



Eight Days of Hope XVI

Houston, TX

October 13th – 20th, 2018

What is Eight Days of Hope XVI all about?

Hurricane Harvey struck Texas in August of 2017. It will go down as one of the worse disasters ever seen by mankind. Over 350,000 homes in the state were affected by over 50 inches of rain and suffered over \$160 billion dollars of damage. Over 90% of the families that received damage did not have flood insurance because they did not live in a flood zone, which left them with little resources with which to rebuild. **This is where we come in!** Eight Days of Hope is serving Houston through the 4B Disaster Response Network. Our goal is to use the gifts that God has given us to bless others and share the love of Jesus! In March, we served in Houston and now we get a chance to **GO BACK** and help families with their rebuilding projects!

What is the cost to attend Eight Days of Hope XVI?

It is free! We provide the food and the lodging. You just have to show up with a willing heart to serve. We rely on churches, businesses, individuals and our volunteers for donations. The budget for this outreach is \$1.1 million dollars. Please consider donating to help these families rebuild! **You can donate online at eightdaysofhope.com/donate or mail a check to P.O. 3208, Tupelo, MS. 38803.**

What are the sleeping arrangements?

We will provide sleeping accommodations. Our headquarters is at **Grace Church, 14505 Gulf Freeway, Houston, TX, 77034** and **lodging will be based out of several local churches**. You will be notified at check-in where you will be staying. 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 not be able to offer free RV spots but you can utilize USA RV Resorts in Houston as this RV park is only one mile from our headquarters. Please call them at 832.781.4777. The weekly rate is \$249.00.

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

Yes, we have partnered with the Holiday Inn Express & Suites Houston Space Center-Clear Lake. The address is **900 Rogers Court, Webster, Texas 77598**. Their phone number is 281.316.9750. Rooms are available for the entire event at \$104.00 per night. This is a special rate as we will fill the entire hotel. **By using this discounted rate, you will not be awarded points if you are a member of the IHG program.** Please call them directly and book early as they will sell out quickly. This hotel is 6 minutes from our headquarters.

Do I have to bring my own food?

No. We will provide food for all of our volunteers. **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 2,000 – 2,500 volunteers will exceed \$72,000!

What kind of work will we be doing?

The primary work will be the rebuilding of damaged homes due to flooding. This includes electrical wiring, insulation, flooring, drywall, carpentry and painting. There are some roofs that need to be repaired before we start the interior. We are also in need of people who have mechanical and plumbing skills. We plan on rebuilding roughly 50 kitchens. Beyond home restoration, there are many support jobs which include data entry, transportation, laundry, cleaning, and lunch delivery service. There is definitely 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. 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 Houston 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. **These forms can be found on our website.** We are asking for one adult chaperone for every four youth. Please remember that there will be unique sleeping arrangements separated by gender.

Families bringing their children will work side by side at the job sites. If families wish to sleep together, there are local hotels, campgrounds and an RV park nearby.

Do we have to stay for all Eight Days?

No. For this event, we are asking each volunteer to come for at least three full days. These three days do not have to be in order. You can also volunteer for the entire event if you so desire! Please honor the three-day minimum.

If I live local, do I need to serve three days in a row?

No. You can come and go as long as you serve three full days during the eight-day outreach. When you register, please let us know the first day you will be serving and then set the departure date for three days later, even though we both know that you can pick any three days. For example, if you were to volunteer the 13th (Saturday) and then come back later in the week, you would enter the 13th as your arrival date and the 15th as your departure. We will trust that you will fulfill this three-day commitment.

Is transportation provided from the airport?

Yes. We will provide transportation from the William P. Hobby airport. The code for this airport when booking is HOU. Please go to the website, <https://eightdaysofhope.com/transportation>, and enter your travel information. We will provide shuttle service starting Friday, October 12th, through Saturday, October 20th. Because the check-in desk for lodging closes at 8:00 pm, please note that if you arrive at Hobby after this time you will need to book a hotel for the night, and we will shuttle you to headquarters the following morning. **We are sorry, but we will NOT be providing any transportation from the George Bush Intercontinental airport.** Even if you have already submitted your flight information to WayneV@eightdaysofhope.com please go to the website link above and reenter your information. We are trying something new to better serve you more efficiently.

Can we bring our pets?

No. We are sorry, but bringing pets is not allowed for health and safety reasons. Please respect this rule. It will be strictly enforced. Our host facilities have strict rules in regards to pets.

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 eightdaysofhope.com and include an email address. **In the comments section of the volunteer form please make note that you are coming with a group and include the name of the group, so we can try to lodge you at one site.** 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 registers, can register his/her children under the age of 18 on their volunteer form.**

What will be a typical day at Eight Days of Hope XVI?

Breakfast will start at 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 delivered or taken to the job sites by the volunteers. Supper will begin at 5:30 pm and conclude

at 7:00 pm. We invite the homeowners to dinner, and they get to share their stories during dinner. It is a very special time! An optional devotion and worship time will follow. Each day will end around 7:30 pm.

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

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. We will provide a name of a local clinic for those needing assistance.

Can I bring my RV?

Yes! Our partner is USA RV Resorts Houston at 832.781.4777. They offer a weekly rate and a special daily rate but you need to mention that you are with Eight Days of Hope. This site is 1.2 miles from our headquarters. You would be responsible to pay for this RV site. There are no free spots available.

If we volunteer for the first day, October 13th, when should we arrive?

The volunteer check-in area will open at 3:00 pm on October 12th. On Tuesday, October 9th, you will receive detailed instructions with the information on where you are to go to check-in and what to bring. The first meal we will provide will be dinner October 12th. 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 and where do we go?

On Friday, October 12th, the check-in area will be open at 3:00 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.** If you arrive after 8:00 pm, you will need to find a hotel for the night and check-in the next morning. **Our headquarters is located at Grace Church Houston. The address is 14505 Gulf Fwy, Houston, TX. 77034.** There is no lodging at Grace Church. The church will be locked at night.

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

Yes. The last day one can volunteer for Eight Days of Hope will be Sunday, October 7th.

Are there any tools available for volunteers to promote Eight Days of Hope attendance or to help raise the financial support needed?

Yes! We have prepared a letter that you can use to present to your Missions Board or Church Leadership to help raise awareness or ask for financial support. We also have a letter that one can use to ask businesses or individuals to help offset the dollars needed by Eight Days of Hope. You may find these forms on our event page on our website. We also have prepared a short video you can share. You can find this video on our YouTube channel under the heading “Uploads”.

Is Eight Days of Hope on social media?

Yes, Facebook – Eight Days of Hope; Instagram – eightdaysofhope; Twitter - @eightdaysofhope
Please use the hashtag #8DOH when you use social media.

What else can we do to prepare for 8 Days of Hope XVI?

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!