Volunteers in Mission Guidelines

(Approved September 16, 2003)
(Amended July 2004)

Our Purpose:
Volunteers in Mission share Christ's love in ways which make a Christian difference. We witness through work by:

- Honoring God in all we do
- Living in community
- Experiencing the people
- Caring and listening
- Being patient and flexible

Our Task:
Our task is what we do (or the physical work we do) with our abilities and is always secondary to our purpose of making a Christian difference. Although our task is distinct from our purpose, the two are joined together so that Christ may be lifted up

Guidelines for Conference Workcamps/Applying for Funds

(All funds through VIM are for materials only. Each camp will be considered separately by the VIM coordinator)

These guidelines are set for accountability purposes and to assist smaller churches who may not be able to send workcamps on their own.

- Request must be submitted by August of each year. The following financial guidelines must be met:
    - A statement describing the project, estimated cost for each participant, how leftover funds will be used.
    - All funds must go through the conference treasurer.
- **The workcamp must adhere to the Conference Safe Sanctuaries Policy. See Conference website www.susumc.org See "Supervision" on guidelines for youth.**
- The workcamp must be representative of the conference – multiple churches from multiple districts.
    - Up to 3 persons from any one church may apply (if the camp isn't full by 6 months prior to workcamp date, then others from the same church may apply.)
    - In order to encourage new campers, we suggest that only 1/3 be repeat campers. (We recognize the value of taking skilled campers)
    - Age limits to the camp depend on the work site.
    - We recommend that workcamps outside the US take only those who are 18 and older (at the discretion of the team leader).
    - The team leader must check with the site for possible age restrictions.
- The workcamp must be advertised by the VIM coordinator.
- The workcamp leader must be approved by the VIM committee.

    - Leader and Co-leader must take VIM training or meet with VIM coordinator or have led conference workcamps in the past.
    - There must be a co-leader for all workcamps.
- Evaluation forms must be completed by the team leader and each participant. (If these are not submitted, it may jeopardize funding for future workcamps)

- $10 per member of each workcamp should be contributed to the Conference VIM (if persons participate in more than one workcamp per year, this only needs to be paid once.)

We encourage churches to support Volunteers in Mission Advance Special #64864

Leftover funds may be used in the following ways to be chosen by the team leaders of the workcamp:

- Given back to the mission to which the workcamp participated
- Give back to the participants
- Given back to VIM fund
- Scholarship Fund (not yet established) for future participants
- Established, recurring camps may save funds in an escrow account for future camp costs.