

# Dates March 19-24, 2018 November 4-10, 2018

#### **Purpose**

Partnering with Casas por Cristo, in just one week our team will transform an otherwise empty lot into a safe and secure home - complete with cement foundation, electricity, windows and doors. As a result of this experience, each family receives a tangible symbol of the faithfulness and unconditional love of Jesus Christ. As volunteers gain perspective on the extreme poverty that exists in our world, so do these families better understand God's plan for their lives and His deep desire to take care of their needs.<sup>1</sup>

## Who Can Go

Anyone! No building experience is necessary and there is no age limit. However, team members under the age of 16 will need a parent/guardian to join them on the trip. Even if you feel like you will not be useful on a construction-based trip, God may have the perfect spot for you on this team. We also have plans to facilitate a vacation bible school for the local children in Moca, DR this year.

## **Background on Casas por Cristo**

Casas por Cristo relies on the labor and resources of full time staff missionaries, a board of pastors and community leaders from Juárez and Acuña, México, San Raymundo, Guatemala and Santiago, Dominican Republic and nearly 7,000 annual volunteers. Through these cross-cultural partnerships, teams are presented with an amazing opportunity to build a home for a family in need.<sup>1</sup>

Driven by a desire to provide tangible expressions of God's love and provision, we began building homes along the U.S. / México border in 1993. Casas por Cristo (Homes because of Christ) creates important partnerships among various groups across international borders. To date, we have provided over 4,000 families with homes. But at Casas por Cristo, we go beyond building. We are dedicated to growing Christ's church one home at a time by helping meet the physical and spiritual needs of our neighbors.<sup>1</sup>

The local pastor is our link to the families we serve. A committee of pastors in each community solicit applications from both Christian and non-Christian families. Their discernment is the key to selecting those most in need. Our pastors collectively approve the applications, and our missionaries go to work pairing you with a family. The end result is a powerful voice from the local church to the community proclaiming Jesus Christ. The example of Christ that you show during the week allows the local pastor to challenge the faith of the families long after the trip is done. Casas por Cristo is simply one of many parts working within the body of Christ.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Casasporcristo.org

## **Itinerary**

#### **Sunday**

Travel to DR. Leave Pensacola airport early in the morning. We will fly into Santo Domingo, DR and should arrive early afternoon. After making it through customs and immigration, we will be driven by bus to the housing complex, which is approximately four (4) hours away. On the bus you will be given a simple sack lunch/dinner in case you haven't eaten prior. Once arriving at the complex, we will unpack and relax for the evening. A short orientation will be given.

# Monday to Wednesday (tentative schedule)

6:00 a.m. — Breakfast

7:00 a.m. — Head to worksite

5:00 p.m. — Return from work

5:30 p.m. — Dinner

10:00 p.m. — Lights out

4:00 – 5:00 p.m. – Vacation Bible School

# **Thursday**

7:00 a.m. – Breakfast 8:00 a.m. – Purchase supplies for family 11:00 a.m. – "Block Party" / VBS Finale Party\* 6:00 p.m. – Home Dedication

\*We are planning to have a Block Party in which we will invite all of the community to come fellowship with us as a VBS completion party. We will provide lunch (Pizza or similar) for the community, have activities (kickball or baseball) and an opportunity to build relationships with the locals.

# **Friday**

Fun day at the beach/waterfalls. Leave after breakfast and return late afternoon.

# **Saturday**

Head to the airport. Time will be determined by your flight back to the U.S.

# **Cost of Trip**

Approximately \$1,600 per person (This covers plane ticket, lodging, meals and building materials. This is an estimated amount. Exact cost will not be known until group size is determined and plane tickets have been reserved.)

Children under the age of 12 will receive \$500 off the cost of the trip.

Fundraising opportunities will be available but will rely heavily on your own motivation/participation.

Other items you will be personally responsible to pay for include meals during travel days, souvenirs, and gifts for family and tips for drivers, cooks, etc. as you feel personally led.

Passport books are required, cost approximately \$110 and should be obtained by January 1, 2018.

# **Payment Milestones**

July 2, 2017 – Registration Begins - \$100 Per Person or \$250 Per Family Non-Refundable Deposit September 3, 2016 - \$300 Payment Due January 14, 2018 – \$800 Payment Due February 18, 2018 – \$400 Final Payment Due

# **Next Step**

Turn in deposit and registration forms to Chad or Kenna in order to reserve your spot and start fundraising early.

Contact us with any questions you may have.

Chad McDaniel (850) 982-5669 CMcDaniel.ee@gmail.com

Kenna McDaniel (850) 791-0897 Kenna.dpt@gmail.com