



TIPS

FOR GROUP LEADERS

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TIMELINE

PHASE 1: RECRUIT A TEAM

- Complete the Get More Info form at experience.younglife.org so we know you want to lead a group.
- Choose the dates and camp location for your group to participate.
- Promote your trip.
 - Send e-mail or use social media to get the word out to potential volunteers. Share the promo video from experience.younglife.org
 - Print out flyers, bulletin inserts, and the “What is the YoungLives Experience?” document from experience.younglife.org.
 - Invite people. Cast vision with individuals you’re invested in. The YoungLives Experience is perfect for multi-generational groups, families, churches, college and youth groups.

PHASE 2: GET YOUR TEAM COMMITTED

- Get familiar with all application and payment deadlines.
- Establish a timeline for your group with all deadlines and any pre-trip meetings or fundraisers.
- Develop fundraising strategy with your team – see Fundraising section.

PHASE 3: TEAM PREPARATIONS

- Hold team meetings to communicate details about your trip and to build group cohesion—see Sample Meeting Agendas.
- Keep tabs on fundraising and payments for your group.
- Ask your camp childcare administrator about specific needs at your camp location in case the team would like to collect items to donate.
- Make necessary travel arrangements. If flying to camp, communicate with the camp childcare administrator about what airport to use and what ground transportation options are available.

PHASE 4: FINAL MONTH

- Collect and submit any final payments for your group.
- Hold a final team meeting within two weeks of travel—see Sample Meeting Agendas.
- All team members send out prayer request to their prayer team in the last week before camp.
- Travel Day – Check your agenda at the curb and let God be in charge!

PHASE 5: IN THE FIELD

- Attend all training and meetings while at camp.
- Be flexible: the unexpected will happen!
- Share updates by email or social media. Take photos, journal. Make time and space to observe, pray, learn and listen. Be present.

PHASE 6: POST-TRIP

- Catch up on your rest.
- Hold a post-trip meeting—see Sample Meeting Agendas.
- Help your team find ways to get involved in YoungLives or Young Life in their own neighborhood.
- Book your team for next year!

APPLICATION & FINANCIAL DETAILS

COST

The cost for 2018 is \$526 for Clearwater Cove, Lost Canyon, and Timberwolf Lake and \$439 for all other weeks. This covers housing and meals while at camp. Volunteers are responsible for their own travel expenses. Prices vary due to amount of time at camp.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The application process is extensive for the safety of the children in our care. We are grateful to each of our volunteers for taking the time to complete the process. Specific steps and instructions can be found at goyounglives.younglife.org.

FUNDRAISING

The cost of camp may seem prohibitive to some, but don't let that stop you from serving! God uses fundraising to build our faith, and it is amazing to see how He provides. Step out in faith and trust that He will provide.

Ideas for Fundraising

Many childcare volunteers and teams successfully fund-raise their whole camp fee.

- *Online Fundraising:* Online fundraising is now an option for raising money via email or social media. Get more details from your camp childcare administrator.
- *Fundraising Letters:* Sample support letters are available to raise funds by mail or in person.
- *Church Mission Board:* Request funding from your church's mission board.
- *Other Ideas:* Hold event fundraisers- good old-fashioned bake sales and carwashes plus whatever other ideas you can find on pinterest!

Donations you receive for your childcare camp fee are tax-deductible and need to be sent to the [childcare administrator](#) for your camp week for processing. Please do not send in cash—convert to a money order first.

SAMPLE TEAM MEETING AGENDAS

INTEREST MEETING		
Suggested Timing: 6-12 months before trip		
WHO	MATERIALS	SUGGESTED AGENDA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Interested trip participants Parents of any participants who are minors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promo materials and video available on experience.younglife.org Timeline of meetings and deadlines YoungLives Experience Guidebook (pages 1-8) Tablets or laptops for completing application process online 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Discuss vision and importance of service Distribute pertinent materials Review Trip details: dates, location, sample itinerary, etc. Discuss Cost <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What is included Camp fee is tax-deductible Fundraising options: don't let cost be a limiting factor Address questions and concerns Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> How to apply How to help our team get there

TEAM PREP MEETINGS		
Suggested Timing: once or twice per month prior to departure		
WHO	MATERIALS	SUGGESTED AGENDA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trip participants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promo materials and video available on experience.younglife.org Timeline of meetings and deadlines Application Instructions YoungLives Experience Guidebook including Optional Reading List Tablets or laptops for completing application process online 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prayer Review sections of the YoungLives Experience Guidebook Fundraising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Philosophy –work as a team, dependence on God, etc. Plan group fundraisers Community building activities Pick and read a book from the Optional Reading List to discuss at the next meeting Logistics: allow time to help team members complete application process and online health form

FINAL PRE-TRIP MEETING

Suggested Timing: one to two weeks before travel

WHO	MATERIALS	SUGGESTED AGENDA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trip participants • Parents of any participants who are minors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • YoungLives Experience Handbook (pages 13-14) • Tablets or laptops for completing online health forms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayer • Packing list • Final travel details • Communicate expectations--going to serve! • Discuss YL electronic policy--cell phones/ipods only allowed in cabins and depending on camp location, may not work at all. • Discuss re-entry and plan follow up meeting • Logistics: allow time for everyone to complete online health form

RE-ENTRY MEETING

Suggested Timing: within one week of return

WHO	MATERIALS	SUGGESTED AGENDA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Team members • Family and friends • Donors and supporters 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projector for sharing photos or video, if desired 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prayer • Show videos, photos • Sharing: ask team members to share their highlights and takeaways from the trip • Plan follow up activities: any other team gatherings, continued volunteering with local YoungLives group or other avenues of continued service

OPTIONAL READING LIST

If you are interested in learning more about teen moms, youth, or poverty before you come to camp, the following books will give you added perspective, empathy, and passion for the work you are about to embark on.

Promises I Can Keep: Why Poor Women Put Motherhood Before Marriage by Kathryn Edin and Maria Kefalas

Over a span of five years, sociologists Kathryn Edin and Maria Kefalas talked in-depth with 162 low-income single moms to learn how they think about marriage and family. *Promises I Can Keep* offers an intimate look at what marriage and motherhood mean to these women and provides the most extensive on-the-ground study to date of why they put children before marriage despite the daunting challenges they know lie ahead.

See Poverty, Be the Difference by Donna Beegle

Donna Beegle shares the amazing story of how she escaped generational material poverty through education and the help of several key mentors, and then teaches her readers how to help those in material poverty.

Tattoos on the Heart by Gregory Boyle

For twenty years, Gregory Boyle has run Homeboy Industries, a gang-intervention program in Los Angeles. In *Tattoos on the Heart*, he distills his experience working in the ghetto into a series of parables inspired by faith. These essays are moving examples of the power of unconditional love and the importance of fighting despair.

The Ragamuffin Gospel by Brennan Manning

Manning reminds us that there is no need to “put on spiritual cosmetics to make ourselves presentable to God.” A humbling reminder that we are all in need of God’s grace, and that He gives His grace freely to all of us... even those we think don’t “deserve” it.

When Helping Hurts by Corbett, Fikkert and Platt

This book reveals our own poverty, examines both the systemic and personal issues that lead to material poverty, and gives very clear directions for how to inspire change that lasts and that doesn’t bring shame to the very ones we are trying to help. A must-read for areas working with teen moms in material poverty.