



Appalachia Service Project
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Appalachia Service Project to dedicate first home for wildfire victim

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. (July 20, 2017)—On Friday, July 28, 2017, at 2 p.m. Appalachia Service Project (ASP) will dedicate Glenna Ogle's new home. Glenna's home, vehicle, pets and belongings were lost in the November 2016 wildfires that swept through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Gatlinburg, and Pigeon Forge. The fire killed 14 people and destroyed over 2,800 buildings, eventually burning over 17,000 acres of land.

This is the first replacement home to be completed as part of ASP's 25-home commitment to help low-income residents of Sevier County recover after the wildfires. The home was constructed by ASP volunteers from First Baptist Church Knoxville. First Baptist also made a significant financial contribution to support the construction of Glenna's home. Other partners on the home include the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church, Volunteer East Tennessee, Mullican Flooring, Cherokee Partners, AmeriCorps, and the American Red Cross of East Tennessee.

Partners for the 25 homes ASP has committed to building in the next year include the Holston Conference of the United Methodist Church, Mullican Flooring, Volunteer East Tennessee, and the Mountain Tough Recovery Team.

Just a week after dedicating Glenna's home, ASP will dedicate its second home and present keys to Ernest Ogle who will be celebrating his 75th birthday.

ASP has already begun construction on three additional homes and necessary permits are being drawn for four more, with plans to have a total of 16 homes in various stages of construction within the next month.

Mountain Tough Recovery Team continues to be the lead recovery organization, accepting applications from families seeking site cleanup, home repairs, new home construction and individualized recovery assistance related to the Sevier County, TN wildfires in November 2016. To apply, visit Mountain Tough's website (www.mountaintough.org) and complete the pre-application or call the Mountain Tough office at 865-436-8112.

Volunteers and donors interested in helping with site cleanup, replacement home construction and home furnishings may visit <http://www.mountaintough.org/i-want-to-help/> for details on how they can get involved.

ASP has experience with helping communities rebuild after disasters. In 2012, ASP built 25 homes for families who had lost their homes to massive flooding in Washington County, Tennessee. And in 2016, ASP launched a multi-year project to help rebuild homes in Greenbrier County and surrounding areas for families whose homes were destroyed by flooding. ASP has already completed nearly 50 homes that will be built for low-income families in Greenbrier county and surrounding counties in West Virginia.

HOME DEDICATION DETAILS

Glenna Ogle's Home Dedication
Friday, July 28, 2017 at 2 p.m.
864 Crest View Drive
Gatlinburg, TN 37738

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ABOUT APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT

Appalachia Service Project (ASP), is a Christian ministry, open to all people, that inspires hope and service through volunteer home repair and replacement in Central Appalachia. Since 1969, ASP volunteers have been making homes warmer, safer and drier for families in need in Central Appalachia and providing life-transforming experiences for everyone involved. In recent years ASP has expanded its outreach to include building new homes for low-income families whose homes were destroyed by fire or flooding and others whose homes are beyond repair. This year ASP will have over 16,000 volunteers working in 5 different Central Appalachia states helping over 600 families with home repairs and new construction.

MEDIA INQUIRIES

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

Visit ASP's Newsroom (<http://asphome.org/newsroom>) for a fact sheet about Appalachia Service Project, downloadable press releases, photos, and other information.