Glenmary Volunteer Procedures for welcoming groups back to the Mountain in light of COVID-19

Hello friends, on May 28, 2020, the state of Tennessee released guidelines for the reopening of Day Camps and more importantly for the Glenmary Volunteers on Joppa Mountain, the reopening of Overnight Camps. You can find these guidelines at https://www.tn.gov/governor/covid-19/economic-recovery/summer-day-camps-guidelines.html.

The Glenmary Home Missioners are going to put into place the following procedures as we move forward in welcoming back groups of high schools, colleges, and parishes to the Glenmary Volunteers on Joppa Mountain.

1. Until further notice, the Glenmary Home Missioners will be limiting the size of volunteer groups to 12 total, including chaperone. This will allow six feet of social distancing for sleeping and eating arrangements.
2. All Glenmary employees and staff will get COVID-19 testing before the first group of volunteers arrive to the Glenmary Volunteers on Joppa Mountain.
3. The Glenmary Home Missioners have purchased a no-touch thermometer that will be used to check the temperature of staff and volunteers every morning before we leave Toppa Joppa to serve those most vulnerable in our community. Glenmary hopes that each high school, college and adult group will test individuals’ temperatures before coming to serve at the Glenmary Volunteers on Joppa Mountain.
4. The Glenmary Home Missioners have purchased masks for individuals that cannot provide their own for use in situations when social distancing is not possible. All staff will wear masks to protect those most vulnerable in the community.
5. The Glenmary Home Missioners will designate an empty Tiny House for if a short-term volunteer becomes sick during their time of mission service and needs to be quarantined.
6. The Glenmary Volunteer department will dedicate itself to disinfectant cleaning before and after a group leaves the Glenmary Volunteer Department.
7. The Glenmary Volunteers on Joppa will provide a sanitizing station for staff and volunteers at each site such as a wash station with soap and running water and/or bottle of hand sanitizer.
8. Until it is safe, the Glenmary Volunteer program will modify the Group Volunteer program in the following ways as to protect those who serve with us and those we serve in the community:
   A. Not serving at any Nursing Home in the community
   B. Not visiting and participating in worship at local Baptist Church’s unless there is an outside service that will allow room for Social Distancing. We might explore inviting a minister over as a friend of the Mountain to share in ecumenism.
   C. Not visiting clients in their houses.
   D. We will practice the guidelines instituted by the Diocese of Knoxville when groups attend Mass. You can find these guidelines at https://1saxj2lvg934yq49o1o3msw9lu-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Bishop-Stika-Pastoral-Letter-Decree-Diagrams-on-Public-Masses.pdf
   E. Glenmary will ask our Country/Bluegrass sites to sit the group in its own cohort 25 plus feet from the stage of any performance. We will ask volunteers not to dance with anyone outside their group.
F. The Glenmary Volunteer Department will endeavor to do service projects that will allow the most social distancing for staff and volunteers like home repair, food pantry, and outside projects at Kingswood Home for Children.

G. Camp Fiesta will be canceled this Summer as it would be impossible to provide adequate social distancing at site plus to transport all those children. Glenmary is operating a Free Summer School Lunch Program for those in need in this time of Pandemic.

9. The Glenmary Volunteer Department will work with any group as to add additional modifications to the program as to protect the volunteers who serve with us.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact me at jgrose@glenmary.org or at 606-202-3658.