



Joni and Friends *Family Retreats*

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Short Term Missionary
(STM) 2009
Application Packet for
Mission Springs I and II
June 7th-12th
July 19th-24th



Joni and Friends Family Retreats provide a dynamic and unique opportunity to live out your faith. In just one week you can **reach out in a meaningful way** to one of the most unloved and unreached people groups right here in our own communities...people affected by disability.

One in every five Americans has a disability...and only 15% of churches in the U.S. are actively reaching out to them. **The opportunity is immense.**

Families face unique challenges in today's world. When a family is affected by disability, the stress and pressures of daily living are even greater...there's more to do, less time to do it in, and more bills to manage. Leisure time is scarce, if at all, and family time together is hard to come by. They need to hear the gospel...they need to find **hope in Jesus**...they need rest... they need opportunities to laugh and enjoy themselves...they need to be strengthened and encouraged...and given the tools to build a healthy family.

Families from around the country attend Family Retreats seeking relaxation, encouragement, and a time to strengthen their family. STMs – people just like you – **serve as the hands and feet of Jesus** offering practical help and assistance to each family. If you join us, you'll help families experience all the excitement of being at camp...the recreation, the crafts, the games, and the outdoors. Together with other STMs you'll set an example of **having fun and being still enough to hear the voice of God.**

During the day you'll provide **servant leadership** with the children and youth...allowing moms and dads to attend seminars, hear passionate biblical teaching, and enjoy time together as a couple. You'll have free time in the afternoon to enjoy various amenities which may include climbing walls and ropes courses, water sports and hiking trails. Then after free time you'll join back up with your assigned family for exciting evening events.

Through the simplicity of your service, you'll have the opportunity to build **relationships where you can share the gospel**...helping others find hope in Jesus. You don't have to be a professional to be a part of the team. We take care of the planning, medical concerns, and family members handle their own personal care needs. You just need a willing, Christ-like heart.

We'll provide you with helpful training materials for advance preparation. You'll arrive a day before the families for practical training, and you will be briefed on your family so that you know just what to expect. You'll room with other STMs, fellowship together, and find that support is close at hand throughout the week. Through the experiential training and time of serving, you'll be **equipped and encouraged** to continue serving in your local church. You'll experience **spiritual growth** like you never have before.

Our STM's range from **high school students to grandparents** and play a vital role in the lives of the families they serve. **It takes just six days and the cost is \$425.** We'll provide tips and tools for raising support and it will be one of the best experiences you ever encountered.

The family in today's culture is being tested and stretched like never before. **You can make a difference.**



STM INFORMATION | How to Apply

We're glad you are making plans to join us this summer. Through the application process, we want to gather all the information we need to make sure you have the best experience possible. We encourage you to apply early so that we can anticipate how many families we can host.

1: REGISTER BY MAIL

- Read this information/application packet.
- Complete all forms and send it with your non-refundable \$50.00 deposit (or full payment) to Joni and Friends S.F. Bay Area office: 3553 Castro Valley Blvd, Suite A, Castro Valley, CA. 94546.**
- Give out your references with self addressed, stamped envelopes (addressed to Joni and Friends S.F. Bay Area).
- Note: pages 5-7 of this application must be completed and mailed with deposit to the S.F. Bay Area office in order to process your application. Reference forms are needed if you are a new applicant or have not served within the last three years at Mission Springs.

2: PAYMENT AND CONFIRMATION: Family Retreat Fees: \$425

- If someone else or an organization is paying your way, ask them to clearly mark the payment (payable to Joni and Friends) with your name in the memo section and send it to the S.F. Bay Area office.
- Receive confirmation from your Retreat Director that your application is complete and your space is reserved at camp.
- Receive your "Welcome" packet of information pertaining to camp. (will come a few weeks prior to the beginning of retreat)
- If you have a balance due, send check or money order payment at least 4 weeks before the retreat to the S.F. Bay Area office. Credit card payments can be made on our secure site at http://www.joniandfriends.org/fr_payment2.0/
- Pray for a heart like God's and get ready to have a wonderful time serving at camp!



3553 Castro Valley Blvd., Suite A
Castro Valley, CA 94546
Office (510) 727-8845 Fax (510) 247-1241
Email: bayarea@joniandfriends.org
Website: <http://bayarea.joniandfriends.org>

STM INFORMATION | Frequently Asked Questions

When should I apply?

We recommend applying as early as possible. Registration opens in January. Applications are accepted until a retreat is filled or up to two weeks before the scheduled program start date.

How do I apply?

If this is your first time serving at this location, you will need to submit 3 reference forms with your application. Your retreat director will contact you when your application is approved. You will be notified if your desired retreat is full or if there is a problem with your application. All STMs 16 years or older must apply individually. All applications are subject to approval.

How much does it cost?

The cost is \$425. This includes lodging, food, special events, camp t-shirt and training.

What if I can't afford to pay?

This is a wonderful mission's opportunity to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ right here in our own community and nation to those affected by disability. We encourage STMs to raise support as if he/she is traveling overseas.

Many STMs find their own church is willing to invest in sending them as STMs through their missions, local outreach or disability ministry programs. Others send letters to friends and relatives explaining what they are doing and asking them to partner with them. Lastly, some STMs will pay some or all of the fees. Whether you choose any or all of these approaches, we'll give you the tools you need to help with raising support. Please let us know how we can support and serve you.

What are the requirements for STM's?

Family Retreat STM's are committed Christians 16 years or older who have a desire to serve families affected by disability. They are flexible, team players who are able to offer friendship, support and general assistance to help families get the most out of their week. STMs must be able to serve the entire length of the retreat and attend training prior to the retreat. No exceptions are made for late arrival or early departure.

There are possible exceptions to the age limit. If you have questions regarding this, please contact the Retreat Director for the retreat you wish to attend.

What kind of support and training are provided?

STMs training materials that provide the practical resources needed to prepare. Support raising templates and educational materials will be sent upon request. Onsite training before the families arrive helps STM's understand their specific roles and builds a team atmosphere. Ongoing support is available throughout the retreat by experienced leaders.

What will I be expected to do at camp?

STMs are assigned to a particular family to assist them with their various needs throughout each day of the retreat. They also help with the child and youth programs and may assist in other retreat duties based on their individual skills. STM's eat meals with their assigned family and join with them in most program activities.

STM'S do not provide personal or medical care. Families that need this type of care bring their own personal attendant or nurse.

Times are scheduled for breaks from serving during the week.

Is transportation provided?

We do not provide transportation to or from family retreats.

Closest airport: San Jose International, then Oakland International Shuttle, taxi and car rental service: we recommend a "Google" search to find the best price and location for your travel needs.

If I have a disability, can I still serve as an STM?

Yes, but you must be able to handle the length of the day and the demands of the STM schedule. You must be able to take care of your own needs.

Can I serve as an STM and bring my children?

Some sites can accommodate children of STM's. Contact your retreat leader for your site before applying to see if this is possible.

Is my cost (or donations from my supporters) tax-deductible?

In some cases STM's are able to deduct their cost from their income tax as "expenses while performing charitable activities". We recommend you consult with your CPA or tax advisor regarding the deductibility of your expenses. IRS publication 526 "Charitable Contributions" may help you determine what is appropriate for your situation.

Joni and Friends is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and a member of the Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability. Our federal tax ID number is 95-3402002.

STM APPLICATION | Personal Bio

Mail this page with all forms to the S.F. Bay Area office

HEALTHCARE INFORMATION

Insurance Policy Carrier		Insurance Policy Number	
Height	Medical History		
Weight			
List any medications, including dosage, you are currently taking			
Describe your medical limitations			
List any allergies		List any food restrictions	
Doctor's Name	Doctor's Specialty		Doctor's Phone

ABILITY INFORMATION (if you do not have a disability, check no, and skip this section)

Do you have a disability? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, what is your disability?		
Do you have any special needs?			
Do you have any hearing problems? If yes, please explain:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Do you have any speech/cognition problems? If yes, please explain:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
What are your physical strengths?	What are your physical weaknesses?		

Do you require adaptive equipment? Yes No If so, what do you require? _____ Do you require a wheelchair? Yes No

What kind of wheelchair do you have? _____ Manual _____ Power How wide is your wheelchair? _____

Please describe your ability to transfer from your chair to other devices _____

Do you require a room without steps? Yes No Do you require wheelchair accessible room? Yes No

Are you bringing a certified service dog? Yes No What agency is the dog certified by? _____

Do you require supplemental oxygen? Yes No Do you utilize a Personal Care Attendant (PCA) at home? Yes No

Are you bringing a PCA to retreat? (PCA must fill out application) Yes No

Are you able to walk distances? Yes No

What is your degree of mobility? _____ Ambulatory _____ Walks short distance _____ Non-Ambulatory

Are you a returning STM? Yes No If you are returning, if possible, do you want the same assignment as last time? Yes No

STM APPLICATION | Interests and References

Mail this page with all forms to the S.F. Bay Area office. Use other side if you need more room to answer questions.

Name	Birthdate Mo day yr	Age
Date which you are applying for Mission Springs, CA. _____ June 7-12 _____ July 19-24	Roommate Request (optional, accommodated if possible)	

In what areas do you have experience, interest or a desire to serve? Check any that apply. We do our best to accommodate, but are unable to guarantee age group you will serve.

Age Group

- Infant (ages 0-3)
- Young Elementary (age 4-7)
- Elementary (age 8-10)
- Pre-teen (age 11-13)
- Teen (age 14-17)
- Young Adult (age 18-25)
- I am willing to serve an adult

Communication/Education

- Prayer team
- Sign language
- Small group leader
- Special education
- Teaching children

Sports and Recreation

- Certified lifeguard
Agency: _____
Exp date: _____
- Coaching
- Recreational therapy

Administration

- Assisting an activity leader
- Assisting an administrative leader
- Organizational skills

Creative Arts

- Arts and/or crafts
- Drama and/or puppetry
- Musical instrument: _____
- Photography
- Sing or Dance

Medical Services

- Attendant care
- First aid/CPR certified
Agency: _____ Exp date: _____
- Medical profession
Agency: _____ Exp date: _____

How do you rate yourself on the following skills?

	Poor	Fair	Average	Good	Excellent
Emotional Stamina	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Flexibility	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Taking Initiative	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Leadership	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Accepting Responsibility	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Team Player	<input type="checkbox"/>				
Physical Stamina	<input type="checkbox"/>				

If this is your first time serving at this location you will need to submit 3 reference forms with your application. Complete the top section of each of your reference forms. Give each of your references the appropriate form with a self addressed, stamped envelope to the S.F. Bay Area office, attention: Cheryl Birmingham

I gave my reference forms to the following people on this date: _____.

<p>Reference 1: Pastor or Church Leader</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Name of Church: _____</p> <p>Daytime Phone: _____</p>	<p>Reference 2: Co-worker or Friend</p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Relationship: _____</p> <p>Daytime Phone: _____</p>
<p>Reference 3: Current Employer or Supervisor</p> <p><i>If you are retired or not employed, use this form for someone who supervised you in a STM position or a friend.</i></p> <p>Name: _____</p> <p>Position: _____</p> <p>Daytime Phone: _____</p>	<p>Describe your relationship with Christ:</p>

Send all signed forms and your payments with the below coupon to the S.F. Bay Area office
Registration is not complete without \$50 deposit and will not be processed. Sending your forms and payments to the wrong address will significantly delay your registration processing and may result in being placed on a waiting list.

FAMILY RETREAT PAYMENT (STM)

Make checks payable to: Joni and Friends

- This is my: deposit
 additional payment
 tax-deductible donation to scholarship fund
- My check is enclosed (payable to Joni and Friends). Do not send cash.
 Please charge my credit card this amount \$ _____
 American Express MasterCard Visa Discover

Credit Card Number | Expiration Date

Signature (for credit card payment only)

Location and Date for which you are registering

Name

Street

City, State, Zip

Phone

Email

OFFICE USE ONLY: Date received: _____ Amount: _____ Applied to account: _____

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 Please charge my credit card this amount \$ _____
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Credit Card Number | Expiration Date

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Name

Street

City, State, Zip

Phone

Email

OFFICE USE ONLY: Date received: _____ Amount: _____ Applied to account: _____

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 Please charge my credit card this amount \$ _____
 American Express MasterCard Visa Discover

Credit Card Number | Expiration Date

Signature (for credit card payment only)

Location and Date for which you are registering

Name

Street

City, State, Zip

Phone

Email

OFFICE USE ONLY: Date received: _____ Amount: _____ Applied to account: _____
