



IMPACT YADKIN: *Lending a Hand in the Community*

BY MEGAN TAYLOR

Throughout the year, Impact Yadkin lives out its mission of helping people in the community and building their lives physically, spiritually, and emotionally. This local program is a part of Magnify Ministries, which originated with a vision in 2009, with the first Impact Yadkin in 2011. Every June, volunteers gather and provide assistance to residences of Yadkin County. However, pastor and founder of Impact Yadkin, Chris Hauser, says none of the projects are possible without the help of their wonderful volunteers.

“Impact Yadkin couldn’t happen at all without our volunteers. They give financially, physically, and spiritually to bettering our community. Also, they give a time commitment for the ‘impacts’ [projects]. Most of our volunteers are middle, high school, and college students, and a few adults. I could tell story after story about how volunteering in their community has made an impact on their lives,” says Hauser.

These stories are created during the Impact Yadkin projects during the summer. For one week, volunteers spend time during the days working on local home improvement projects, such as building decks, painting, and making homes handicapped-accessible for those struggling in Yadkin County. At night, the group worships and has Bible study, while staying overnight in a local school. The group of volunteers is composed of students, plus three adults, two men and one woman. Already 82 projects have been scheduled for this year’s Impact Yadkin from June 17th to 24th.

“Each volunteer has to give \$200. This money is used for building supplies and other materials needed for the projects. The week is a great time for everyone participating to give back to the community and grow in many ways. Since starting the impacts, the number of volunteers has grown each year. This year, we are looking at 900 volunteers. This group is made up of people from all church denominations and all ages,” explains Hauser.

According to Hauser, Impact Yadkin has received support from the local volunteer fire department and the Red Cross. The Red Cross has donated smoke detectors for the various projects.

In need of assistance with a home repair? All you need to do is complete an open application, which can be found on <http://magnifyministries.org>.

“Anyone can apply. Before confirming any projects, we always ask ourselves, ‘Can we do the job?’ This question determines the projects for the summer’s impact. Once a person sends in an application, we go out to the home and assess the job. We determine if it is something we can do and put together. The process is then started, and the job is added to the week. Usually, people send in applications throughout the year,” states Hauser.

Impact Yadkin is just one of the many programs by Magnify Ministries. The organization completes ongoing projects and events throughout the year, including food drives, home repair, and providing assistance in paying a citizen’s bills.

“Another fun event we do is a Vacation Bible School called ‘Party in the Parks.’” We partner with Yadkin County Schools and the YMCA and host a Vacation Bible School for kids’ kindergarten through fifth grade. There are crafts, activities, and lunch is provided. About 800 kids attend each year. Kids from all different backgrounds. It is open to anyone who wants to join us,” says Hauser.



When it comes to volunteering, Hauser reflects on the value this concept can give people.

“Not only are you giving back to the community, you are building up each other, passing on love, and providing outreach to those in need. With Impact Yadkin, volunteers are experiencing all of that and growing spiritually, whether they are Christian or not. Also, they are realizing the need in Yadkin County and personally seeing it. Sometimes our younger volunteers will help out a peer whose family is struggling. They might not have known that this friend or person from school was in need of help. Because of the value volunteering gives them, we have kids come back year after year,” Hauser summed up.

To learn more about **Impact Yadkin**, visit magnifyministries.org or call 336-469-2758. Follow their journey on Facebook.