

Foundational Objectives

Mountain T.O.P. is people helping, caring, sharing, learning, and growing spiritually. A Mountain T.O.P. camp is a unique setting that brings participants away from their everyday world. Camp becomes one of the most positive environments for teaching and learning values and skills, witnessing and effecting change in individual's lives.

Mountain T.O.P. has three foundational objectives. No one objective is more important than the other. Our energies are evenly distributed between all three objectives seeking to enhance each one as we serve God in the Cumberland Mountains of Tennessee.

Objective #1

To help meet the physical, spiritual, social, and emotional needs of the Tennessee Cumberland Mountain people

The ministry strives to meet all of the four needs identified above for the families and individuals with whom they work. Mountain T.O.P. service projects provide the people of the Cumberland Mountains with the opportunity to have home repair and renovation needs met. Mountain T.O.P. day camps provide a place for children, ages 6 - 17, to experience a Christian community. Names of those who may have needs are given to the Mountain T.O.P. staff by community service workers, Human Resource Agencies, Referral Services, Ministers, community leaders, teachers, family, friends etc.

Objective #2

To actively encourage the Christian growth of the participants and staff who come to work with Mountain T.O.P.

The community forming programs in the evenings at camp are a chance for campers to share their daily experiences. This is where the community begins to base its thoughts, feelings, values, and beliefs on an experience grounded in Christian faith put into action.

Objective #3

To develop the leadership skills of participants and staff members

Staff members gain invaluable skills in making decisions, leading groups, working with a variety of people from different backgrounds and cultures, broadening their perspectives about life and people, and in communicating their faith. It is a chance for people to learn more about themselves and their capabilities.

Participants are given the opportunity to develop leadership skills while they are working with their teams and at camp with the whole community. Participants may help lead singing, recreation, community prayers, or even parts of the worship services. Participants learn how to work with other youth and adults from different backgrounds and cultures. They increase their self-confidence and enhance their abilities while at Mountain T.O.P.