

Appalachia Reach Out

August '19 (Summer Edition) Newsletter

August 29, 2019 Issue #6



Prayer List stepping into Fall Schedule '19

1. ARO Executive Director Speaking Schedule
2. Open Doors for Continued Ministry this Fall
3. ARO Staff! The Mills, The Zuidema's, and ARO Store Staff. Fall Work & Witness Teams

"God lives and dwells in this place each day. I am thankful for the impact this place has played in my life this week." – Boston, Massachusetts (God's Work Team)!

Impact of ARO in the Heart of Appalachia/Summer 19

ARO's last Newsletter was at the end of May '19. At that time there had been a handful of Work & Witness teams who had traveled to Martin County, KY to partner with ARO and its mission, Christ's Love in Action, as each day we strive to be Christ's hands, His feet, His heart, and His mission. Those who are friends of ARO understand the summer is always the busy time for ARO as teams come from all over the country to partner with us in ministry. The summer of '19 was no different. Since the May/June Newsletter, ARO has partnered with 9 Work & Witness teams. Teams have traveled to the heart of Appalachia from Texas, Ohio, Michigan, Tennessee, Massachusetts, Virginia and Wisconsin. It has been through the willingness of these teams to come and partner with us, many stories of Christ's compassion, love, and hope has been shown in very real and tangible ways. What a blessing to serve beside each person, church, and family this past summer! You are a major reason ARO continues to be vibrant and lasting ministry for Christ in the Appalachian Mountains!

A Note from ARO Executive Director, Dwayne Mills

The '19 summer at ARO has been extremely busy. ARO hit the ground running the first week of June and saw our final team for our summer schedule, depart last Thursday morning, August 22. Even though there are a few more Work & Witness teams scheduled for September and October, our busy time of partnering with these teams have slowed down. To date we have seen 17 W & W teams in 2019. These teams include a total of over 220 participants from 10 states, 6,776 work hours have been logged, over \$120,000 dollars invested through project dollars, work hours, buying food & materials locally for teams, and other avenues to help the local economy where these dollars have been spent. Our partnerships with these teams have seen us work in schools, home projects, county-wide trash pick-ups, partnership with Addiction Recovery Care, Celebrate Recovery, work to maintain and beautify the campus of ARO, and many more areas of ministry in Martin County and beyond. To God be the glory! All of this has been done in His name and for His sake. Thanks for your prayers and support! – *Dwayne Mills* – ARO, ED



**Northridge Community Church,
one of ARO's last teams this
summer!**



Salena Alexander
ARO Summer Intern

ARO Summer Intern Leaves Lasting Impact

The beginning of August was bitter-sweet for ARO. Our summer intern, Salena Alexander, finished out her internship with ARO and headed home to prepare for her junior year of college at Mount Vernon Nazarene University. Salena was more than an intern for ARO this summer, she became a part of the ARO family. She gave 12 weeks of her summer to live out the mission of ARO. Her dedication to ARO's mission was evident from the time she stepped foot on the campus in early May. It was through her love for Jesus and calling to serve this summer, she helped carry a very busy and heavy load as she became part of the team at ARO. Saying "thanks" truly falls short, however, it was such an honor and privilege to have her as part of the team this summer. The lives of those she touched were greatly impacted for the Kingdom. It's our prayer she will be back to serve in the future. Please pray for her as she begins her junior year at MVNU this month. We love and miss you, Salena!

ARO Food Pantry Receives a Sizeable Gift from the University of Kentucky

The ARO Food Pantry continues to help families supplement their need for food in Martin County. ARO has been able to serve hundreds of families over the years through this ministry. This summer the ARO Food Pantry through a grant from the University of Kentucky/Family and Consumer Sciences Department received a gift of a refrigerator/freezer combination and a smaller freezer to help with our need to continue to serve in a life-changing way. ARO would like to thank the team who has been paramount in making this happen. What a gift for our ministry as God continues to show up and provide in meaningful ways. As God Word says, if we're faithful in the small things, He will provide in large ways beyond what we could ever think or imagine (paraphrase). It's important for ARO to live out in these very specific ways. The ARO Thrift Store serves between 70-100 families each month. A special thank you to our Thrift Store Manager, Bill, and his wife, Jana, along with the Food Pantry volunteers who serve so faithfully each week on Wednesday from 10-2 p.m.

ARO Needs You!

Please know ARO values each ministry partner. Your prayer and financial support is vital to our ongoing impact each month of the year. If you have any questions or need any updates, please feel free to reach out to our Executive Director, Dwayne Mills, via email. His email address is dwayne.p.mills@gmail.com.

Thanks!

Thanks to all of you who support us through prayer, serving, and financial support. You can learn more about supporting us online at www.appalachiareachout.com.

Our address is:
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Avenue Trio, ministering at the Martin County Ministerial Association Outreach Event. Avenue came to serve as a Work & Witness team in August. ARO was a partner for this event!

You can contact Dwayne Mills,
ARO Executive Director at
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