



March 3, 2011

Dear Youth and Youth Leaders!

In 2011, Carolina Cross Connection was able to help meet the needs of 695 families in North Carolina. 1,290 campers worked, played, and worshipped during 4 camp weeks at 5 different camps. On Friday night at the end of every camp week, each of our campers was challenged to take what they had learned at camp back home with them. We want to help youth groups and churches to do that very thing!

REGIONAL IMPACT DAYS

In order to help keep the lesson of loving others as God loved us alive and in action, CCC has started Regional Impact Days. Carolina Cross Connection is very excited to be joining churches together to reach out to communities in need by proving what we say we believe with what we do. Our first Regional Impact Day, held on January 8 in Concord, was a huge success! In spite of the cold and snow, we were able to bring together 150 volunteers representing 7 Cabarrus & Rowan County churches to serve 23 families and agencies!



Our next Regional Impact Day will be on Saturday, May 14, 2011 in Asheville. This day is designed to get the youth of our churches volunteering in their own communities, identifying a need, and tackling it head-on. The service projects might be different at each church. Do your youth want to build a wheelchair ramp or would they prefer to visit the elderly in a nursing home? Or maybe they want to cook and serve a meal at a homeless shelter. Whatever it is that your youth have a passion for, we encourage them to get out there and pursue it.

MAKE AN IMPACT!

CCC is excited about this new extension of our ministry. We hope this endeavor will help the youth of your church practice our CCC motto, "Faith in Action... Love in Person". We also hope that by helping to keep your youth engaged that they will be more likely to participate in CCC for the summer of 2011, whether they have been previously or not, and that they will bring a friend as well. If you have any questions about our Regional Impact Day or want to register your youth group for a CCC camp week for the summer of 2011, please contact us!

God Bless,

Kate Highsmith
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Carolina Cross Connection

Regional Impact Day • Asheville, NC • May 14, 2011

HOW IT WORKS

The plan is simple. Multiple churches in a community will each carry out one or more service projects on Saturday, May 14th. On Saturday morning, youth and adults will meet at the church for a time of devotion that we at CCC call “Morning Watch” (a morning watch has been included in this packet to be photocopied and distributed to each participant). After their devotional time groups will learn where they will be working that day. As small groups or as one large group (depending on the service project your church selects), you go into the community and carry out your service project. After a hard, fun, and rewarding day’s work, groups meet back at one host church in the community. We suggest a simple meal, like pizza or hotdogs, is served- lots of bonding and reflection occurring during this time. After dinner, the large group moves into a time of celebration through sharing and worship. An outline of how to facilitate sharing effectively is also included in this packet. It is usually easy to transition from sharing into a time of worship through songs and prayer. An outline of a relevant worship is included. Feel free to use it or to create your own. However, at CCC we strongly believe that it is our God that deserves praise and glory for all that He allows us to accomplish, so please don’t skip this most important aspect of the day.

WHAT CCC PROVIDES

CCC wants to help equip and support you, so that you can focus on identifying needs and getting out into the community. To that end, we will supply the following:

- Connections to and/or suggestions of service projects.
- Training and guidance for setting up the projects, including preliminary planning, sample plans, and checklists.
- Devotional materials for the youth leaders in each church
- Materials to guide you in facilitating the youth and adult volunteers to share about the day’s experiences
- An outline for a closing worship celebration, led by the host church.
- Other resources including suggested checklist and timeline.

WHAT YOU PROVIDE

You would be in charge of coordinating your project(s), raising any funds that might be necessary to complete them, making sure you have enough tools and supplies, and working out transportation. The project you choose is up to you! It can be based on home repairs, service, personal interaction, or anything else. We encourage to choose projects which fit the passion and skills of your group. If desired, CCC may be able to help you locate projects and people in need of assistance. We also challenge youth group to partner with a church in your community that has not attended CCC and help

get them involved in this exciting opportunity. You will also be in charge of deciding how you will handle breakfast and/or lunch for your volunteers. As far as ages and who is eligible to participate -- that's up to you! CCC's regular summer ministry is open to rising 8th graders up to adults, but since the projects for Regional Impact Day are led by you, it is your responsibility (and the policies of your church) to decide which ages are appropriate for your purposes.

WHAT THE HOST CHURCH PROVIDES

The host church for the Asheville Regional Impact Day will be Skyland UMC. The host church will provide:

- A location to gathering after the day's service projects.
- Dinner for participating churches. (Cost of \$3 per person)
- A worship service which will include sharing, skits, and singing.

IMPORTANT DATES

Tuesday, February 22, 12:00 PM

We will meet at the Givens Estates to discuss and plan Regional Impact Day.

Saturday, May 14, Regional Impact Day

Gather at 5:30 PM at Skyland UMC for dinner, sharing, and worship.

Please bring \$3 per person to cover cost of dinner.

RSVP by noon on Monday, May 9.

Contact Katie Warren: kwarren@wnccumc.org, 828-254-8564 ext. 303



Carolina Cross Connection
and the Asheville District of the UMC invite you to

Regional Impact Day

May 14, 2011



Carolina Cross Connection is very excited to be joining churches and youth groups together to reach out to communities in need through Regional Impact Days! For one Saturday, you and your friends will join together to serve folks in need, share Christ's love, and worship with others from around the region.

Evening gathering of dinner, sharing, and worship will be held on May 14, 5:30 PM at:

Skyland UMC
1984 Hendersonville Road
Asheville, NC 28776

For more information, contact the Carolina Cross Connection office at 704-721-0033.

