

# Camp Restore Detroit

Restoring Hope



## What is Camp Restore Detroit?

Camp Restore Detroit is a ministry serving in the great city of Detroit. Our mission is to share God's love while partnering with our community to **restore Hope, home, and community** in the 9th Precinct. In partnership with our community, we seek the good that is already happening. CRD strives to provide volunteers, in the form of extra hands and feet to support those skills and dreams.

Together we can continue restoring the 9th Precinct to a beautiful and growing neighborhood while sharing God's love. You can partner with us in restoring hope, home, and community.



## Contents

Our Structure.....	2
CRD Model.....	2
CRD Campus.....	3
What Our Volunteers Do.....	3
2021 Projects.....	4
Community Leadership and Engagement.....	4
Education.....	5
Church Engagement.....	5
Gardens and Greenspace.....	6
Housing.....	7
Organizational.....	7
Get Involved.....	8

# Why Detroit?

Many people associate Detroit with despair and destruction. The area surrounding Camp Restore Detroit is only 25% populated, meaning many houses, lots, and even entire blocks are abandoned. Camp Restore Detroit is one response to this human disaster, working together to restore hope and share God's love in our community.

Today, Detroit is rapidly changing. Violence is at a 50-year low per capita. Downtown Detroit is alive again, and the economy is improving! However, most residential areas of Detroit, like the neighborhood surrounding Camp Restore Detroit, continue to struggle. Neighborhood leaders and organizations are using innovation, creativity, and determination to help restore all of Detroit. Our campers often report that our community leaders are some of the most resilient, passionate, and qualified people they have ever met!



## Beginnings

Camp Restore was originally started in New Orleans following Hurricane Katrina. In 2016, Camp Restore New Orleans and the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) approached Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church asking if they would open Camp Restore Detroit on their site. Mt. Calvary accepted the challenge and began Camp Restore Detroit in February 2017. Throughout the years, God has blessed us abundantly. In 2020, we became an official 501(c)(3) and a short time later, in early 2021, we officially became a Registered Service Organization (RSO).

Camp Restore Detroit has hosted volunteers of all ages and sizes, housing, feeding, and connecting groups to community leaders. The partnerships and relationships that have been built are invaluable. We know that by working together **hope** can be restored and authentic relationships built in our Detroit community!

*"I noticed the recent activity in the neighborhood and all that was happening around the church. It brought hope and encouragement to us to see people at work helping others and the improvements being made by those serving." -9th precinct Community*

## CRD Model

Camp Restore Detroit follows an asset-based community development model. This means we do not go into our community and share what we think is needed, but instead find and partner with the good things community members are already doing. We recognize everyone has gifts and skills to share, and the relationships and partnerships formed in our community are even more important than the projects completed.



## CRD Campus

Camp Restore Detroit's campus is growing! The campus includes two houses and many city lots to create welcoming and beneficial spaces for our community.

- **Dorms:** Old classrooms within Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church were renovated into dorm rooms for overnight campers
- **"White House":** This house is being renovated into an outreach center focused on children. This building houses opportunities for music, art, stem activities, and more. We are so thankful to the LWML for making these renovations possible!
- **Redeemer House:** This house is focused on adult outreach, designed as an open coffee shop for small groups and classes such as one-on-one literacy or job-readiness classes with a basement workshop and an apartment upstairs for future Camp Restore Detroit staff. Thank you to Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Birmingham, MI for making these renovations possible!
- **Garden of Eatin':** Raised garden boxes are available for community members to grow vegetables. This garden also contains a small orchard of fruit trees with goals of having a farmer's market and a fitness trail around it in the near future!
- **Spring Garden Haven:** In this park-like setting, community members can enjoy walking or sitting in a beautiful environment. An amphitheater provides a great space for groups to gather for outdoor activities and worship services. We are working on creating a walking path here as well!

## What Our Volunteers Do

Volunteers serve alongside our community in three different areas:

- **Environmental:** clearing blight (overgrown plants and trash)
- **Construction:** assisting community members with basic home repair projects
- **Human Care:** building relationships with our community and sharing God's love

Campers and volunteers are matched with appropriate projects and sites. No matter what skills, interests, or limitations you have, we have a service opportunity for you. Our campers have ranged from 2 to 92 and every age brings valuable service!



## 2021 Projects

We invite you to come alongside our community and our Team Restore committees as we work together to bring these dreams into fruition. Team Restore is a group of people from our community, partner churches, and beyond who are working together to Restore Hope, home, and community. Each of our 2021 projects is reflected in the goals of different teams. Some teams include: Gardens, Outreach, Construction, 9th Precinct, Campers, Youth, and Housing. We are slowly building this one team at a time. If you are interested in getting involved with Team Restore, see page 8 for contact info.

The outpouring of love and support since we have begun this ministry has given us the confidence to trust that we can shift our financial focus. Over the course of the next 12-18 months, we believe that our God is going to move us from simply surviving to thriving!

With God's blessing and supporters like you, we pray that the following 2021/2022 goals and projects will come true in our community and on our campus. In order to accomplish this we have set lofty fundraising goals. To get involved, see page 8.

### - Community Engagement and Leadership:

Further develop connections with our partner churches and universities

- Support Block Club leaders.
- Develop new and existing community partnerships.
- Involve community members in planning, implementing, and leading.
- Provide volunteers & tools for community projects.



## - Education:

Support both children's and adult educational opportunities within the 9th precinct while building authentic relationships

- **Adult Resource and Outreach House:** Working alongside community leaders to develop an outreach house for one-on-one tutoring, literacy programs, job-readiness teaching, Bible Studies, Book Clubs, and more!
- **Children's Resource and Outreach Center:** This will be a place for tutoring, mentoring, and arts programs for children. It will also have a maker's space, helping bridge the technology gap by providing space for sewing machines, 3D printers, cameras, laser printers, and computers.
- **Gardening and Cooking Classes:** Providing access to fresh produce and an opportunity to build relationships while learning to prepare the various foods grown.
- **Workshop for Vocational Training:** Trade skills will be taught both to maintain and care for houses and to provide valuable training and job-readiness. Both soft skills and trade skills will be taught.

## - Church Engagement:

Further develop connections with our partner churches and universities.

- **Virtual Learning Program-** Teaching about Camp Restore Detroit, Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD), and the 9th precinct.
- **Chapel Packets** - Provide resources for students to create a student-led chapel, while learning about Camp Restore Detroit and the importance of building relationships with those we serve.
- **ABCD Training** - Further develop our training on Asset-Based Community Development.
- **College Partnerships (CSP, CUAA)** - Build programs for students to receive college credit for learning and serving at CRD.
- **College Week** - A week for college students to come serve while learning about our community and Asset-Based Community Development (ABCD).
- **High School Week** - A retreat for students to come together, meet other Christian students, and serve with and meet our community while growing together in faith.
- **Big Week** - A week of service designed for local volunteers to support the various events happening in Detroit LCMS ministry and our 9th precinct community.



## - Gardens and Greenspace

**Develop and maintain space that can be used by our community for leisure, exercise, healthy food, and gathering space.**

**Community Gardens and Orchard:** Providing healthy food and relationship building opportunities for our community as well as teaching gardening skills.

**Reflection Gardens and Walking Path:** Provide a venue for community gatherings, relaxing beautiful space for outdoor reading or study, Bible classes, children's ministry events, as well as a venue for music and arts performances.

**Farmer's Market:** Provide accessible healthy foods at reasonable prices.

**Fitness Trail:** Promote exercise and healthy lifestyle in the community.

**Blight Removal:** Partner with community leaders to clean up the 9th Precinct, providing safe places for people to walk and enjoy, and helping the 9th to be a beautiful place where people are proud to call home.

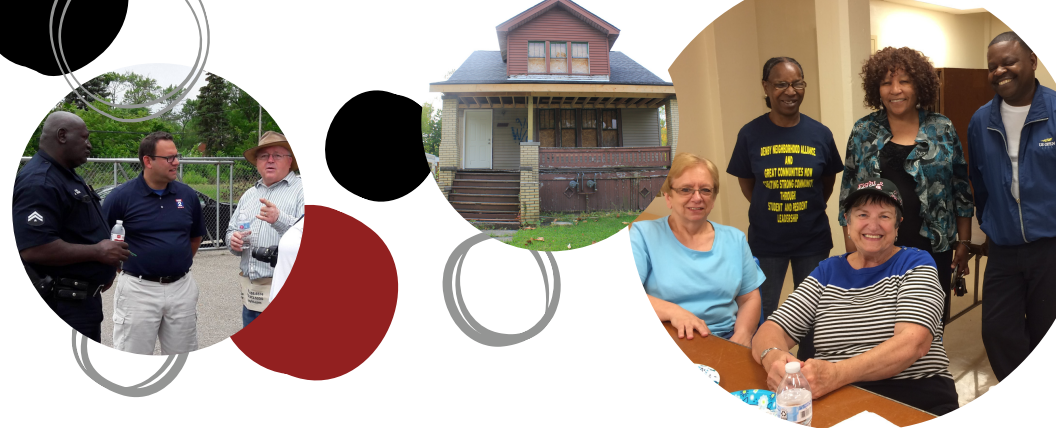
Provide volunteers to Clear Blight: Bring in overnight and day campers to help with community cleanups where our community asks for extra hands.

**Support for Block Clubs:** Provide the tools for community Block clubs and their members to maintain land once cleared.

**Buy Equipment Trailer:** Provide ways to bring mowers and other equipment to work sites.

**Groundskeeper and Maintenance:** Provide a community job supporting our campus & blight removal.





## - Housing:

**Support home ownership and community stability.**

- Home repairs: Many homes in our community are in need of repair. We work alongside community members to assist with basic home repair projects to work towards healthy and safe living spaces. Both our volunteers, as well as those going through our training programs can help with this work. Homeowners are asked to pay for the renovation materials.
- Skills training initiative through home repair: Teaching as we repair homes allows students to learn in real life situations and give back to their community at the same time.
- In the future: Purchase residential homes to renovate and create a rent-to-own housing program for local residents

## - Organizational

**Maintain and build a healthy foundation for CRD.**

- Finished all construction on dorm rooms! This includes A/C and the bathrooms.
- Fully Staffed camp - We are growing and need to add staff to handle the influx of volunteers!

## Get Involved

**Come serve!** Bring a team from your church, family, or group of friends to serve in the 9th Precinct. Come for the day or stay awhile! Go to <https://camprestore.org/detroit/> or scan the QR code to the right to learn more!

### Volunteer

- Make dinner for campers
- Help with our outreach programs
- Construction



Service  
Information



# Support Camp Restore Detroit

Your support is essential to carrying out Camp Restore Detroit's mission so Hope can be restored! There are many different ways YOU can partner with us:

- Bring a team to serve on campus with community projects
- Become a monthly partner- even \$5 a month helps restore hope to our community
- Adopt one of the many projects on our campus
- Encourage your church to partner with us to share God's love as we restore hope in the 9th precinct

## How to become a supporter:

- Via mail to 17100 Chalmers St. Detroit, MI 48205 or using the envelope provided
- Online at [camprestore.org/donate/donate-to-camp-restore-detroit/](http://camprestore.org/donate/donate-to-camp-restore-detroit/)
- Text "crd" to 56651
- Contact us using the info below to adopt a project as an individual or a group
- Scan one of the QR codes below to support us while you shop!



Amazon Smile  
Sign-Up

Kroger  
Rewards  
Sign-Up



## Want to Learn More?

Sign up for our newsletter and follow us on social media so you don't miss out on campus, camper, and campaign updates:

<https://camprestore.org/sign-up-for-our-newsletter/>

 Camp Restore Detroit

 @camprestoredetroit

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