

**Chautauqua Area Habitat for Humanity
Silver Creek Satellite
2012**

Youth Policy for Volunteering

Youth ages 16 – 17 will be allowed to work in the house under the following conditions:

- Must be accompanied by their own parent/legal guardian/adult designated by parent as responsible for the child; OR must be part of a school approved group, accompanied by a teacher.
- Must have a written statement from same acknowledging approval to be on site.
- May not use any machinery, power tools or handle hazardous material.
- May not work on roofs or other heights.
- Must work under the supervision of a responsible adult, within a ratio of 1: 3-4

Youth age 18 and over will be allowed to work in the house on all aspects of construction.

RATIONALE: The Habitat for Humanity International Youth Policy informs us and makes us cognizant of federal labor laws which preclude youth under the age of 16 from performing interior construction tasks. Federal regulations limit the times at which a child may be employed and the types of work that children are allowed to do. Under the regulations, children ages 14 and 15 are only allowed to work outside school hours and for a limited number of hours during a school week. (It should be noted that 14 is the minimum age of employment allowed by federal regulations.) As for the types of work allowed, no one under the age of 18 is permitted to do any work that the secretary of labor has said is too hazardous for children. Also, federal regulations specifically prohibit children ages 14 and 15 from working in general construction. However, they may engage in limited activities such as cleaning lots, landscaping, or painting.

Please see next page for youth activities for those under the age of 16

Activities for Involving Youth and Children

Many of these ideas are appropriate for multiple age ranges or can be used in a modified form. You are free to consider and incorporate other ideas that have been approved in advance by the Family Committee

Ages 5 – 7

- Draw or color greeting cards to be sold at a fund-raiser or design thank you notes to be used for the project.

Ages 7 – 10

- Landscape – learn about the local environment and, with the permission of the family partners.
- Help plant trees and plants in the yard.

Ages 10 – 12

- Speak to classmates about the mission of Habitat for Humanity
- Help clear the construction site of debris before or after construction.
- Help fold or stuff mailings
- Write thank you notes to volunteers and to those who have donated food or materials and supplies.

Ages 12 – 14

- Paint doors and baseboards off site before they are put into the house.
- Work with a media teacher or class to design and produce a video for the project.
- Help the family create a house-building diary

Ages 15 – 17

- Start a Habitat for Humanity campus chapter (www.habitat.org/ccyp)
- Tutor younger children.
- Provide babysitting.
- Help clean the house before the dedication.
- Write an article for the newspaper about being a partner family.
- Shovel gravel into a foundation.

