

Helping in the eyes of Mountain T.O.P.

A look at how Mountain T.O.P. approaches helping families in our service area.

The first thing to remember about helping at Mountain T.O.P. is that we are here because we have answered the call Jesus gives us in Mathew 28:19. In the

*Go then and make disciples
of all the nations, baptizing
them into the name of the
Father and of the Son and
of the Holy Spirit
-Mathew 28:19*

past two thousand years, men and women all over the world have tried to define and act upon this call and MTOP is no different. We believe that we are fulfilling Jesus' call by offering the opportunity to love one another through mission. We are all part of a much larger picture and giving others the opportunity to participate in Christ's love is vital to our world. We hope that

your experience with MTOP will help you discover what God is calling you to do specifically in this world while discovering what it means to be a disciple of Christ.

The second thing to understand about MTOP is that we seek to empower everyone with whom we work. From our staff to the Day Camp children to each one of our participants to our wider communities, MTOP is a partnership ministry. We are intentional about inspiring initiative in peoples' lives because that is what Christ's love has done for us.

“But we’re only here for a short period of time. How can we make a difference?” This is part of the mystery of Christ's love! When you come to MTOP, you are part of a flow of ongoing ministry support in this region. You are joining with past participants, local families, churches, teachers, and other supporters to spread the message of abundant life in Christ. He takes what we have to offer and uses our efforts to bring about restoration and healing.

When you arrive at camp, it is important for you to recognize that MTOP sees needs in four categories (see our Foundational Objectives). We seek to meet the **physical, social, emotional, and spiritual needs** of the Cumberland Mountain people. No one of the four needs is any more important than the other. Having a conversation with a lonely widow or playing a game of tag with a child is just as important as swinging a hammer. Our staff works very hard prior to your arrival to uncover the needs that exist and provide you with a meaningful experience in helping those needs.

While you are here, we hope that you seek your work as fruitful and have the opportunity to build relationships with the people you serve. These relationships can be transformational in someone's life, reflecting the love of Christ. Helping at MTOP means the work you do will not only be fulfilling basic physical needs, but will act as a reminder that all people are loved and belong to the body of Christ. “For Christ so loved the world...”