

## Life on Pine Ridge Reservation



There is poverty on Pine Ridge, to be sure. The poverty on Pine Ridge can be described in no other terms than "third world." It is common to find homes terribly overcrowded, as those with homes take in anyone in need of a roof over their head. Many homes are without electricity, running water, or sewer.

But that is only one part of the real story of the Oglala Lakota people who call Pine Ridge home. When you come to Re-Member, and work with us on Pine Ridge, you will have the opportunity to meet and work with some of the most amazing people you will ever meet. They are warm, generous, giving and welcoming. Above all, they are survivors. After all they have experienced as a culture, the Lakota not only survive, but they are building a stronger community. And our volunteers have the unique opportunity to work right beside them. Re-Member is helping address the severe housing crisis on Pine Ridge by working in homes across the Reservation. We are making current homes more secure, more energy efficient and safer, and we are building new homes as well. Re-Member is a vital part of the community of Pine Ridge and plays a leading role toward recognizing the goal of providing adequate housing to everyone on Pine Ridge.

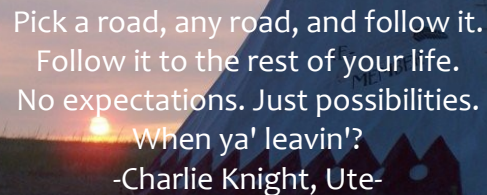
Come to Re-Member and see for yourself. It will change your life—guaranteed.

## Trip Dates for 2012

Week 1 Feb 25-March 2	Week 20 July 7-13
Week 2 March 3-9	Week 21 July 14-20
Week 3 March 10-16	Week 22 July 21-27
Week 4 March 17-23	<b>Week 23 July 28-Aug 3:</b>
Week 5 March 24-30	<b>Family Week #2</b>
Week 6 March 31-April 6	Week 24 August 4-10
<b>Week 7 Easter—Closed</b>	Week 25 August 11-17
Week 8 April 14-20	Week 26 August 18-24
Week 9 April 21-27	Week 27 August 25-31
Week 10 April 28-May 4	<b>Week 28 Labor day—</b>
Week 11 May 5-11	<b>Closed</b>
Week 12 May 12-18	Week 29 Sept 8-14
Week 13 May 19-25	Week 30 Sept 15-21
Week 14 May 26-June 1	<b>Week 31 Sept 22-28:</b>
Week 15 June 2-8	<b>Senior Week</b>
Week 16 June 9-15	Week 32 Sept 29-Oct 5
Week 17 June 16-22	Week 33 October 6-12
Week 18 June 23-29	Week 34 PENDING
<b>Week 19 June 30-July 6:</b>	
<b>Family Week #1</b>	

\*Family Week is a special program for families with children ages 6 through 12. Cost is \$150.00 + tax = \$156.00 per child.

\*\*Senior Week is a special week for our Elder Volunteers



Pick a road, any road, and follow it.  
Follow it to the rest of your life.  
No expectations. Just possibilities.  
When ya' leavin'?


-Charlie Knight, Ute-

**Email: [trips@re-member.org](mailto:trips@re-member.org)**

RE-  
MEMBER

Volunteer Coordinator  
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Plainwell, MI 49080  
Phone: 616-550-7180  
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Re-Member is a nonprofit organization  
incorporated in the states of Michigan and South Dakota  
with offices on the Pine Ridge Reservation.

RE-  
MEMBER

Working with the Oglala Lakota People  
on the Pine Ridge Reservation, South Dakota



Guided by the aspirations of the Oglala Lakota communities we serve, Re-Member seeks to improve the quality of life on Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota through relationships, shared resources, and volunteer services. Through work projects and cultural immersion, we continue to develop a growing circle of advocates standing in solidarity with the Lakota people on Pine Ridge.

## Come and Visit Pine Ridge

When you come and spend a week at Re-Member, you will work in homes across the Reservation. But that is only a part of what the Re-Member experience is all about. At Re-Member, we believe that as important as our "work" is, it is equally important for our volunteers to learn about the incredible people that live on Pine Ridge and experience what life is like today. By learning their history, hearing the stories of our Lakota staff and speakers, and by traveling throughout Pine Ridge, you will have a sense of what life is like today for the Lakota people. Pine Ridge is one of the poorest areas in the United States with all the signs of deep poverty present. But at Re-Member, you will soon find that the poverty that is present is only a small part of the story. Life is getting better here and Re-Member is a part of the story.

### Securing Shelter

The most critical need on Pine Ridge is housing. Re-Member volunteers work all



across the Reservation repairing homes, installing wheel chair ramps, building and installing out houses, skirting house trailers and doing all kinds of rehab work on homes. Structures that would be condemned in the rest of the country house most of the families on Pine Ridge. By making existing shelter more secure, we are helping families live healthier lives. Our volunteers help Lakota families renovate, rehabilitate, and repair their homes.

We strive to help elders, the disabled, and families in dire need. Our trained staff works side by side with our volunteers and together we accomplish amazing things



Our trained staff and volunteers accomplish amazing things working side by side everyday!



### Building Relationships

While our projects on Pine Ridge are important, they are only a piece of what Re-Member aims to embody. By getting to know those with whom we work, we establish relationships: strong relationships that last beyond our volunteers' time with us.

Come Join us!

Re-Member

P O Box 5054

Pine Ridge, SD 57770

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**It doesn't interest me who you are, or how you came to be here. I want to know if you will stand in the center of the fire with me and not shrink back.**

**-Oriah Mountain Dreamer-**

## About Our Work Trips

**Costs:** The total cost for a week-long service-learning trip (Saturday through Friday) is \$375.00 + tax = \$390.00 per person. This covers food, housing, and transportation while on the reservation. It does not cover your transportation to and from our site or snack and souvenir items.

**Accommodations:** Re-Member has two facilities with "dorm rooms" outfitted with bunk beds. There are ten showers, eight toilets, and one outdoor facility. There is a complete kitchen where everyone engages in cooking and cleanup. Due to the nature of our work projects and staffing constraints, we are doing our best to cap our spring and fall weeks at approximately 40 people and our summer weeks at approximately 60 people.

**How to sign up:** E-mail Re-Member to sign up for a trip. We'll send you our Reservation Agreement and deposit information while holding your spots for one month. After confirming your trip dates with our Trip Coordinator, send us your signed Reservation Agreement along with a deposit check of \$75.00 + tax = \$78.00 per person. Training, promotional and preparation materials will be sent to you with a receipt for your deposit. All deposits and payments are non-refundable.

### **For Youth Groups**

The minimum age for our trips is 13. We require this because of the nature of the work we are doing, and the issues we discuss during the week. We also require a ratio of 1 adult (21 years or older) for every 6 young people (18 years or younger). If the group consists of male and female youth, the group leaders must consist of one of each gender.

**Family Week:** The minimum age limit does not apply to our Family Week program, created for children ages 6-12 and led by certified volunteer teachers. Children learn about Lakota culture through arts and crafts, trips, music, and activities while older family members participate in our regular program. Cost \$150.00 + tax = \$156.00 per child. See the Trip Dates calendar for Family Week dates.

**Senior Week:** This week will include special events and projects geared toward our more mature volunteers. Contact us for more information! See the Trip Dates calendar for Senior Week dates.