



Eight Days of Hope XIX – Fort Myers, Florida
May 20th – May 27th
Frequently Asked Questions

What is EDOH XIX all about?

EDOH XIX is coming to Ft. Myers, FL, to help rebuild homes following the devastation of Category 4 Hurricane Ian. Hurricane Ian was the third costliest disaster ever in America, destroying thousands of homes and taking the lives of 149 people. Immediately following the storm, our Rapid Response Ministry was able to serve the community for 5 weeks. We are humbled to return to help many of the same families move one step closer to restoration! We will be focusing our efforts in the Harlem Heights area of Ft. Myers. This is a community of 314 homes that are all about 1,400 square feet. We are excited to partner with the Harlem Foundation and Summit Church.

What is the cost to attend?

It is free! We provide the food and lodging. We just ask that you show up ready to love and serve the Ft. Myers community.

We rely on churches, businesses, individuals, and our volunteers for donations. A typical budget for an Eight Days of Hope event can be anywhere between \$750,000 and \$1,000,000. Please consider donating to help these families rebuild! You can donate online at www.eightdaysofhope.com by clicking on the “Donate” button or mail a check to P.O. Box 3208, Tupelo, MS, 38803.

What are the sleeping arrangements?

Volunteers will be assigned lodging after they arrive at our Headquarters. Similar to our previous trips, we will segregate by gender. You will have the space to set up your own air mattresses, cots or foam pads that you bring from home. You may also bring a tent and camp outside if you prefer. There will be gender segregated showers and restrooms available. If you are coming as a family and desire to be housed together, we suggest you bring a tent, RV or

pursue hotel accommodations. We will have tent and RV spots available for free, location to be determined.

If we want to book a hotel does Eight Days of Hope recommend any hotels in the area?

Eight Days of Hope has a preferred rate secured at the Holiday Inn Ft. Myers Airport @ Town Center. To lock in a booking at **\$139 plus tax**, please follow the booking link [Eight Days of Hope Volunteers at Holiday Inn Ft. Myers Airport @ Town Center](#) , enter your dates OR call reservations at **855-639-8440** and ask for **Eight Days of Hope Volunteers group rate** or mention **group code EDH**. *Rooms will be offered based on availability.*

Can I bring my RV?

Yes. We will provide a spot to park your RV. We cannot guarantee that utilities will be provided. We will provide water and power for a certain number of RVs. When those spots run out, we will need all additional RVs to be self-contained.

Can I bring my pet?

No. We are sorry, but bringing pets is not allowed for health and safety reasons. Please respect this rule. Our host facilities have strict rules regarding pets.

Do I have to bring my own food?

No. We will provide all meals. **We are looking for churches and businesses willing to underwrite this cost.** With a donation of \$3,000, a church or a business can supply the food necessary for one meal. Please email us at info@eightdaysofhope.com for more information. You can also elect to sponsor food for one entire day. Please consider doing either of these as the food costs for 1,500 - 2,000 volunteers will exceed \$80,000!

What kind of work will we be doing?

The primary work will be the rebuilding of damaged homes due to flooding and wind damage. This includes roofing, electrical wiring, insulation, flooring, drywall, carpentry, and painting. We are also in need of people who have mechanical and plumbing skills. Beyond home restoration there are many support jobs which include data entry, transportation, laundry, cleaning, and lunch delivery service. There is something for everyone's skill set!

Should we bring tools?

Yes! Please bring any tools that you can, especially those that you would anticipate using. Be sure to label them before you arrive. Air compressors, ladders, drills, drywall tools, paintbrushes, etc. are all needed. Eight Days of Hope has outfitted multiple tool trailers and will be bringing them to Ft. Myers to supplement any tools you may not own or bring.

Can we bring our youth group or our children?

Yes, Eight Days of Hope is family-friendly! Every youth volunteer (under the age of 18) that comes with an adult that is not their parent **MUST** bring a notarized Parental Consent form signed by one of his/her parents. This form can be found on the EDOH XIX event page on the website. *For every four youth, please bring one adult chaperon.* There are unique sleeping arrangements separated by gender. Please have one adult of each gender present to monitor your youth group in the sleeping areas.

Families bringing their children will work side-by-side at the jobsites. For families wishing to lodge together, please consider a hotel or utilize our RV and tent spaces.

Do we have to stay for all eight days?

No. For this outreach, we are asking each volunteer to come for at least three full days. Please honor this request.

Is transportation provided from the area airport?

Yes, we will provide transportation **only** from the Fort Myers Airport (RSW). Please fill out the transportation portion when you register online if you need to be picked up and dropped off at the airport.

If we are coming with a group or as a family, can we fill out one volunteer form?

No, each volunteer needs to fill out a volunteer form at www.eightdaysofhope.com and include an email address. In the organization section of the volunteer form please make note that you are coming with a group and include the name of the group. All of the members of this group can use one email address for communication purposes.

Every member of a family needs to register separately unless they are under the age of 18. **A parent that volunteers, can register his/her children under the age of 18 on their volunteer form.** If you use one email address to register multiple volunteers, you will get a single confirmation to that email address.

What will be a typical day serving with Eight Days of Hope?

Breakfast will start around 5:45 am and conclude around 7:00 am. We will spend 30 minutes together with a special time of worship and devotion before we head out to the work sites. Lunch will be provided at the jobsites. Dinner will begin at 5:30 pm and conclude at 7:00 pm. We invite the families we are serving to dinner, and they get to share their stories. It is a very special time! Sunday is the only day where we deviate from this schedule. We will not begin work until 11:00 am or after depending on local church service times.

Will there be any medical support at Eight Days of Hope XIX?

Yes. We will have at least one Registered Nurse onsite. If you are a medical professional and would like to be added to our list of medical resources, please make a note in the comments section of your registration form. We will need additional support in this area.

If we volunteer for the first day, Saturday, May 20th, when should we arrive?

The volunteer check-in area will open at 3:00 pm on Friday, May 19th. You will receive detailed instructions with information on where you are to go to check-in the week before the outreach. The first meal we will provide will be dinner on May 19th. The last meal provided will be lunch on May 27th. Remember that we ask that you serve for a minimum of three days. Please honor that request.

What times can we arrive to “check-in” to Eight Days of Hope?

On Friday, May 19th, the check-in area will be open from 3:00 pm until 8:00 pm. On all other days, the check-in area will be open from 6:30 am to 8:00 pm. Please plan to arrive between these times. The last day to check in is Thursday, May 25th. **If you arrive after 8:00 pm on any day, you will need to find a hotel for the night and check-in the next morning.**

Is there a cut-off date to volunteer for Eight Days of Hope XIX?

Yes. You can volunteer until May 18th.

Is Eight Days of Hope on social media?

Yes, Facebook – Eight Days of Hope; Instagram – eightdaysofhope; Twitter - @eightdaysofhope; YouTube – Eight Days of Hope. Please use the hashtag #EDOH when you use social media.

What should I bring?

Please bring the following items:

- Clothes you can work in (We will provide you with event t-shirts to wear while you are serving with us)
- Work Gloves
- Work Boots
- Bedding (linens, pillow, blanket, air mattress, cot, etc.)
- Towel and Toiletries
- Bible
- 1 Case of Water per person

What else can we do to prepare for Eight Days of Hope XIX?

Please pray that God would be glorified by our actions. Pray for safety both while we work and for travel mercies for the volunteers. Pray that God sends the people He wants to be a part of this outreach. Pray that God will not only allow us to restore homes, but that He opens up many doors for us as we encourage people in the name of Jesus Christ!

We cannot wait to love and serve those in need with you soon!