, extended family, friends, co-workers, teachers, coaches etc. The team support raising deadline is June 14; 50% of funds will need to be turned in by May 10.

Meetings: The team will have pre-trip meetings, a team day and a post-trip Show and Tell. Team members are required to attend all meetings. While we understand unavoidable conflicts may occur, we do expect team members to prioritize these meetings as a key part of your commitment to the team and preparation for the trip. Please see team dates below.

- Meeting #1 - Sunday, March 10, 2:30-4:30pm at Blackhawk Brader Way (Parents & Students for first hour, student only for second hour)
- Meeting #2 - Wednesday, June 12, 6:00pm - 9:00pm (Team Day/Tool Training)
- Leader Meeting - Either evening on July 11th or early morning of July 14th.

- Meeting #4 – Sunday, July 28, 11:00 am at Blackhawk Brader Way (Show and Tell – date and time subject to confirmation)

Questions:

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