The Story: Have you ever been to a Mission Camp? Caraway? Caswell? Mundo Vista? Gulfport? Yes, Gulfport. If you were one of the thousands of North Carolinians who worked in Gulfport, Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina, you have been to a Mission Camp. This kind of camp is very different from spending a week at Caraway, Caswell or Mundo Vista!

What’s the difference? NC Baptist Men’s Mission Camps have been modeled after the work done in Gulfport, Mississippi. Located in Red Springs, NC (near Lumberton) this camp serves as the home base for volunteers who are serving homeowners and other organizations in Christ’s name throughout surrounding counties.

The Mission Camp has four modular housing units which will accommodate at least 100 people and a remodeled warehouse that will house another 120. A shower unit has been set up for volunteers as well. A state of the art industrial kitchen and large dining hall are also a part of the Camp facilities. With all the comforts of home, the Mission Camp houses thousands of volunteers each year.

Red Springs is in the Burnt Swamp Association and Robeson Association. Robeson County is in the southeastern part of the state. Recent census reports indicate that this county has the highest poverty rate in our state. Like Gulfport, Red Springs needs volunteers who will work on homes and share the Gospel with the homeowners.

Needs in the Red Springs area include sheetrock, heating and air conditioning, pouring concrete, and additional handyman ministry needs. However, there’s more to be done than just construction. Building relationships with the homeowners is a main priority. Non-construction projects such as sports, backyard Bible clubs, etc. are also needed. An on-site coordinator and other leaders work with local agencies to identify homeowners in need. The Lumbee Tribe, local community development organizations, the county housing authority and the Council on Aging are partnering with Baptists to reach out to this community.

The Missions Camp is ready. The community is ready. Will you and your church volunteer to go to Red Springs and serve?

How to Get Involved: Red Springs Mission Camp is a great place to involve the men, women, and youth of your church in missions here in our own state. Contact Mary Mountz at NC Baptist Men to express interest (1-800-395-5102 x 5606 or mmountz@ncbaptist.org) or go to our website at www.ncmissions.org for more information. [Projects/North Carolina/Red Springs].

How You Can Pray:

- Pray for those in need in Red Springs and other places in our state, that they might find help and hope.

- Pray for volunteers who give of their time and talents, that God would work through them to touch lives.

- Pray for the coordinators and other leaders who make the mission camps run that God would give them love, patience, and discernment.

Jesus answered, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.”

Luke 10:27

Story by Kelli Williams