

TYPICAL HOST WEEK

Throughout the week there are 60-80 slots available for volunteers. Some congregations have a different member for each slot every day, while others have volunteers that take on multiple roles the entire week. Volunteers come from the host and support congregations and are assigned duties by the Host Volunteer Coordinator(s) who oversee the week.

Sunday:

▶ A Family Promise van & trailer arrives in the afternoon with bedding and the families' personal belongings to be set up in the designated sleeping quarters.

▶ Guest families arrive at the Host congregation about 5:30 Sunday evening. The rooms for the families and the common area have been set up prior to their arrival.



Each night of hosting:

▶ Families settle in, relax and meet the coordinators and the evening volunteers. At 6:00 PM dinner is served family style. Guests and volunteers share the meal together. Families are responsible for their children and help with clean up and chores.

▶ After dinner, volunteers fellowship with families. Hosts and their families play games, help with homework, watch videos, or just talk.

▶ Food for lunch is available in the kitchen area and parents make sack lunches for their families for the following day.

▶ Adults turn in around 10:00 PM; children at appropriate earlier bedtimes. Wake-up is around 6:00 AM. 2 Volunteers (one male, one female) will spend the night at the congregation.



▶ Breakfast is served around 6:30 AM during the week; typically cereal and other convenience foods. The Family Promise van picks the families up at 7:00 AM.

During the day (families are not at the congregation):



▶ The Driver takes guests to the Day Center. From there, children will go to school and the parents to their jobs. In the afternoon the reverse is done.

▶ If the parents do not have a job, they work with the Director at the Day Center to seek employment, housing, and other resources to help them regain their independence. Guests may shower and do laundry at the Day Center, as well as care for small children.

▶ Everyone returns to the Host Congregation around 5:30 PM and the cycle repeats.



Saturday:

▶ On Saturday the families can sleep in and enjoy a hot breakfast (pancakes or bacon and eggs). If the congregation has an activity planned the families may choose to participate, or they may go back to the Day Center and do what families typically do on weekends—visit friends and relatives, take children to activities, or just hang out.

The next Sunday:



▶ On Sunday the families are packed up and out of the church prior to Sunday services. They are taken to the Day Center until it is time to move on to the next congregation. Families that want to attend services will usually do so at their own congregations, or they may choose to worship at the host's congregation.

...and the next host congregation begins its week.