

Dear Pastors and Leaders on the SWO District,

Hi there! I hope this finds you doing well!

Pastor Bob asked me to lead up our BIG SERVE weekend, April 19-21. Lots of details with all of this, but bottom line, it is all about getting out, getting involved and building relationships with our community! We would love to have your church involved! Please know I am here if you'd like to brainstorm ideas and ways to connect in your community! I'd see it as an honor and privilege to be helpful.....). **I am also attaching a grant form for churches...Please see attached.**

(Confession time....! There are a ton of details/resources that I have received. Below is a template letter. I was tempted to "Julie-fy" it a little, but wanted to make sure you had all the helpful links and heard the overall vision of our leaders. SO, read below to find out about the BIG SERVE!:) ~Julie)

I am so excited to share with you that our district has decided to join with all the other districts in the MVNU field (8 total), and we will be loving our communities April 19-21, 2024. We are asking your church to begin to think and plan ways that you can bless your community that specific weekend. Your church will be a part of 50,000 other Nazarenes across Ohio, West Virginia and Kentucky ministering to 461 communities and over 15 million people!

We have everything you need for this to be a success. If you will follow this link: (https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/17Q0QAu71Q1t88RbEzEGOuEsfOn4MM0AY?usp=drive_link) you will find all the resources needed to make your event a success. In this folder there is a document that helps every person from your church share their faith story. We are asking that you take a month before April and make that tool available to your people so that everyone who serves will know how to share what Jesus has done in their lives. Additionally you will find an idea sheet that shares ideas from churches and ways that they have connected with their community in the past. (Use this idea to aide in creativity as you think about how your church can bless others.)

Additionally, you will find a T-shirt order form (Will be live March 1), logos you can use and slides that explain all the information.

Here are some timelines to be aware of:

January/February:

Determine The Needs (Either with your board or a separate "Big Serve" Committee you form.)

Have your people complete the Share your Story Doc to help them know who to share what God has done. [Click here](#)

Dialog with Schools/Community Organizations/Listen & Observe the needs around you.

February/March

Determine What You Can Do

If you haven't already...Have your people complete the Share your Story Doc to help them know who to share what God has done. [Click here](#)

What resources are needed/Share the need with your people

Report the projects your church will be conducting by **March 22, 2024** on the Google Form in the Shared folder entitled: [BIG SERVE PLANNING PROJECT REPORT](#)

April

**Submit Press Release To Your Local Media By April 2nd – [Sample Here](#)
19th-21st, 2024 - Do The Work"**

Share Jesus with your community both in action and in words!

Make sure to finish the work you start!

Take photos/Videos

May

Follow Up

Continue the Relationships

Provide Feedback on How this can be better next time!

Pray for those you meet

Please know that your district wants you to be successful in this endeavor and we want this to be impactful. If there is something you don't have that you need, please let me know.

My contact information is: PJMSTEVENS92@gmail.com. My cell is 614-774-6062.

May God help us and may God use this for His glory so that lives can be changed!

In Christ,

Pastor Julie Stevens, Lead Pastor at Living Hope Church of the Nazarene

Big Serve Representative

SWO District Church of the Nazarene