

Samaritan's Purse Short-Term Volunteer Information Form

Title: ☐ Mr. ☐ Mrs. ☐ Miss ☐ Dr. ☐ Rev.

Please print in black ink like this:

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Gender: ☐ M ☐ F **Age Category:** ☐ 13-17 ☐ 18+

Processing Center: ☐ Atlanta ☐ Boone ☐ Charlotte ☐ Denver ☐ Honolulu ☐ Minneapolis ☐ Orange County

First Name:

Last Name:

Your Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Home Phone:

E-mail Address:

Would you be interested in year-round volunteer opportunities? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of church or group you are representing (if any):

Emergency contact person:

Relationship:

Phone:

Samaritan's Purse Authorization and Release

By participating in Samaritan's Purse activities, I understand and agree for myself or the minor child named above (collectively referred to as "Volunteer"):

- Participation in Samaritan's Purse activities is as a volunteer and not as an employee.
- Volunteer assumes all risks and liabilities that may result from participation in Samaritan's Purse activities. Volunteer releases, forever discharges, and holds harmless Samaritan's Purse, its employees, representatives and agents from any and all causes of action, claims, demands and/or liabilities arising out of injury to or damage sustained by Volunteer.
- Volunteer agrees to indemnify Samaritan's Purse against any and all liability or loss, and against all claims or actions arising out of damage or injury to person or property caused by Volunteer.
- Volunteer recognizes that Samaritan's Purse and/or its authorized third parties may photograph, record video and/or take statements from Volunteer while participating in Samaritan's Purse activities, all of which may be used to promote Samaritan's Purse programs. Volunteer hereby authorizes the taking of such photographs, video or statements and releases Samaritan's Purse and its authorized third parties from any claims associated with the use, publishing, display, exhibition, modification, adaptation or copying of such photographs, video and/or statements, including, without limitation, any claims arising under the right of publicity, right of privacy, or copyright law.
- Volunteer recognizes that all activity within the warehouse is under video surveillance to ensure safety and security for all staff and volunteers and to provide additional accountability to our donors and releases Samaritan's Purse from any claim related thereto.

Volunteer Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature
For youth under 18 years old

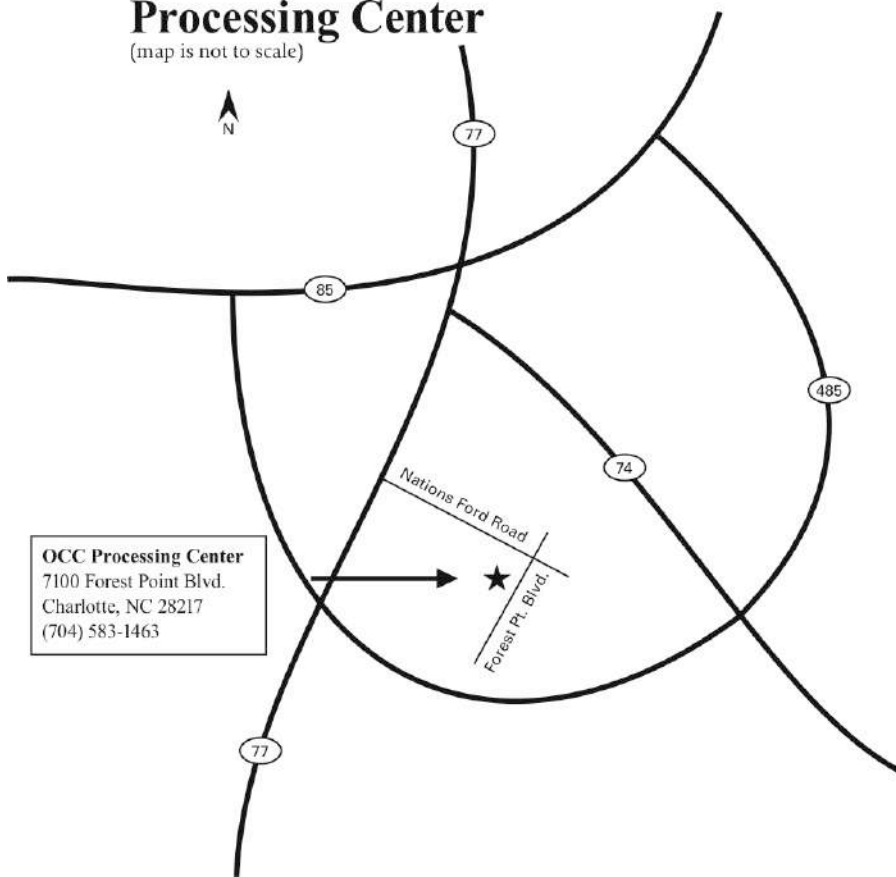
Parent or Guardian Name (Print)

Youth's Age



Directions to the Charlotte Processing Center

(map is not to scale)



From north of Charlotte

on I-77: Travel on I-77 south past downtown Charlotte. Exit at Nations Ford Road (Exit 4) and turn left onto Nations Ford. Travel 0.3 miles and turn right onto Forest Point Blvd. The Processing Center will be on your right (take the 2nd entrance).

From south of Charlotte on I-77: Travel I-77 North. Exit at Nations Ford Road (Exit 4) and turn right on Nations Ford. Travel 0.3 miles and turn right onto Forest Point Blvd. The Processing Center will be on your right (take the 2nd entrance).

From northeast of Charlotte traveling south on I-85: Take I-77 south (Exit 38) and continue on through downtown Charlotte. Exit at Nations Ford Road (Exit 4) and turn left onto Nations Ford. Travel 0.3 miles and turn right onto Forest Point Blvd. The Processing Center will be on your right (take the 2nd entrance).

Note: If you choose to by-pass Charlotte, take Exit 48 onto I-485 (towards Rock Hill), then follow directions "From east of Charlotte traveling west on Highway 74" below.

From southwest of Charlotte traveling north on I-85: Take I-485 East toward Pineville (Exit 30) for 10 miles to I-77 North. Travel on I-77 North to Nations Ford Road (Exit 4). Turn right on Nations Ford. Travel 0.3 miles and turn right onto Forest Point Blvd. The Processing Center will be on your right (take the 2nd entrance).

From east of Charlotte traveling west on Highway 74: Take I-485 south/west. Take I-77 North to Nations Ford Road (Exit 4). Turn right on Nations Ford. Travel 0.3 miles and turn right onto Forest Point Blvd. The Processing Center will be on your right (take the 2nd entrance).



Volunteer Group Information Frequently Asked Questions

Charlotte, North Carolina Processing Center

❖ ***Where is the Processing Center located?***

The Charlotte Processing Center is located at 7100 Forest Point Blvd., Charlotte, NC 28217. Directions and a map are included in this packet.

❖ ***Are there age requirements for volunteers?***

Yes. All volunteers must be at least **13 years of age**, regardless of what grade the student is in. We can allow NO EXCEPTIONS due to the warehouse environment in which the volunteers will be working.

❖ ***What do we need to know about chaperoning a youth group?***

Chaperoning a youth group in the Processing Center is a fun and important job. Your primary responsibilities as a chaperone are to assure the safety and appropriate behavior of your youth, to advise them on the proper procedures for their assigned tasks, to help them have a great experience, and to not lose sight of the significance of their work. **At least one chaperone for every four youth in your group is required.** Each chaperone should know the whereabouts of your youth at all times. For the safety of all volunteers in the warehouse, Processing Center staff reserve the right to ask any group not acting in accordance with safety procedures and outlined policies to leave the building at any time.

❖ ***What should I do if my group size changes?***

If you believe your group numbers may increase, please check availability by calling us at 1-800-442-9120. If your group size decreases, please notify us so these spaces may be made available to volunteers on our waiting list.

❖ ***What should we plan to wear in the Processing Center?***

We want your experience at the Processing Center to be an enjoyable one, so please make proper provisions to be comfortable. Open-toed shoes and sandals are a safety hazard in the warehouse, so please wear closed-toe shoes appropriate for standing. It is best to be prepared with warm, layered, casual clothes as it is a warehouse environment with some open dock doors and the temperature inside can vary.

❖ ***Where should we park?***

Parking is available at the Processing Center; however, due to the high volume of volunteers anticipated, please consider carpooling or using buses or vans.

❖ ***Is there a place to store our personal items when we arrive at the Processing Center?***

There is no place to store any valuables or personal items in the warehouse. Please do not bring any valuables including purses, cell phones, backpacks, etc. We cannot be responsible for damage or loss resulting from these items remaining in common areas. MP3 players, iPods, and other electronic devices that require headphones can be a dangerous distraction in the warehouse environment. For your safety, these items are not permitted in the Processing Center.

❖ ***What kind of training is provided?***

All groups and individual volunteers are required to attend an orientation/training session each season. These sessions are conducted at the Processing Center when you arrive for your initial visit.

❖ ***How will we spend our time at the Processing Center?***

Every volunteer in the Processing Center plays an integral role in the ministry of Operation Christmas Child. Volunteers in the Processing Center form teams and perform all the tasks necessary to process the shoe box at one location. Teams are responsible for removing financial contributions from the shoe boxes, inspecting the gifts, sorting inappropriate items, working with filler items, separating boxes by age and gender, and cartonizing. Other responsibilities in the warehouse involve light lifting, cleaning and sweeping, and assisting those who are dropping off shoe boxes. Each step in the process is important, ensuring the integrity and successful delivery of the gifts. Because of the fast-paced and changing environment of the warehouse, you may be asked to do different tasks. ***We appreciate your flexibility.*** If you are unable to stand for long periods of time, feel free to take breaks as needed in the break area. If you have back problems, please avoid the lifting jobs or wear a back support belt.

❖ ***Is there a time and place for us to take breaks if necessary?***

Yes, there is a break area. Vending machines are stocked with chilled water, soft drinks, juices and snacks. Refrigerators are available if you bring your own meals and snacks. Ice is not provided; however, you may bring your own coolers. No food or drinks are allowed outside of the break area. Please be advised that tobacco products are not allowed on the property.

❖ ***Our group has packed more shoe box gifts since Collection Week. What should we do with them?***

That's wonderful! Our greatest need continues to be more shoe box gifts. Please feel free to bring all of your additional shoe box gifts to the Processing Center with you. We have a Collection Center set up at the warehouse.

❖ ***Are there tours of the Processing Center available?***

Tours are available at the Charlotte Processing Center on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 11:00 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 4:00 p.m., and 4:30 p.m. during the regular processing season. Please call or e-mail to schedule your tour in advance.

❖ ***Can you recommend any hotels in the area?***

There is a list of recommended hotels and contact information included in this packet. Each hotel offers discounted rates if you mention you are with Operation Christmas Child.

❖ ***How else can we prepare for our visit?***

Prayer is the foundation of all that we do through Operation Christmas Child. Beginning with the initial stages of packing and preparing shoe boxes, through the delivery of the gifts into the hands of children on the other side of the world, our desire is for every detail of the project to be covered in prayer. Included in this confirmation packet is a devotional written especially for Operation Christmas Child Processing Center volunteers. We encourage you and your group to read through the devotional together and spend time in prayer as you prepare for your experience at the Processing Center. There will also be opportunities available during your scheduled time at the Processing Center to make use of the on-site Prayer Room, lifting up the needs of the Processing Center and, even more, the children who will receive shoe box gifts and the message of Jesus Christ this year.

❖ ***We have a few more questions. Who should we contact?***

We are happy to assist you in your planning. Please contact us if you have additional questions:

Physical Address:

Operation Christmas Child
7100 Forest Point Blvd.
Charlotte, NC 28217
Phone: (800) 442-9120
Fax: (704) 583-9381
E-mail: occcarolinas@samaritan.org
www.samaritanspurse.org

Mailing Address:

Operation Christmas Child
P.O. Box 240417
Charlotte, NC 28224



“Special Delivery...Wrapped in Love”

*“He has delivered us from the power of darkness
and conveyed us into the Kingdom of the Son of His love.”*

Colossians 1:13, NKJV

God is in the delivery business—always has been and always will be. In the Bible, the word *deliver* has rich and varied significance. A primary meaning is “to rescue, save, or draw out” and “to snatch or drag out of danger.” We need to be delivered because we are powerless to save ourselves. Jesus is our Rescuer, our Savior. In extravagant love, the Father sent His Son to deliver us from the darkness and dead-end ways of sin and transfer us into the Kingdom of light and liberty. This eternal transaction is true for all who receive His gracious offer of life and salvation.

Deliver also carries the idea of making an announcement or handing over a message. Amazingly, God has invited *us* to help share the Good News. Through Operation Christmas Child, we have the privilege of delivering this wonderful message to children and their families. The gift-filled boxes you handle in the Processing Center will find their way around the world and provide an opportunity for children to hear and respond to the life-changing proclamation of God’s love.

In the African country of Congo, Christelle attended an Operation Christmas Child program where she was given a special gift. Inside she found socks and decided to offer them to her father, Gullaume. Questioned as to where she had gotten such beautiful socks, Christelle replied that Jesus told one of his children to send them in a gift box to her. What’s more, she continued, “I decided to share this Jesus-gift with you, because they taught us that Jesus’ love is to be shared with relatives and neighbors.” He had been vigorously resisting the Gospel, but Gullaume’s heart changed and he was baptized in church. Christelle later became a Sunday school teacher.

Kristina writes from Bosnia, “All in all, the shoe boxes did something that we could not do in and of ourselves. They gave us the opportunity to proclaim the Gospel to over 1,500 people. Without the shoe boxes, this would have never been possible. People would not come to an evangelistic event, and we would probably be thrown in jail. The shoe boxes were God’s way of breaking down barriers and showing Christ in a positive light. There is a lot of pain here. More people need to hear the Gospel. More people need to know that God is a God of love. God did a miracle through something as small as a shoe box, and I know that He will do the same again.”

The work of Operation Christmas Child not only impacts lives globally, but also locally. A brother and sister, ages 14 and 15, volunteered to work at one of the Processing Centers. They experienced a warm welcome from the staff, other volunteers, and the Processing Center chaplain. After finishing their shift, the duo went to the Billy Graham Library with their grandmother and a cousin. The Processing Center chaplain, who was also a Billy Graham Library volunteer, greeted them following the final video. Both siblings gave their lives to Christ, and their cousin renewed her commitment to the Lord, all as their grandmother watched with tears of joy.

When you consider your part in the cast of thousands who volunteer at the Processing Center, remember it is much more than inspecting, packing, or loading boxes. You are serving God alongside many others to make an eternal difference in hearts around the world and at home. Best of all, you can experience His forgiveness and freedom today. Thank the Lord that He’s in the delivery business!