

Planning and Promoting Mission VBS and Bible Clubs

Actions for the Associational Mission VBS Director to Take

1. Understand your duties as mission VBS director. Evaluate your role in light of the list of duties and other expectations communicated to you. Recognize the importance of your assignment.
2. Enlist and train an associational mission VBS team. As mission VBS director, enlist at least three age-group workers to complete your team: preschool, children's, and youth conference leaders. As much as possible, try to enlist team members who have had experience in mission VBS and/or Backyard Bible Clubs and in teaching at church the age groups for which they will be leading conferences.

Check with the associational VBS director or director of missions to be certain that materials needed have been ordered. When the requested material arrives distribute it to the mission VBS team members.

Your state VBS promoter can tell you whether age-group mission VBS training conferences or Spanish conferences will be offered at the state VBS clinic. Inquire about any other mission VBS training through which your workers can receive help.

3. Lead your associational VBS team to develop a mission VBS strategy for your association. Identify ethnic, language, or any socioeconomic groups who might be target groups for these projects. Also, identify specific areas such as inner city areas, multi-family housing communities, and sub-divisions that are not being reached by any church VBS. Make an effort to enlist churches to adopt at least one target area or group. Survey churches to offer assistance in planning and conducting a Backyard Bible Club or mission Vacation Bible School.
4. Conduct an associational Backyard Bible Club/mission VBS clinic or provide conferences at the associational VBS clinic. By providing a separate Backyard Bible Club/mission VBS clinic, you may be able to offer training for those who will conduct both VBS and Backyard Bible Clubs/mission VBS. Also, encourage any groups in your association who plan to take mission trips during the year to attend a training clinic. Such clinics are often conducted later in the spring and on a Saturday so that youth mission teams can attend.
5. Keep in touch and follow up on churches as they conduct their projects. Encourage churches to identify prospects for Sunday School and to conduct intentional follow-up activities following a mission VBS or Backyard Bible Club.

Encourage churches to report all their Backyard Bible Clubs and mission schools on the Church VBS Report. The report should be made in the name of the congregation where the MVBS/Bible Club takes place, if it is an established mission or church. If it is not an established congregation, make the report from the sponsoring church. To have accurate records of the various events, personally contact and commend churches that conduct Backyard Bible Clubs and mission VBS projects.

After all activities have been completed, summarize them and file forms for use in planning for next year.