



Appalachia Service Project
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

A reception held in Washington D.C. to celebrate Appalachia Service Project's 50th summer of service and to honor Congressman Phil Roe.

JOHNSON CITY, Tenn. (March 15, 2018)—A reception was held yesterday in Washington D.C. in honor of Appalachia Service Project's 50 years of home repair outreach to low-income families in Central Appalachia, and to present Congressman Phil Roe, First Congressional District of Tennessee, with an ASP Medal of Distinction. Congressman Roe has been an invaluable supporter of ASP's mission in Eastern Tennessee, as well as their work throughout Central Appalachia.

Congressman Roe commented, "The generosity the Appalachia Service Project (ASP) has shown to low-income families in Central Appalachia for the past 50 years is truly inspiring. I have seen their work up close in many communities but was particularly grateful for and impressed by their work after the floods in Dry Creek in 2012. It's an honor to be recognized by ASP as we celebrate the 18,347 families who have received assistance through ASP, as well as the 419,067 volunteers who have given their time and energy to help families have safe and warm homes. I'm proud of the hope they bring to our community, and I look forward to seeing more reliable, affordable housing for low-income families in the First District."

Upon presenting the Medal of Distinction at the reception, Appalachia Service Project CEO, Walter Crouch remarked, "This Medal of Distinction is given to him as a token of appreciation for all the hard work and support he has given us over the years. Anytime we call Dr. Roe's office he is responsive because he knows that our heart is in serving the people of Tennessee who are in the most need, and he is always there and always supportive."

Also in attendance at the reception was Congressman Morgan Griffith, Ninth Congressional District of Virginia; Congressman Jimmy Duncan, Second Congressional District of Tennessee; and Congresswoman Virginia Foxx, Fifth Congressional District of North Carolina. Other distinguished guests at the reception include, David Lipsetz, Executive Director of the Housing Assistance Council; Greg Forrester, CEO of National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster; Members of Congressman Hal Roger's staff, Fifth Congressional District of Kentucky; staff of the House Committee on Veteran's Affairs; ASP Board Chairman, John Pearce, and Board Members Emily Miller, Ken Landers, and Mark McIntyre; and many long-time volunteers and church partners were represented.

Appalachia Service Project strives to eradicate substandard housing in Central Appalachia through home repair and replacement. The home repair program brings in more than 15,000 volunteers each year from around the country to complete repairs across 26 counties in 5 states—Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, and Kentucky.

ASP has been building new homes since 2012 when they responded to the flooding in Dry Creek, Tennessee and is where ASP's partnership with Congressman Roe began. Recently, ASP has extended its New Build program to include disaster recovery efforts. 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 the first 60 homes that will be built for low-income families in Greenbrier County and the surrounding area in West Virginia. In 2017, ASP began its disaster response efforts after wildfires swept through the Great Smoky Mountains National Park, Gatlinburg, and Pigeon Forge in November of 2016. The fire killed 14 people and destroyed over 2,800 buildings, eventually burning over 17,000 acres of land. ASP has committed to the construction of 25 new homes in this effort, 7 of which have been completed.

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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 15,000 volunteers working in 5 different Central Appalachia states helping over 600 families with home repairs and new construction.

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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.