



Society of St. Andrew
GLEANING AMERICA'S FIELDS
FEEDING AMERICA'S HUNGRY

Harvest of Hope

Hands-On Service/Study Events



**Participant Information
For Summer 2023 Events**

Harvest of Hope

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Dear Harvest of Hope Participants:

I am excited that you will be participating in Harvest of Hope this year! I hope that you enjoy this physically, mentally, and spiritually challenging experience.

This booklet contains valuable information about preparing for your Harvest of Hope experience. Hopefully, it will answer most of your questions.

Once your team arrives at Harvest of Hope, you will be encouraged to become part of the larger group. Mixing with the other teams will be an essential part of the experience. We will strive to form one group focused on feeding those who are hungry.

The leaders of your event and I are looking forward to your participation in Harvest of Hope. May you find the experience meaningful and a lot of fun! See you at the Harvest!

Blessings and safe travel, Tresca McSwain—Harvest of Hope Director



What to Expect at Harvest of Hope

Gleaning: You will spend the mornings out in the fields gleaning crops that would normally go to waste after a farmer's harvest.

Study: You will also take time to learn about hunger. You'll spend time in small and large groups discussing hunger issues, participating in simulations, and learning about the realities of hunger in our world.

Worship: Each day will begin and end with worship. These informal services will integrate the varied experiences of the event and help us focus on our Christian responsibility toward those in need.

Commitment: Your time at Harvest of Hope is just the beginning. We hope you'll learn lots of new things that you can take home with you. Harvest of Hope is much more than a mission camp; it's a challenge to us all to respond to Jesus' call.



*To those who have hunger, give bread.
To those who have bread, give a hunger for justice.
(Latin American table prayer)*

A SAMPLE Daily Schedule

(Actual schedule may differ -- this is just a sample!)

Arrival Day

4:00-6:00 p.m.	Participants arrive, register and get settled
6:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Dinner Time
7:00 - 7:30 p.m.	Group building
7:30 - 8:45 p.m.	Total group session & introduction
9:00 - 9:45 p.m.	Worship
10:30 p.m.	Bedtime

Daily

5:30 - 6:00 a.m.	Wake up & get ready to glean!
6:15 - 6:30 a.m.	Worship
6:35 - 7:00 a.m.	Breakfast & kitchen clean up
7:30 a.m.	Leave for the field and GLEAN!!!
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:30 - 5:00 p.m.	Afternoon free time or Agency Visit
5:00 - 6:00 p.m.	Showers and rest time
6:00 - 6:45 p.m.	Dinner
6:45 - 8:30 p.m.	Total group session
8:45 - 9:30 p.m.	Worship
10:00 p.m.	Bedtime

Departure Day

7:00 - 7:30 a.m.	Wake up!
7:30 - 8:15 a.m.	Breakfast
8:15 - 9:00 a.m.	Pack and clean up camp
9:20 - 10:00 a.m.	Closing worship
10:00 a.m.	Group picture and Good-byes

*“There’s a hunger beyond food
that’s expressed in food,
and that’s why feeding
is always a kind of miracle”
Sara Miles*



What to Bring

Accommodations at Harvest of Hope vary from modern dorms to rustic cabins. Ask your team leader what kind of facilities you will have at your event.

- twin-sized linens or a sleeping bag, pillow
- towels, washcloth, soap, shampoo, deodorant, ...
- flashlight
- bug repellent & sunscreen
- work/gardening gloves
- work clothes - bring clothes you don't mind getting dirty out in the fields.
- bring long pants and light-weight long-sleeved shirts for sun, mosquito, and field protection. Dressing in layers is the best way to deal with weather (hot or cold) while gleaning.
- something to hold very dirty clothes, like a trash bag
- comfortable, sturdy work shoes - preferably waterproof. Sneakers are fine. **No open-toed shoes or sandals will be allowed for gleaning.**
- informal clothes for free time and study sessions. Clothing must be appropriate for a Christian community
- swimsuit and towel in case there is a lake or pool at camp
- rain gear (Yes, we glean in the rain!)
- Bible (you may also want to bring a notebook to journal)
- signed Medical and Liability Waiver
- Reusable water bottle



Things to Leave at Home

All valuables and “extras” (i.e. handheld gaming systems, tablets, jewelry, etc, etc)

Snacks Snacks are provided by the camp and cannot be taken or kept in your lodging

If you bring a **cell phone**, it must be left in your lodging and turned on only at free time. Only group leaders' phones may be taken to the fields or agencies. Participants will need to follow the policies of their group leaders.

Alcohol, any illegal substances, or tobacco products (including vapes)

Weapons of any kind

Gleaning Rules

When gleaning, you are on another person's land. Treat it better than you treat your own property. We are guests; don't abuse the privilege, or we may lose it.

In the fields, the Field Supervisor is the boss. Follow his/her instructions and directions.

Glean and park only in those areas designated by the Field Supervisor.

Safety is of utmost importance while gleaning. If any activity is of questionable safety, do not do it. Do not climb trees or fences, do not ride on the back of moving trucks, and stay away from farm machinery.

Gleaning can be cancelled at any time if these rules are not being followed.

Helpful Hints

It is often good to dress in layers. In the mornings, it may be cool and wet, so long shirts and pants may be most comfortable. As it gets warmer, shorts and short sleeve shirts may be better.

Use sunscreen even when it is cold outside.

In corn fields and orchards, long sleeves and pants are needed. Leaves from cornstalks are sharp and can cut the skin. In many orchards, poison ivy and poison oak will be growing.

Gloves and hats should be worn by all gleaners.

Bathroom facilities are unavailable in most gleaning fields, so use them before coming to the farm



The Sponsor Program

It allows the people of your church and community to support you as you devote your time and energy to fighting hunger.

Participating is simple: Collect sponsors for the hours that you will spend gleaning at the event. Ask your sponsors to pledge an hourly amount for the time you glean and work at agencies during the week. After the event, collect the amount sponsors pledged to you for your work. Then send the contributions to the Society of St. Andrew. The money will help fund SoSA's year-round projects, such as the Potato Project.

At most summer events, each participant will spend between 10-15 hours gleaning and working at agencies. The Society of St. Andrew provides food to hungry people at a total cost of about 4¢ a serving. At that rate, if you glean for 10 hours at the event and a sponsor pledges \$5 an hour to you, you will raise \$50—enough to provide 1,250 servings of food—with just one sponsor! (Form is attached at back of this booklet)

We encourage you to multiply the benefit of your team's gleaning efforts by participating in the sponsor program. Since its inception in 1979, SoSA has salvaged over 500 million pounds of produce—billions of servings of food for the poor! Help us keep it up!





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LIABILITY WAIVER:

In the event, _____ suffers any illness or accident requiring emergency hospitalization, medication, or other medical assistance while participating in a gleaning event, permission is given for any medical treatment which is deemed necessary and reasonable under the circumstances.

I fully understand and comprehend that reasonable care will be exercised by the adult staff for this Harvest of Hope event to protect the safety of those involved. I understand that the Society of St. Andrew's Staff instructions must be followed at all times, and that I am responsible for any damages caused to fields, farms, equipment, lodging, etc by me/my family members not following these instructions.

I do not hold the board, members, or employees of the Society of St. Andrew (SoSA) or any volunteers liable for injury, bodily harm, accidents, or death of myself/my child during events sponsored by the Society of St. Andrew. Neither will I hold the person(s) who owns and/or operates the farms, agencies, camps or lodging, liable for accidents, injury, or death during the Harvest of Hope event.

Participant Name (Please Print): _____

Signature of Participant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if participant is under the age of 18):

Date: _____

PHOTO/VIDEO USAGE WAIVER:
PLEASE CHECK ONE:

____ YES: Photos, videos, and other images in which I, or a registered family member, appear that are taken during gleanings may be used by the Society of St. Andrew for news coverage, social media, newsletters, reports, displays, and for other print, broadcast, web, or electronic news or promotional purposes

____ NO: Photos, videos, and other images in which I, or a registered family member, appear that are taken during gleanings may NOT be used by the Society of St. Andrew for news coverage, social media, newsletters, reports, displays, and for other print, broadcast, web, or electronic news or promotional purposes



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MEDICAL INFORMATION AND RELEASE FORM:

Medical Information on this form will only be used if needed for medical treatment.
Please print clearly and fill in this form to the best of your knowledge.
Attach an extra sheet if necessary.

Participant Name (Print): _____ **Date of Birth** _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Group Name: _____

Group Leader and Phone #: _____

MEDICAL INFORMATION:

Any Allergies, Food Allergies, &/or Special Health Problems or Concerns:

Date of last tetanus shot _____

List any history of serious illness (diabetes, asthma, epilepsy, etc.) or recent injuries or hospitalization: _____

Medication(s) currently taken: _____

Medication you CANNOT take: _____

List any concerns of which group leaders should be aware: _____

FORM CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



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MEDICAL RELEASE:

In the event (name) _____ suffers any illness or accident requiring emergency hospitalization, medication, or surgery while participating in this event, on the recommendation of the doctor, after consultation with the adults in charge of this event, I hereby give my permission for any medical treatment which may be deemed necessary and reasonable under the circumstances, understanding that the coordinator or other responsible person will contact me at the earliest possible moment. I fully understand and comprehend that reasonable care will be exercised by the adult staff for this event to protect the safety of those involved.

Other Parent/Guardian Instructions:

Signature of Participant (or Parent/Guardian if under 18 years old):

_____ Date: _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Notify in case of emergency during this event:

Name _____ Relationship _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Day Phone _____ Evening Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ Also attending HOH? Yes No