

MATE Housing Ministry
A Ministry of Mission at the Eastward
PO Box 206
Farmington, ME 04938
Telephone: (207) 713-6283
Email: housing@missionattheeastward.org

2024 SUMMER WORK GROUP APPLICATION

Application date: _____

Name of Group or Church: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Contact person(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ **E-mail:** _____

WORK GROUP INFORMATION – It is best to email or call to lock-in a date prior to submitting the application.

Work Team Dates: _____

Estimated Total Number of people in Group: _____ Number of crew leaders: _____

Number in your group by age: Youth (under 18) _____ Adult (18 and older) _____

Please return this page to MATE-MHM at the address shown at the top at your earliest convenience after receiving this application. Keep the rest of the letter for your files.

1. COMPOSITION OF YOUR TEAM:

Age: Minimum age for workers is ~14 years. Also, a 1:5 ratio of ‘adult’ [age >18] to every ‘youth’ [age <18] is the minimum we can accept – we prefer something closer to 1:3.

MHM discourages bringing younger children. If you do bring younger children, their role needs to be limited to an age-appropriate work site with parental supervision. When we contact you for additional details, we’ll ask for this team composition information.

Skill level: It is expected that each work group will have ‘skilled’ leaders who will be responsible for leading each work site crew, both in doing the work and in doing it safely. For each adult in the group, it will help greatly in assigning work sites if we know their various construction expertise and the level of that expertise. We also like to hear from you what types of work you prefer to do, and work you do NOT prefer to do. **In April, MATE will contact you** to discuss this information to help us in planning, and also request at least 10% of your team donation be sent then. We start client home visits in late April and begin to incur expenses.

2. HOUSING INFORMATION

Work Groups have several “housing options.”

A. Dormitories at the University of Maine at Farmington, Farmington, Maine. UMF dorms are typically “suites.” [Meals can also be contracted at the University.] For more information and booking please contact:

Ernestine Hutchinson - eleight@maine.edu

Conferences and Facilities Office

111 South Street Farmington, ME 04938 Phone: (207) 778-7344

B. Farmington Conference Center, 216 Whittier Road, Farmington
Camp/Retreat style accommodations close to town, including: bunkhouse facilities; cabins; meeting space; commercial kitchen and dining hall; outdoor worship area; river-front recreation area and RV sites.

www.farmingtonconferencecenter.org (207) 578-3114

C. North New Portland Community Church: approx. 20 miles from the Fairbanks Union Church. Kitchen Facilities are available there. There is space for campers & tents. Call Nan Berry, 207-628-6061 if you need more information on this option.

D. There are also several camp grounds as well as locally owned motels that could be utilized. Please contact housing@missionattheeastward.org for more details.

3. FOOD SERVICE INFORMATION

Work groups provide their own meals. Kitchen facilities are available at several local Farmington churches. [Please contact directly for availability and fees.]

A. Saint Joseph’s Catholic Church (207) 778-2778

B. Henderson Memorial Baptist Church (207) 778-2163

B. Old South Congregational Church (207) 778-4438

C. UMF offers cafeteria meal plans (207) 778-7344

4. PROOF OF INSURANCE

MHM **requires** that every work group member MUST have personal liability and health insurance [Each group is responsible for verifying this]. **Further, we require that each work group send to MHM a certificate of group liability insurance coverage** [your church should have this coverage for mission trips].

5. DONATION

MATE requests a fee of \$175-\$250 per worker on your team. The sliding scale has been employed to allow churches with fewer financial resources to still send teams to MATE. Churches that are able, pay the full \$250 per worker. Team fees are vital to MATE's operations to cover the costs of building materials, staff, and administrative costs. We ask that you submit a deposit of an estimated 10% of your expected team fees with your application, and pay the balance upon your arrival in Farmington. Please note that this amount may not correlate to the actual work your group may do – for example, painting sites cost less than sites that involve roofing repairs or new windows. Clearly, the more funds we receive, the more homes we can assist with repairs. We ask that you do whatever you can. Checks can be made payable to MATE-Housing Ministry. As our commitment to homeowners is partly based on the number of volunteers we receive, we cannot refund any deposits should your group decide to cancel, as we made commitments based on your funding.

6. 2023 WORK GROUP CALENDAR

Please check our website for information. www.missionattheeastward.org; then click on the link for MATE Housing Ministry (MHM).

ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATION

The MATE Housing Ministry will respond to your application as soon as possible. We will make every effort to accommodate your group.

Please return the completed application to the MATE Office by email or send via US mail.

PLEASE ONLY SEND AN APPLICATION IF YOU ARE CERTAIN A GROUP WILL BE COMING TO MAINE IN THE WEEK SELECTED. WE CAN EASILY FILL VACANCIES WITH LAST MINUTE APPLICANTS – BUT IT IS NOT SO EASY TO FILL LATE CANCELLATIONS WHEN A GROUP BACKS OUT OF THEIR COMMITMENT.

Email: housing@missionattheeastward.org
US Mail: MATE Housing Ministry
Mission at the Eastward
PO Box 206 Farmington, Maine 04938

This is a summer home repair program, operating from June through August. The dates shown are Sunday to Saturday - Please see assignments and available slots in the schedule on the website. Signup is on a 1st come – 1st served basis, with teams who come annually getting 1st preference for their week. We are limited in the total number of volunteers we can support each week.

Other dates: Work groups normally arrive on Saturday or Sunday and depart the following Saturday, working Monday through Friday. If you have other plans, please so indicate.