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## Newsletter

October 2018



Volunteers Leo Suitte and Steve Lyles equip a trailer with chain saws, generator and other items needed to help Hurricane Florence victims.

### Rebuilding Hope Volunteers Help Hurricane Victims

Teams of Rebuilding Hope volunteers assisted with cleanup in Elm City on Sept. 20 following a tornado spawned by Hurricane Florence and in Warsaw on Sept. 22 with cleanup from the hurricane.

In another disaster relief effort, RHI called for donations of cleaning supplies, paper products, nonperishable foods, and other essentials for hurricane victims. On Sept. 22, the supplies were delivered to the Core City FWB Church in Craven County, a collection site for Craven and Jones County victims.



RHI volunteer Jeffrey Strickland packs supplies for victims of Hurricane Florence.

“The response,” says RHI coordinator Randolph Wilson, “enabled us to nearly fill one of our trucks. We met people in dire need of help, and they’re going to need help for a long time to come.”

To further assist victims, RHI is working on plans to assist repairing homes. A partnership would be with either North Carolina Baptist Men or a local church in eastern North Carolina.

RHI began preparing to offer assistance to hurricane victims as the path of the hurricane was announced.

Within days, two tool trailers were outfitted with chain saws, generators, ladders, ropes and chains, safety equipment and a variety of tools. A tractor and skid steer loader were serviced and readied for use.

As the path of the storm veered away from local communities, volunteers looked toward helping storm-ravaged communities in other parts of the state and waited for a call.

Gearing up for this kind of mission is a first for Rebuilding Hope.

“We have the equipment, and volunteers are eager to help,” RHI coordinator Randolph Wilson says.

“We can’t do much where the hurricane hit until the water recedes,” he says. “Then we’ll connect with others at operation centers.”

RHI’s mission is always Christ-centered.

“When we serve, we want victims to know that we come in the name of and with the love of Jesus,” Randolph says.

## Rebuilding Hope's 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Men & Boys Ministry Weekend

This year's ministry weekend is Oct. 19-20. On Friday evening, men and boys will gather at Rebuilding Hope for a meal at 6 p.m. for which there is no cost.



A worship service will follow the meal. The speaker will be Joel Beckham, pastor of New Life Baptist Church, Henderson.

On Saturday morning, the men and boys will gather at Rebuilding Hope to make up teams and receive assignments for hands-on projects in our communities.

Men are encouraged to bring their sons and grandsons and their friends, as well as their neighbors.

The deadline for reservations is Monday, Oct. 15.

## RHI Volunteer Spotlight

If a first impression had prevailed, Rebuilding Hope wouldn't have the services of veteran volunteer Walt Slaton.

Walt got involved with RHI in 2010 after retiring and moving to Oxford.



Walt

"I was looking for a place where I could contribute," Walt explains. "I first visited the old Rebuilding Hope location to talk with Randolph. He wasn't in, but I spoke with older gentlemen.

"After talking with them I returned home and told my wife that was not for me. All that was

happening was two older men sitting around talking, and I wasn't interested in doing that. Strange, I now do some of that as well."

But, Walt says, he took another look after talking with both Randolph and an RHI volunteer.

"That caused me to take another look, and I have been coming to Rebuilding Hope ever since."

The Georgia native's volunteer service at RHI has included putting on shingles, building ramps and porches and home repairs.

"I now volunteer as the treasurer, board member and materials coordinator for SOS projects."

Volunteering is rewarding, says Walt, a member of Central Baptist Church and a Baptist preacher's son.

"I think the most rewarding part is the knowledge that the work we do is helping others and sharing the love of Christ with the community.

"It is special when a job is completed and the homeowner hugs your neck and thanks you. They had nowhere else to turn, and we solved a big problem for them."

Walt encourages others to volunteer at RHI "so they can be a part of sharing the gospel and helping others in a way that lots of people won't and can't.

"Sometimes it seems we spin our wheels, but we look back and see the Lord working through our efforts."

Walt was an engineer and held staff positions in headquarters and in management when he retired from IBM after 31 years.

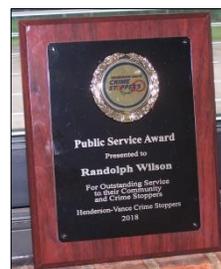
At his church, Walt teaches Sunday school, sings in the choir and serves as a deacon.

"Church and Rebuilding Hope seem to be almost a fulltime job," he says.

He and Diane have been married 49 years and have two sons and three grandchildren.

Walt's leisure time is spent doing "honey-do" tasks, traveling and playing golf.

## Public Service Award to Randolph Wilson



RHI founder and coordinator Randolph Wilson was presented with a public service award Sept. 20 at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Crime Stoppers Awards

and Recognition Banquet.

## AmazonSmile Purchases Benefit Rebuilding Hope

Your Amazon purchases can now benefit Rebuilding Hope.

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon with the same products, prices and shopping features as Amazon.com.

The difference is that when you shop AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate a half-percent of the purchase price of eligible products to the charitable organization of your choice.

Every item available for purchase on amazon.com is also available on AmazonSmile at the same price. Eligible products are marked "Eligible for AmazonSmile donation" on their product detail pages.

When you're shopping online at smile.amazon.com, Rebuilding Hope will benefit from a donation from the AmazonSmile Foundation – and you're helping us help our communities.

## How to Bring a Group to RHI

RHI has a number of volunteer opportunities throughout the year and will work with you or your group (youth or adult) to not only meet the needs of homeowners, but also to meet the needs of your group in its effort to put its faith into action serving others. We provide job locations and materials for hands-on experience and will arrange for one-day projects or projects for more than one day. Overnight accommodations can be arranged. E-mail us at [rwilson@rebuildinghopeinc.org](mailto:rwilson@rebuildinghopeinc.org) or call 252-438-5132 for more information or registration.



## RHI – Here to Help

To request help to build a wheelchair ramp or to make home repairs, visit our office where a volunteer will take your application. RHI does not take



applications over the phone or make monetary awards.

Depending on the type of work requested, RHI may require evidence of ownership of property. A landlord's permission for a wheelchair ramp is required.

While RHI provides services at no cost, donations from applicants are appreciated.

## Appliances Accepted

RHI accepts some used appliances that are in good working order. The appliances include washers and dryers, refrigerators and electric stoves. Appliances that require repairs cannot be accepted.

RHI does not have used furniture and cannot accept household goods or clothing.

## Building Wheelchair Ramps: Answers to Your Questions



Churches, do you have groups – like the one pictured above -- who can lend a hand and help us build wheelchair ramps? Your participation would help reduce a backlog of more than 30 requests – and help us all reach our communities for Christ.

Here are answers to some questions you might have.

**What preparations are made before work begins?** Before work begins, an RHI volunteer will visit the job site and assess the owner's physical and spiritual needs. The volunteer will take measurements and draw a

plan. Job sites are different and custom plans are necessary.

**What about materials and tools?** RHI will gather the materials and deliver them to the job site and provide tools, as needed.

**Are building permits required?** RHI will obtain the required permits.

**Who will supervise and be responsible for the work?** An experienced RHI crew leader.

**How long does building a ramp take?** Depending on the ramp (e.g., straight ramp or ramp with a landing) and the number of crew members, it's a day to a day-and-a-half job.

**Where are job sites located?** In all the communities we serve, but every effort will be made to assign work in the vicinity of your church.

**Can work be scheduled on Saturdays?** Yes.

**For more information?** Call the RHI office at 252-438-5132.

If you can help, we'll put you in touch with Bill Overby of Enterprise Baptist Church, our team leader in Warren County. Or Steve Timberlake of Oxford Baptist Church, our team leader in Granville County. Or, in Vance County, Steve Lyles of Raleigh Road Baptist Church, Vann Wester of New Sandy Creek Baptist Church, or Cliff McClanahan of Central Baptist Church.

### **Areas Where You Can Serve at RHI**

AC/Heating Accounting  
Carpentry/Framing & Finishing  
Carpet/Vinyl Installation  
Cleaning Computer Cooking  
Doors Drafting Drywall  
Electrical Evangelism Internet  
Office Organization  
Painting Plumbing Ramps  
Reception Roofing Siding  
Secretarial Telephone Windows  
Welding/Sheet Metal Writing

### **Equipment Available for Check-out**

RHI has equipment – like the game trailer pictured below -- that churches and groups may check out for use in their projects. Call the office at 252-438-5132 or Randolph's cell at 252-425-5593. The following equipment is available:

Game trailer – Outfitted with all kinds of



games to use for outreach.

Mobile kitchen – Snow cone, cotton candy and popcorn machines.

2 tool trailers – Equipped with all tools needed to build a wheelchair ramp.

### **Tentative 2018 Calendar**

#### **October**

19-20 - 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Men & Boys Ministry Weekend

On Friday evening of our Men's Ministry Weekend, men and boys will gather for a meal, at no cost, and a worship service at Rebuilding Hope. On Saturday morning they will gather at Rebuilding Hope to make up teams and receive assignments for hands-on projects in our communities.

#### **November**

21 - RHI Closed

22 - Thanksgiving – RHI Closed

23 - RHI Closed

#### **December**

24-28 – RHI Closed

31 – New Year's Eve – RHI Closed

### **Weekly Men's Prayer Group**

*As iron sharpens iron,  
so one man sharpens another.*

*Proverbs 27:17 (NIV)*

You're invited to our weekly men's prayer group on Thursday mornings at 7 o'clock. A light breakfast is served. A full breakfast is served on the first Thursday. Join us for a time of prayer and Christian fellowship.

### **And Now, 2,000 Pencils to Give Away**

Since we first announced that we had 4,000 pencils to give away, the quantity has shrunk to about 2,000.



So, if you need pencils for your classes or projects, give us a call.

And for your Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child boxes, the pencils are ready-made.

The pencils, which are not sharpened, were donated to RHI. Printed on them are the names of various businesses and organizations that ordered too many.