

DNOW



WARCRY

HOST FAMILY

INFO + REGISTRATION

Dear Church Family,

March 29-31 our youth ministry (Refuge Student Ministries) is partnering with several other area churches for a unique, weekend-long Discipleship Event called “D-NOW” (“Disciple Now”). **In order for this event to happen we will need host families to open their home and provide room, board and a little space for teaching (living room is plenty of space) for about 4-6 teens and a teaching adult.** *You do NOT need to have a teen in Refuge in order to be a host family* (matter of fact, it might work better if you do not). Here is some information:

WHAT IS D-NOW?

Overly simplified: It is a weekend conference mixed with a student exchange program. D-Now is short for “Disciple Now.” It is a weekend designed to take students out of their comfort zones and thrust them into the lives of other families in our church and provide intensive Biblical instruction and discipleship. This event is a joint venture with SEVERAL other area churches which will gather together for worship, games and more. We are anticipating 275-400 teens to be participating in this event from around the Wendell/Knightdale/Zebulon/Raleigh community! The **theme for the weekend is “War Cry”**: For our battle is not against flesh and blood (Ephesians 6:12). We will focus on spiritual warfare and standing firm in our faith against our adversary. Our speaker this year is Eddie Briery out of Tennessee and the worship band is The Robertson Band (who led worship for us last year).

WHAT IS A HOST FAMILY?

It is a willing church couple or family who offers room and board to 4-6 teens as well as a teaching adult. The family functions as an adopted family for the weekend (obviously with no goal of trying to replace the teens’ God-given parents). **Next to the Gospel, the Host Families are the most crucial element of the weekend because of their close association with the teens and the environment they establish for living and learning.** *The more comfortable and welcome the teens feel, the better their weekend will be and the more open they will be to learning and letting down their guard.*

HOW DOES BEING A “HOST HOME” WORK?

Students from our church will stay two nights in your home and participate in lessons, activities, and fellowship in that home. They will interact with you as the host parents, each other, and the teacher. They will travel with their host family to and from assigned sites for worship, activities, relationship-building and more.

WHERE WILL D-NOW TAKE PLACE?

D-Now will take place at 3 primary locations: Your Home, Bethany Baptist (to start and end the event), and Hephzibah Baptist for worship sessions (5 miles from Bethany – toward the Town of Wendell; located on corner of Wendell Blvd. and Hwy 97).

WHAT IS THE POINT OF D-NOW?

The focus is fourfold: **(1)** to build new relationships between our teens and church families (this unifies us as a church; the free time, family time, staying together and learning together will help this), **(2)** for students to build stronger relationships between themselves (unity within our youth ministry), **(3)** for our church to build stronger relationships with others churches (teens with other Christian teens, adults with other church adults, etc.), **(4)** challenge the students to examine their lives, foundations and to reposition themselves before Jesus.

WHAT IS NEEDED IN ORDER FOR US TO PARTICIPATE AS A HOST FAMILY (HOST FAMILY REQUIREMENTS)? FOUR THINGS:

1. **Must be a married couple and be members of Bethany Baptist Church**
2. **Participation:**
 - Both husband and wife must be available for the full weekend
 - Must be willing to participate in all elements of the weekend with your assigned teens (worship sessions, teaching, etc.)
 - Both husband and wife must be able to make the Host Family training (Wednesday, March 13, 6:00-7:00pm)
 - Should provide some activities for all during free times at night (you do not need to buy anything – you all can play board games, appropriate video games, cards, etc. – no TV, no radio, no movies, etc.)
3. **Sleeping and Travel Arrangements:**
 - Must provide sleeping space for 4-6 teens and a teaching adult (a living room floor is perfectly fine, as they will be bringing sleeping bags/pillows)
 - Must have transportation capable of transporting 4-6 teens (as well as yourselves) to events
 - Your assigned Refuge teaching adult can help drive if you need an extra driver
4. **Food Provisions:*****
 - Provide 2 meals for your assigned teens and adult teacher (1 breakfast and 1 dinner). **Meals do not have to be elaborate.**
 - Provide snacks/drinks for your assigned group (does not need to be elaborate; we’ll go over this in training)
 - **NOTE:** *We understand this means there is a financial sacrifice for you as a family in order to host teens, but pray you will give with a joyous heart knowing your sacrifice is both unto God and the spiritual advancement of our church’s teens (plus, it allows for your family to meet, care for and build relationships with some of our teens).*

*****Do not let money be a factor prohibiting you from participating. If you meet all the other requirements but cannot afford food for the weekend let Pastor Jason or our Host Family Coordinator know and we can make discrete arrangements to help you out!!**

DO WE DO ANY TEACHING AS THE HOST FAMILY? WILL WE HAVE TO DEAL WITH DISCIPLINE ISSUES?

No. The teacher assigned to your group will do teaching/leading. You are highly encouraged to participate in discussions and such during teaching sessions! As for any disciplinary issues, the in-home leader will handle those and act as a liaison between you and the teens, should need arise.

DO I HAVE TO HAVE A TEEN IN REFUGE IN ORDER TO HOST TEENS?

No. We would LOVE to have some families without teens in Refuge open their homes and lives to some teens! Families in all stages of life are encouraged to be part of hosting some teens: young marrieds (with or without young children), mid-life (with or without children), Seniors, etc.

IF I HAVE A TEEN IN REFUGE AND I HOST TEENS IN MY HOME, WILL MY TEEN BE ASSIGNED TO MY HOUSE?

In almost all cases, no. Our desire for this event is for teens to meet other members of our church and be removed from their comfort zones. Allowing teens to stay in their own homes will prevent both from happening.

CAN WE REQUEST CERTAIN TEENS TO BE IN OUR HOME?

No. Teens will be divided by Refuge Staff based on gender, needs and random selection to help teens build new relationships.

IS IT OK FOR MY OWN CHILDREN WHO ARE NOT REFUGE AGE (5TH GRADE AND YOUNGER) TO BE PART OF THE WEEKEND EVENTS?

Yes; however, it's important that they not take away from the worship or in-home teaching time. The instruction time and time interacting with students in your home could be an amazing opportunity for discipling your own children, so small children are definitely able to be participate. They may also participate in the Worship Sessions and such (so long as the activities do not have age restrictions). Be sure you are able to transport the teens and your family to scheduled locations.

WHAT ARE THE WORSHIP SESSIONS?

Teens and their host families from SEVERAL area churches come together at Hephzibah Baptist and to worship and learn together.

WHAT IS THE SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEKEND?

The following is the VERY tentative schedule for the weekend (but is close enough to give you an idea as to what the weekend will look like); it is quite possible this schedule will be changing so do not make final plans based on it (final schedule will be given at training):

Friday, March 29

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| 5:15-5:30 | HOST FAMILIES and LEADERS ARRIVE (Get organized, pray) |
| 5:30-6:35 | Students Arrive at Church (DINNER SERVED!)/Get Housing Assignments/Ground Rules |
| 6:35-7:00 | Load Up and Drive to Hephzibah Baptist Church |
| 7:00 | Worship Session 1 (Hephzibah Baptist Church) |
| 9:00-10:00 | Travel to Host Homes/"Family" Time (Ice Breaker/Game/Hangout/Snack) |
| 10:00-10:45 | GROUP DISCUSSION SESSION 1 |
| 10:45-11:30 | Free-Time/Prepare for Bed |
| 11:30 | Lights Out |

Saturday, March 30

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| 7:30-8:30am | Breakfast at Host Home/Prep for Day |
| 8:30-9:30 | GROUP DISCUSSION SESSION 2 |
| 9:30-9:45 | Prep to leave (DO NOT BE LATE) |
| 9:45-10:00 | Travel to Hephzibah Baptist Church |
| 10:00-12:00 | Worship Session 2 (Hephzibah Baptist Church) |
| 12:00-1:00pm | Lunch at Hephzibah |
| 1:00-5:00 (approx.) | TBA |
| 5:15-6:00 | Dinner @ Host Home |
| 6:30-7:00 | Travel to Hephzibah Baptist Church |
| 7:00-9:00 | Worship Session 3 (Hephzibah Baptist Church) |
| 9:30-10:30 | GROUP DISCUSSION SESSION 3 in Host Home (with Snacks) |
| 10:30-11:30 | Free-Time/Prep for Bed |
| 11:30 | Lights Out |

Sunday

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| 9:20am | Meet at Bethany Baptist (Doughnuts and Juice!) |
| 9:45am | Teaching Session 4 (everyone together) |
| 10:30am | Worship Service |
| 12:15pm | D-NOW END (Go home) |



WILL THERE BE A TRAINING FOR HOST FAMILIES PRIOR TO THE EVENT?

Yes. We will hold a training for host families (both husband and wife need to attend). We will go over many things in this training from scheduling, teaching times, last minute information, etc. Training is Wednesday March 13, 6-7pm.

WHAT DO WE DO NEXT IF WE ARE INTERESTED IN HOSTING TEENS?

Fill out the application online **no later than Sunday, March 3**. If all spots are filled, your family will be placed on a waiting list (in order, according to when we received your application).

Still have questions? Feel free to contact Host Family Coordinator Ashley Bryant 828-638-1142 (cell); ashjbryant@gmail.com

[DNOW2019](#) **[Host Family Application \(Click Here\)](#)**