

Volunteer FAQs

Where do we typically stay?	Usually in low-cost, dorm-style housing. At times in a local budget hotel. Each trip is different so please consult with your trip leader.
What bedding/towels do I bring?	Often sheets/bedding are required.
Where will we be building?	We partner with a local non-profit that has an application process for homeowners to receive volunteers based on need. Often the homeowners are also on site building with us.
What will we be doing?	Typical work may include tying rebar, mixing and pouring cement, laying block, basic carpentry. All work is explained and supervised by an onsite contractor. No skills required!
What do I pack?	Please see the packing list (link)
How do I get there?	All volunteers make their own travel arrangements to the build site. Your trip leader will give you further information regarding group arrival/departure times.
What will the weather be like?	Most days are high of 90, low of 74; you may want to check the weather before to see if you need a rain jacket.
What will the week be like?	<p>Typical Week~</p> <p>Sunday: Arrival, get settled, opening activities, then some combination of mass, dinner, relaxation, games at your choosing</p> <p>Monday-Thursday: Breakfast, make lunches, prayer, depart for worksite. Work 9:30-3:30pm. Dinner/cleanup, reflection, and games and/or collapse.</p> <p>Friday: Work until midday, lunch, closing activities</p> <p>Saturday: after breakfast and prayer, cleanup/pack, and R & R activity, closing reflection</p> <p>Sunday: Departure</p>
Can I travel around the area on my own?	No. The St. Francis Builds model is that we stay in our group; though we may break off into smaller groups for the R & R activities
What about food?	We eat communally and make accommodations for special dietary needs. We ensure that the meals are safe and balanced.

<p>What about COVID?</p>	<p>In the case that someone gets Covid, that person would have to stay in a separate area of the housing that is distanced from others.</p> <p>We will bring extra covid tests with us.</p> <p>We will wear masks if going inside to public spaces (Mass, stores, etc). For restaurant eating on Friday, we will look for outside dining options.</p> <p>and...</p> <p>One week prior to the trip, please avoid large activities Wear a mask at the airport and on plane Bring masks for the week Do a COVID test Saturday evening Bring an additional COVID test for returning. Please also refer to our Covid Policy</p>
<p>How will I possibly learn everyone's name??</p>	<p>Nametags! We will wear them the first several days, if not the whole week.</p>
<p>What if I forget something?</p>	<p>Someone else will have two. Unless it's your personal medications or favorite pillow.</p>