

# October Newsletter

*An update on Project Homecoming and the other YAV works.*

Hello from the Big Easy!

This is the first of what I hope to be a bi-monthly update on what my fellow Young Adult Volunteers (YAVs) and I are doing in New Orleans. This month I will start with the basics:

## Finally settling in...

After a week of orientation and three weeks of training, things are starting to settle. We are a very full house. There are four ladies upstairs and three guys downstairs. The duplex is quite spacious and we *actually* get along really well. We have weekly family dinners and “funtivities,” like day trips to the beach or a night at rock ‘n bowl. We are quite a crowd when we hit the town. Sometimes I think we look like a gang piling out of the YAV van. We are working on a song and dance to make the exit strategy more exciting. Here is a picture of the YAV crew along with other Construction Assistants in front of our duplex.



## Bread for the journey.

Our humble stipend offers an opportunity to open cookbooks, call friends and parents for recipes and mostly take all and any free food. Last week, however, we made shrimp and grits for family dinner. Judging by the food coma that followed, I think we are getting the idea of real Southern cooking.

## A new home at Project Homecoming.

We have one Operations Director, three Construction Managers, and nine Construction Assistants (this is where I fall in line). After a crash course training, I feel like a fish out of water, but my managers and the second-year assistants are shoveling out grace...for now. We will have 100 volunteers on our hands come mid-October, so please pray for our preparation and organizational skills and a lot of patience.



Thanks again for all of your support. Now that I am here, I am sure I am right where I am called to be. I anticipate a year of hard work, growth, frustration, revelation, and most of all a strong presence of God in the rebuilding of the Crescent City.

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