

Parent Info Letter for 2025-2026 S.O.M.E. Missions Trip Options

7th through 12th graders: Hidden Acres, Kaufman, TX

<https://www.hiddenacres.org/hamissioncamps>

- Dates: July- On Monday, students arrive at Hidden Acres for introductions, training and planning
On Friday, parents will pick up students from Hidden Acres – possible dinner and/or retreat for de-briefing and fellowship
- Costs: \$400
Expenses covered: t-shirt, 3 meals a day, activities, lodging at Hidden Acres, \$75 refugee camper scholarship
Optional Activity: stay one night at cabin in East Texas (additional \$100 for lodging and 3 meals)

9th through 12th graders or families: Big Creek Missions, Bear Branch, KY

<https://www.bigcreekmissions.com/summer>

- Dates: June – On Saturday, we travel to KY and stay overnight before arriving on Sunday afternoon for introductions, training and planning. Following Saturday, we travel home in one day
- Costs: \$275, plus travel expenses of gas, hotel and meals (~\$500- \$675 depending on vehicles)

Fundraising: We provide students with a fundraising letter template to send out to friends and families who may be interested in sponsoring part of their costs. Students will be able to find a digital fundraising template on our website.

A \$80 NON-REFUNDABLE deposit and signed Written Commitment is required to be placed on the roster. Registrations with Hidden Acres will need to be completed by March 1st to save our dates and receive the \$25 credit. Instructions for registering will be given to the students by March 15th to complete online. The student's balance will be paid directly to Hidden Acres/Big Creek and can be paid in increments.

If in the event of an emergency that your student is not able to commit or attend the mission trip, your balance will be returned minus the deposit and any expenses lost by S.O.M.E. As the mission leader, I do not receive any funds at any time for my service to your family and students.

Chaperones: As the mission leader, I will be one chaperone. Depending on the number of students going, we will need another adult female and two adult males to attend the mission trip as chaperones. We will be responsible for serving alongside the students in their respective areas at Hidden Acres. No student on our team will serve without one of our chaperones with them at all times. A background check will be required for all chaperones. Chaperones will receive a partial payment towards their costs of attending the mission camp.

Monthly Meetings: Students and parents will be placed on a GroupMe chat for communication purposes. Once a month, meetings will be in-person or on Zoom for team building or fundraising.

Bible Study: Some passages may be assigned prior to meeting to discuss with team.

Service Opportunities: As service opportunities arise, we may exchange a meeting time for a time to serve the community as a team.

Absences: Absences to meetings, fundraisers, and service opportunities will be allowed if kept to once a month. We all understand sickness, athletic games, and family responsibilities, but students will need to try to make most of the events to build our team and servant leadership skills.

If you have any questions, please call or email the Mission Leader. Shari Nelson, 214-395-8454, sharianne77@gmail.com