November 2, 2019

Dear Group Leaders and Parents,

We’re so glad you’re interested in volunteering with SSP in the summer of 2020! This packet contains information about our program offerings for groups and individuals for the upcoming summer.

We are excited to offer sessions open to a variety of ages across our five summer locations! We hope you can serve with us during one of our High School only, Combined middle and high school, Middle School only, or Intergenerational weeks. In addition to volunteer groups, we also welcome individual volunteers to serve at SSP.

We will likely make schedule changes as the year progresses, based on volunteer interest. Keep updated with any changes via the current availability page on our website, which reflects up-to-date information connected to our registration system.

**How to register:** Priority registration, when groups sign up with their top three to five choices of session, took place in the month of October. Priority-registered groups were placed in one of their top choices, and sign-ups are now open on a first-come, first-served basis as space is available. To register, you’ll need your group type, total number of youth and adults, session date and location, and a $60 deposit per person, paid via credit or debit card.

If your group is new to SSP, please complete a New Group Login Request to access our registration system (MySSP). On this platform, you can register to volunteer, view invoices, enter information for each volunteer, and make payments. If your group already attends SSP but needs to change liaisons, email us to update your information and access your group’s account.

**Scholarships are available!** SSP is committed to ensuring no youth is excluded from participating due to lack of funds. We have plentiful scholarships for all volunteers, with specific funds dedicated to low-income youth from Arizona, California’s Contra-Costa and Alameda counties, and the Central Valley. Applications opened October 1. We begin distributing awards January 15, and continue awarding funds on a rolling basis as they are available.

Please do not hesitate to call us at (916) 488-6441 with any questions. As we move through the next year together, we are here to support you and look forward to serving with you!

Blessings,

Veronica Russell
Director of Volunteers & Outreach
(916) 488-6441
Veronica.Russell@SierraServiceProject.org
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General Information

Sierra Service Project History

SSP was founded in 1975 by two young United Methodist pastors, originally as part of the Appalachia Service Project. For much of SSP’s history, our week-long service projects have taken place on Native American reservations throughout the Western United States. SSP has worked with over forty tribes and non-native rural and urban communities during these years.

- In 2004 we hosted our first urban service experience in South Los Angeles.
- In 2006 we began hosting Alternative Breaks for youth, college, and intergenerational groups.
- In 2008 we offered our first Middle School program to welcome younger volunteers at SSP.
- In 2010 we began hosting Weekends of Service to continue serving others all year round.
- In 2014, we began offering Combined middle and high school sessions. We also opened our program to individual volunteers.
- In 2015 we began serving in the county of San Diego, CA.
- In 2015, we began hosting volunteers of all ages and group types in Rancho Cordova for Days of Service. New in 2019, we also host volunteers in North Sacramento where our main office is located.
- In 2017 we piloted a new program for Intergenerational groups during the summer, to offer service experiences to a wider range of volunteers and promote cross-generational learning.
- In 2020, we are celebrating our 45th year of service! We are also excited to open a new summer site in Lake County, CA.

Our Mission

Our mission is to build faith and strengthen communities through service to others. Common to all SSP programs is service to the elderly, poor, and marginalized. Our service is offered without strings attached, and is done with an attitude of respect and humility.
**Who Participates**

Each summer, volunteers from United Methodist, Episcopal, Presbyterian, Lutheran, United Church of Christ, Catholic, and other denominations are a part of SSP’s mission work. While our program has its roots in the United Methodist Church, we are open to anyone who wants to attend.

We encourage you to invite youth who are not already part of the church or network to participate. This is a great way to grow your local youth ministry program and do outreach in the community. Adult leaders who bring youth to SSP have said:

> “Youth who never talk to each other in the real world get to know each other quickly. It also pushes youth to overcome their fears on the worksite.”

Groups of any size can attend (within the maximum size set for that session). Some churches send multiple groups to different SSP sessions due to schedule limitations, and some volunteers attend as school, family, or intergenerational groups. Our doors are also open to individual volunteers!

**Types of Service Work Done**

For the most part, volunteers work on individual homes. Teams might also work with local churches, non-profits, or schools. Volunteers do not need construction experience to participate; SSP staff will guide each step of the project.

Many projects are accessibility or weatherization-related, and may include roofing, stairs, wheelchair ramps, painting, or other general repairs. Most projects take over a week to complete, so volunteers may only see the beginning, middle or end of a project.

**Safety & Supervision**

Safety of every type – physical, spiritual, and emotional – is our top priority. We want each volunteer to have the best experience possible, and strive to create an environment of safety, adequate rest, nutritious meals, and emotional and spiritual support. Each week begins with a thorough staff-led hands-on tool training before anyone begins service work.

A staff of 7 to 8 capable, mature young adults runs each summer location. In addition, groups must bring adult volunteers (counselors) to accompany youth, in a ratio of one adult to every four youth (1:4) at High School and Intergenerational programs, and one to three (1:3) at Middle School and Combined programs.

Adult counselors attending with youth groups are key to a successful week. They must be at least 23 years old, chosen for maturity and role modeling capabilities. Adult counselors are expected to lead work teams and drive youth during the week at SSP. All adult counselors undergo a national criminal background check, and first-time adults take online training prior to attending. Any adult counselor under 23 must be approved by the SSP office in advance, and would be a non-driver due to vehicle insurance limitations.
**SSP: Much More Than a Service Project**

Accomplishing hands-on service work is central to what happens at SSP, but there is much more that takes place to empower youth. Our staff provide a creative spiritual program that connects volunteers with the biblical model of loving our neighbors, so youth can truly make the connection between hands-on service and spreading God’s love.

To maximize the sense of community formed at SSP, volunteers are mixed together to create work teams. The new friendships youth establish in their work teams have proven to be some of the most memorable aspects of a week at SSP, and can last far beyond the end of the week. Placing youth with new peers also provides an opportunity for their unique skills and talents to shine in ways they might not have before. There are several opportunities during the week to reconnect with the group you are attending with, even if they are not on your work team. The time this takes place will vary by location.

Evenings are spent singing, learning about the culture of the community we are serving with, and participating in fellowship, study, and worship. These evening activities allow youth to embrace their childlike sense of play, explore their faith, and connect the week’s experiences to their lives at home.

Our goal is to meet everyone right where they are on their faith journey, and offer a loving environment that is conducive to learning. When given the opportunity to make a difference, youth experience joy, gain valuable social skills, and grow in self-esteem. SSP’s program encourages volunteers to discover ways their faith journey is unique and valuable to them through the shared experience of serving one another.
# Program Schedule

We are offering four types of programs across seven weeks and five locations. Costs and session lengths vary, and scholarships are available.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Week 1 (June 21 - 27)</th>
<th>Week 2 (June 28 - July 4)</th>
<th>Week 3 (July 5 - 11)</th>
<th>Week 4 (July 12 - 18)</th>
<th>Week 5 (July 19 - 25)</th>
<th>Week 6 (July 26 - August 1)</th>
<th>Week 7 (August 2 - 8)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chiloquin</td>
<td>High School: $415</td>
<td>Combined: $415</td>
<td>High School: $415</td>
<td>Middle School (Sun-Fri): $365</td>
<td>High School: $415</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The fee for volunteers who sign up as individuals without a group is $455, regardless of session.

*Short weeks (Sunday–Friday) are indicated with an asterisk (*) in the text below.*

**Fourteen High School only sessions**

- 6-night standard: $415 per person
  - Weeks 1, 5 in Smith River
  - Weeks 2, 3, 6 in San Diego
  - Weeks 2, 4, 6 in Chiloquin
  - Weeks 2, 4, 5, 6 in Lake County
  - Weeks 3, 4 in Tsaile

**Six Intergenerational sessions**

- 6-night: $415 per person
  - Week 1 in Tsaile
  - Week 7 in Lake County

- 5-night: $365 per person
  - Week 3 in Smith River*
  - Week 3 in Lake County*
  - Week 5 in San Diego*
  - Week 6 in Tsaile*

**Nine Combined sessions**

- 6-night standard: $415 per person
  - Week 1 in Lake County
  - Weeks 2, 4, 6 in Smith River
  - Weeks 2, 5 in Tsaile
  - Week 3 in Chiloquin
  - Weeks 4, 5, 6, 7 in San Diego

**One Middle School only session**

- 5-night: $365 per person
  - Week 5 in Chiloquin*
High School Program

What do youth volunteers say about the High School program?

“It’s a fun and challenging experience that leaves you with new friends and a sense of accomplishment.”

“It increases your problem-solving, team-building, social, and creative skills, while bringing you closer to God.”

“Every ramp, every roof, every shed, every layer of paint, and every set of stairs built helps more than anyone will ever know.”

About the Program

High School youth are at a vital point in their development as young people. Our work focuses on equipping them with tools to grow in faith and serve others as they move towards becoming independent adults. We facilitate community-building in a setting that is simultaneously encouraging and challenging.

Number of Participants Each Week

Most High School only sessions have an average of about 55 volunteers. SSP fosters an intimate setting where youth are safe to grow in their faith, create many new friendships, and experience genuine love and acceptance. To preserve this sense of community, we have a limit of 65 volunteers per session.

Eligibility: Who can participate?

Youth entering 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th grade in the fall of 2020, as well as 2020 high school graduates, are welcome to participate in our High School program.

High school groups can also participate during Combined and Intergenerational sessions. Groups attending these sessions must be open to collaborating with the ages these programs host.
A Typical Day at High School SSP:

7:00 AM  Wake up, get ready *(the day may start earlier depending on weather)*.
7:30 AM  Spiritual awakening (optional) to get centered for the day.
8:00 AM  Breakfast
8:30 AM  Community service opportunities (cleaning the kitchen and bathrooms, etc.)
9:00 AM  Arrive at work site, begin service work.
Noon    Lunch and *spiritual sandwiches* (group discussion) at work site.
1:00 PM  Resume service work.
4:00 PM  Return to site, clean and store tools, shower, free time. *Free time* is spent at the location where we are housed.
5:00 PM  *Staff/counselor meeting* — adults meet with staff to discuss joys, concerns, and plans for the next 24 hours.
5:45 PM  Dinner
6:30 PM  Community service opportunities (cleaning the kitchen and bathrooms, etc.)
7:00 PM  *Song time and evening program* — team building activities, work site reports, spiritual programming related to our summer theme, and handing out mail.
9:00 PM  Free time. Volunteers prepare for bed.
9:45 PM  *Evening devotional* led by a work team.
10:00 PM Lights out. We will have separate sleeping areas by gender.
           *The work we do is hard labor, and everyone needs to get a good night’s sleep!*

High School Sample Weekly Schedule

Sunday     Arrive 2:00 to 4:00 PM, *orientation*, staff/counselor meeting, assign work teams
Monday     *Hands-on tool training*, half day service at work site, evening program
Tuesday    Service at work site all day, *cross-cultural evening program*
Wednesday  *Adventure Wednesday*: Community service activity as a full group or activities to learn about the site location, recreation in the afternoon and *BBQ* dinner, evening program
Thursday   Service at work site all day, *off-site evening program*
Friday     Service at work site all day, *closing celebrations*
Saturday   Pack up, clean site, breakfast, closing circle, depart by 10:00 AM

Dates & Locations

| Week 1: June 21 – 27 | Week 2: June 28 – July 4 | Week 3: July 5 – 11 | Week 4: July 12 – 18 | Week 5: July 19 – 25 | Week 6: July 26 – August 1 | Week 7: August 2 – 8 |

The *High School Only program* is offered at each of our five locations throughout the summer. These begin on Sunday afternoon and end on Saturday morning.
Combined Middle & High School Program

What do youth volunteers say about the Combined program?

“It taught me a lot about working together as a community.”

“It is an amazing experience where you make new friends, will always be welcomed, and your faith can grow.”

“It’s a good way to meet new people and help others, while bonding as a church.”

About the Program

The Combined program is a hybrid of the High School and Middle School programs. Groups attending Combined sessions should be prepared to foster community amongst a variety of ages and maturity levels. Mature youth will be given opportunities to lead and mentor younger youth throughout the week. Work teams are comprised of either older or younger youth, instead of mixing all ages together. Some activities are optional to accommodate the wide age range. Our staff cater the program to each group’s needs.

Number of Participants Each Week

We are dedicated to creating a positive group environment, limiting our Combined sessions to 60 participants each. Most Combined sessions comprise of about one-third middle school and two-thirds high school youth.

Eligibility: Who Can Participate?

This program is designed for incoming 6th graders through high school graduates. Many groups that attend already facilitate combined activities year-round, and are accustomed to collaborating across this age range. Groups that comprise of only middle or high school youth are also welcome, with the understanding that there will be a mix of many ages and level of SSP experience present.

Session Length

Similar to the structure of our High School program, most Combined sessions are 6-night programs, from Sunday afternoon through Saturday morning. We will offer some 5-night sessions, which end Friday morning for all volunteers (indicated with an asterisk (*) on the next page).

Dates & Locations

The Combined program is offered at each of our five locations throughout the summer (see next page):
Lake County, CA:
Week 1: June 21 – 27

Smith River, CA:
Week 2: June 28 – July 4
Week 4: July 12 – 18
Week 6: July 26 – August 1

Chiloquin, OR:
Week 3: July 5 – 11

San Diego, CA:
Week 4: July 12 – 18
Week 7: August 2 – 8

Tsaile, AZ:
Week 2: June 28 – July 4
Week 5: July 19 – 25

A Typical Day at Combined SSP:

7:00 AM  Wake up and get ready (the day may start earlier depending on the site and weather).
7:30 AM  Spiritual awakening (optional) to get centered for the day.
8:00 AM  Breakfast
8:30 AM  Community service opportunities (cleaning the kitchen and bathrooms, etc.).
9:00 AM  Arrive at work site, begin service work.
Noon  Lunch and spiritual sandwiches (group discussion) at work site.
1:00 PM  Resume service work.
3-4:00 PM  Return to site, clean and store tools, shower, free time. Middle school teams return earlier than high school teams. Free time is spent at the location where we are housed. There will be optional guided games and activities for youth.
5:00 PM  Staff/counselor meeting – adults meet with staff to discuss joys, concerns, and plans for the next 24 hours.
5:45 PM  Dinner
6:30 PM  Community service opportunities (cleaning the kitchen and bathrooms, etc.).
7:00 PM  Song time and evening program, which consists of team building activities, work site reports, spiritual programming related to our summer theme, and handing out mail.
8:30 PM  Free time. Volunteers prepare for bed.
9:00 PM  Optional evening devotional led by a work team.
9:45 PM  Lights out. Earlier bedtimes are allowed. We have separate sleeping areas by gender. The work we do is hard labor and everyone needs to get a good night of sleep!

Combined Sample Weekly Schedule

Sunday  Arrive 2:00 to 4:00 PM, orientation, staff/counselor meeting, assign work teams
Monday  Hands-on tool training, half day service at work site, evening program
Tuesday  Service at work site all day, cross-cultural evening program
Wednesday  Adventure Wednesday: Community service activity as a full group or activities to learn about the site location, recreation in the afternoon and BBQ dinner, evening program
Thursday  Service at work site all day, off-site evening program
Friday  Service at work site all day, closing celebrations
Saturday  Pack up, clean site, breakfast, closing circle, depart

Weekly schedules for 5-night programs will vary by site. This may mean standard Thursday and Friday activities will be adjusted to accommodate the shorter week.
**Intergenerational Program**

What do volunteers say about the Intergenerational program?

“The best part was spending time with youth and church members away from our regular activities.”

“Each staff member was helpful and friendly. They learned our names and treated us with respect.”

“It is a well-organized trip, fully packaged with program, food, work, and lodging.”

**About the Program**

We are excited to offer expansive options for Intergenerational groups, open to volunteers entering 6th grade and older. Anyone attending this program should keep an open mind – it is not a traditional SSP week! Volunteers of all ages and level of SSP experience will be present. The daily and weekly schedules of this program are similar to the Combined program.

Work teams are created by age, based on the needs and interests of the volunteers attending. Adults passionate about youth development will lead youth-based or college-age work teams, while others may be placed on all-adult teams. This gives adult volunteers inexperienced in leading youth the opportunity to experience SSP as participants themselves, forming deep connections with their peers. The spiritual and cultural elements of program also provide an opportunity for cross-generational interaction to take place.

**Number of Participants**

To maintain the sense of community fostered at SSP, we have a limit of 65 volunteers per session for this program. Historically, intergenerational sessions have about a 1:1 ratio of youth to adult volunteers. Groups should have a minimum of one adult per four youth (1:4) if bringing youth, but a higher ratio is also welcome.

**Eligibility: Who Can Participate?**

Anyone entering 6th grade and up may attend. Adult groups, college groups, staff alumni, families, youth groups, and groups with a mix of ages are all welcome. Individual youth and adults may sign up, at the $455 individual rate. Anyone 18 years or older must undergo a national criminal background screening.

**Session Length**

Some intergenerational sessions are **6-night programs**, from Sunday afternoon through Saturday morning. Others are **5-night sessions**, which end Friday morning for all volunteers (indicated with an asterisk (*) below).

**Dates & Locations**

The intergenerational program is offered at various sites throughout the summer:

**Tsaile, AZ:**
Week 1: June 21 – 27
Week 6: July 26 – 31*

**Lake County, CA:**
Week 3: July 5 – 10*
Week 7: August 2 – 8

**Smith River, CA:**
Week 3: July 5 – 10*

**San Diego, CA:**
Week 5: July 19 – 24*
Middle School Program

What do youth volunteers say about the Middle School program?

“The staff were easy to talk and relate to.”

“SSP is a unique bonding experience. It invites people into the lives of the individuals you get to work for.”

“It’s a great way to make new lifelong relationships, and learn about faith in Christ.”

About the Program

Middle School youth are in a pivotal point of life transition. We are eager to introduce them to the joys of service, many of them spending the week away from their families for the first time. Middle School only sessions offer more adult supervision and structured free time than our programs for older youth.

Number of Participants Each Week

In order to meet the needs of middle school youth and their counselors, we limit the total number of participants to 55 volunteers each week. This group size allows for opportunities for youth to create deep friendships and experience love and acceptance.

Eligibility: Who Can Participate?

This program is open to youth entering the 6th, 7th, 8th and 9th grades. Middle school groups can also participate during Combined and Intergenerational sessions. Groups that do this must be open to collaborating with the ages these programs host.

Dates & Locations

Middle School sessions begin on Sunday afternoon and end on Friday morning (*).

Chiloquin, OR:
Week 5: July 19 – 24*

Sierra Service Project: 2020 Summer Information Packet
**A Typical Day at Middle School SSP:**

7:00 AM  
Wake up and get ready (the day may start earlier depending on the site and weather).

7:30 AM  
**Morning program** and **energizers**.

8:00 AM  
**Breakfast**

8:30 AM  
Community service opportunities (cleaning the kitchen and bathrooms, etc.).

9:00 AM  
Arrive at work site, begin service work.

Noon  
Lunch and **spiritual sandwiches** (group discussion) at work site.

1:00 PM  
Resume service work.

3:00 PM  
Return to site, clean and store tools, shower, free time. **Free time** is spent at the location where we are housed, and includes guided games and activities.

5:00 PM  
**Staff/counselor meeting** – adults meet with staff to discuss joys, concerns, and plans for the next 24 hours.

5:45 PM  
**Dinner**

6:30 PM  
**Community service opportunities** (cleaning the kitchen and bathrooms, etc.).

7:00 PM  
**Song time, work site reports** and handing out **mail**. **Evening program**, which consists of team building activities and spiritual programming related to our summer theme.

8:00 PM  
Volunteers prepare for bed.

8:30 PM  
**Evening devotional** led by a work team.

9:00 PM  
Lights out. We have separate sleeping areas by gender.  
_The work we do is hard labor and everyone needs to get a good night of sleep!_

**Sample Weekly Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>Arrive 2:00 to 4:00 PM, <strong>orientation</strong>, staff/counselor meeting, assign work teams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td><strong>Hands-on tool training</strong>, half day service at work site, evening program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Service at work site all day, <strong>cross-cultural evening program</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>Service at work site all day, <strong>evening program</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>Half day of service, water recreation in the afternoon, <strong>BBQ dinner</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>Pack up, clean site, breakfast, closing circle, depart</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Image of a group of people standing in front of a building.*
Group Registration Information: 6-Night Programs (Sunday-Saturday)

High school, Combined, and Intergenerational programs offer 6-night sessions. See the program schedule.

Registration Information

- **OCTOBER 1-31**: Priority registration period (submit your group’s **top three to five** session choices with the per person deposit, and receive placement in early November).
- **NOVEMBER – JUNE**: Registration is first-come, first-served as **space is available**.

The Registration Process

- If you represent a new group, complete the [New Group Login Request](#) form. If you are a new liaison for a group that already attends SSP, email [Veronica Russell](#) to update your account.
- Sign-ups are completed on [MySSP, our online volunteer portal](#). To register, you’ll need your **group type**, **total number** of youth and adults, **top choices of session**, and a **$60 deposit** per person.
- Groups of any size may register. Groups attending **High School** sessions **must** have a ratio of at least one adult per four youth (1:4). **Combined** sessions require a ratio of one adult per three youth (1:3). Groups bringing youth to **Intergenerational** sessions should have a minimum of one adult per four youth (1:4), but a higher ratio is also welcome.
- A deposit of **$60 per participant** must be received at the time of registration via credit or debit card online for your group’s spots to be reserved. We highly suggest collecting deposits from families in advance to encourage financial investment in the youth’s trip, and avoid drops later in the year.
- **Changing Participant Numbers**: After registering, liaisons can use the “change size” link in [MySSP](#) to add or drop spots, as space is available. If a session is full, the liaison can place spots on a waitlist.

Fees, Payment Schedule, & Financial Assistance

- The **total fee for 6-night sessions** is **$415** per participant (youth and adult), payable in 3 installments.
- All payments are **nonrefundable** and **nontransferable**.
- All payments must be received by the listed due date, or a **5% late fee** will be added to the balance due.
- Groups with financial needs can apply for [scholarships](#).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Payment Installment</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Form of Payment</th>
<th>Amount Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deposit</td>
<td>At time of registration</td>
<td>Credit/debit card</td>
<td>$60 per participant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Payment</td>
<td>March 1, 2020</td>
<td>Check or card</td>
<td>$220 per participant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Payment</td>
<td>June 1, 2020</td>
<td>Check or card</td>
<td>$135 per participant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Due</strong></td>
<td><strong>June 1, 2020</strong></td>
<td><strong>Check or card</strong></td>
<td><strong>$415 per participant</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Terms and Conditions

**Communication Expectations**: Communication between SSP and the volunteer group happens via email and phone with the group liaison. Liaisons should check email regularly and respond accordingly.

**Fees for Dropped Spots**: Payments previously paid for dropped spots are forfeited and cannot be applied towards the remainder of a group’s balance. Groups that decrease in size after a payment due date still owe the payments for those dropped spots, and will be charged the full balance incurred as of the due date. All payments are nonrefundable and nontransferable, including, but not limited to:
- Reducing group size or cancellation due to scheduling conflicts on the part of the volunteer or liaison
- Reducing in group size or cancellation due to minor illness

**Exceptions**: We understand some circumstances are out of the volunteer’s control. In cases of volunteer cancellation due to extreme illness or emergency, please contact the SSP office.
Group Registration Information:
5-Night Programs (Sunday-Friday)

Middle School, Combined, and Intergenerational programs offer 5-night sessions. See the program schedule.

Registration Information

- OCTOBER 1-31: Priority registration period (submit your group’s top three to five session choices with the per person deposit, and receive placement in early November).
- NOVEMBER – JUNE: Registration is first-come, first-served as space is available.

The Registration Process

- If you represent a new group, complete the New Group Login Request form. If you are a new liaison for a group that already attends SSP, email Veronica Russell to update your account.
- Sign-ups are completed on MySSP, our online volunteer portal. To register, you’ll need your group type, total number of youth and adults, top choices of session, and a $60 deposit per person.
- Groups of any size may register. Groups attending Middle School or Combined sessions must have a ratio of at least one adult per three youth (1:3). Groups bringing youth to Intergenerational sessions should have a minimum of one adult per four youth (1:4), but a higher ratio is also welcome.
- A deposit of $60 per participant must be received at the time of registration via credit or debit card online for your group’s spots to be reserved. We highly suggest collecting deposits from families in advance to encourage financial investment in the youth’s trip, and avoid drops later in the year.
- Changing Participant Numbers: After registering, liaisons can use the “change size” link in MySSP to add or drop spots, as space is available. If a session is full, the liaison can place spots on a waitlist.

Fees, Payment Schedule, & Financial Assistance

- The total fee for 5-night sessions is $365 per participant (youth and adult), payable in 3 installments.
- All payments are nonrefundable and nontransferable.
- All payments must be received by the listed due date, or a 5% late fee will be added to the balance due.
- Groups with financial needs can apply for scholarships.

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<td>Total Due</td>
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</table>

Terms and Conditions

Communication Expectations: Communication between SSP and the volunteer group happens via email and phone with the group liaison. Liaisons should check email regularly and respond accordingly.

Fees for Dropped Spots: Payments previously paid for dropped spots are forfeited and cannot be applied towards the remainder of a group’s balance. Groups that decrease in size after a payment due date still owe the payments for those dropped spots, and will be charged the full balance incurred as of the due date. All payments are nonrefundable and nontransferable, including, but not limited to:

- Reducing group size or cancellation due to scheduling conflicts on the part of the volunteer or liaison
- Reducing in group size or cancellation due to minor illness

Exceptions: We understand some circumstances are out of the volunteer’s control. In cases of volunteer cancellation due to extreme illness or emergency, please contact the SSP office.
**Individual Program**

**What do individual volunteers say about participating?**

“The best thing about the week was feeling accepted.”

“It was an experience that built strength, resilience, and respect.”

“I liked everything about SSP. It was fun, we got lots of work done, helped people, I made new friends, and I grew spiritually.”

Most youth who participate in SSP are part of a group, but we want the SSP experience to be accessible to everyone! Middle and high schoolers who are not part of a youth group can also participate in SSP, by signing up as individual volunteers. Adults passionate about service can also sign up as individuals at intergenerational sessions.

This program works especially well for volunteers who:

- Are unconnected with a church or youth group
- Are not able to attend with their group due to scheduling conflicts
- Want to attend more SSP than once during the summer
- Are local to the SSP communities where we serve
- Are staff alumni or young adults who want to stay connected (intergenerational sessions only)

Individual youth can attend any session open to their age bracket, and individual adults can attend any Intergenerational session.

**Eligibility for the Individual Program**

- **High School** sessions: youth entering 9th grade in the fall of 2020 through graduating seniors.
- **Combined** sessions: youth entering 6th grade in the fall of 2020 through graduating seniors.
- **Middle School** sessions: youth entering 6th through 9th grade in the fall of 2020.
- **Intergenerational** sessions: volunteers entering 6th grade and older. Anyone 18 or older will undergo a background screening.

**All individual volunteers** must arrange a pre-trip phone call with the Site Director, one or two weeks prior to attending. **Local volunteers** should meet with the Site Director in person.

- All participants should be willing to engage in and embrace the Christian faith component of SSP. This experience involves prayer, songtime, and faith exploration. We do not want any participant to feel they are in a place that is uncomfortable for them, but do also want them to experience the joys of living in an intentional Christian community for the week.
- All youth must attend voluntarily, not pressured from a parent or exclusively to earn service hours.
- Individuals must coordinate **their own travel to and from the site location**. Volunteers under 23 years old are **not** permitted to drive any vehicle during their time at SSP.
Registration Information:
Individual Volunteers

Registration Process
- Registration for individuals opens November 1, and is first-come, first-served as space is available. All registrations are made using the Individual Registration Form.
- A deposit of $60 per participant must be received by credit card online at the time of registration.
  - Subsequent payments can be made by check (preferred), or a card payment over the phone.

Fees & Payment Schedule
- The total fee for individual volunteers attending any session is $455, payable in 3 installments.
- All payments are nonrefundable and nontransferable.
- All payments must be received by the listed due date, or a 5% late fee will be added to the balance.

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<th>Amount Due</th>
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Financial Assistance
We are committed to making our programs accessible to anyone who wants to participate, regardless of financial limitations. Learn more about SSP’s scholarship program on our website. Preference for scholarships will be given to youth, but adult volunteers are also welcome to apply.

Starting January 15, we begin to process applications and award funds. Applications are welcome on a rolling basis, and scholarships will be awarded as funds are available.

Terms and Conditions
Communication Expectations: Communication between SSP and the volunteer happens via email and phone with the parent and/or individual. Please check email regularly and respond accordingly.

Fees for Dropped Spots: Payments previously paid for individuals who drop from the program are forfeited and cannot be applied towards future registrations. Individuals that drop after a payment due date still owe the payments for that dropped spot, and will be charged the full balance incurred as of the due date. All payments are nonrefundable and nontransferable, including, but not limited to:
- Cancellation due to scheduling conflicts on the part of the volunteer
- Cancellation due to minor illness

Exceptions: We understand some circumstances are out of the volunteer’s control. In cases of volunteer cancellation due to extreme illness or emergency, please contact the SSP office.
2020 Summer Site Locations

Our [website](#) has the most current information about each of our sites. Stay up-to-date there throughout the year. We will post updates as our plans develop for each [location](#).

**Rural Communities**

**Lake County, California:** SSP is excited to return to Lake County, where we served in the early 2000s. Projects at this site include building tiny cottages for permanent supportive housing, in partnership with local community organizations. This site will host a Combined session Week 1; High School only sessions Weeks 2, 4, 5, and 6; and Intergenerational sessions Weeks 3 and 7.

**Smith River, California:** We have served in the coastal [Smith River](#) and Crescent City communities of Del Norte County each year since 2013. Summer weather here can be cool to cold. The United Methodist Church and Community Hall are our host facilities, and we work with a variety of local nonprofits and homeowners. Community projects at this site often have a strong emphasis on environmental impact. This site will host High School only sessions Weeks 1 and 5; Combined sessions Weeks 2, 4, and 6; and an Intergenerational session Week 3.

**Chiloquin, Oregon:** SSP has been partnering with the [Chiloquin](#) community each year since 2013. Volunteers projects at this site have included carpentry work for individual homeowners, community revitalization work, and state park land maintenance. We expect a similar mix of projects this year, with carpentry work focused on accessibility and weatherization. This site will host High School only sessions during Weeks 2, 4, and 6; a Combined session Week 2; and a Middle School only session Week 5.

**Native American Community**

**Tsaile, Arizona:** SSP volunteers have served in the Tsaile-Wheatfields and Lukachukai chapters of the [Navajo Nation](#) each year since 2013. At this site, volunteers stay in Diné College’s Hogan dorms. Afternoon storms are frequent in the high desert, but unpredictable. We expect a mix of high-intensity home repair projects such as wheelchair ramps, stairs, sheds, and roofs. This site will host Intergenerational sessions Weeks 1 and 6; Combined sessions Weeks 2 and 5; and High School only sessions Weeks 3 and 4.

**Urban Community**

**San Diego, California:** SSP has served throughout [San Diego](#) county each year since 2015, and we have partnered with the Imperial Beach community since 2018. Projects have included working with local non-profits, community organizations, and individual homeowners. All volunteers participate in a bi-national experience on Adventure Wednesday, from either the Tijuana or U.S. side. This site will host Combined sessions Weeks 4, and 7; High School only sessions Weeks 2, 3, and 6, and an Intergenerational session Week 5.