

Costa Rica 2016

Date: June 5-10, 2016

Where: San Jose & surrounding areas

Cost: Approx. \$1,650 (*final cost is dependent upon airfare*)

Mission Partner: Mission House :: mymissionhouse.com

Focus of the Trip:

- Counseling with people escaping prostitution and slavery
- Orphan Care
- Evangelism
- Spiritual Development

Basic Details:

- Travel documents needed
- Air Travel
- Local Transportation
- Lodging
- Food / Water

Financial Commitment:

- Cost Breakdown
 - Airfare: \$650 (*approximate*)
 - On the Ground: \$750
 - Admin & Supplies: \$250
- Financial Deadlines
 - Deposit: \$150 :: Due: February 7, 2016
 - 2nd Payment: \$500 :: Due: March 20, 2016
 - 3rd Payment: \$500 :: Due: April 24, 2016
 - Final Payment: \$500 :: Due: May 29, 2016

How to register:

- Complete the online application found at www.westrome.org/missions
- Pay \$150 deposit
 - You may pay online at www.westrom.org/missions
 - You may pay via check or cash
 - Make checks payable to West Rome Baptist Church
 - You may bring your payments to the welcome center on Sun. mornings & Wed. nights
 - You may bring payments to the church office between 8:30a-5p, Mon. – Thurs.
 - You may mail your payment to...
 - West Rome Baptist Church :: 914 Shorter Ave :: Rome, GA 30165

Contact Information:

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Topher Stockton at your convenience.

- Topher: 678-451-7154 tstockton@westrome.org

Keys to Raising Support :: The Team Building Approach

Building a Support Team

Each individual team member will be responsible for developing his or her own support team. The support team consists of:

- Prayer Supporters
- Encouragers
- Financial Contributors

The concept is to develop a team, not just to raise funds. The most important need you will have is for people to pray for you, before and during your trip.

The Team

The idea of the team is to involve as many people in the mission experience as possible.

The team is a...

- ministry through you to the team (TEAM = goers + prayer support + senders)
- means by which others can share in the blessings of the mission (Phil. 4:17)
- Biblical approach (II Cor. 8:4)
- means by which others become missions-minded Christians through giving

You should seek people that you want on your team, not those who you think will give money. Remember, if the prayer support is in place, everything else will fall into place.

Raising Funds

If you cannot pay for the entire cost of your trip, the most effective proven method to raise individual funds is to write a letter for distribution to friends, co-workers and church members. Professional fund-raisers for large organizations will tell you that people will give to people they know. Potential contributors are happy to have the opportunity to invest in someone they know personally or an endeavor they care about. God's Word promises us that He will supply our every need.

Prepare the Team List

- Usually 25 or more
- Not all West Rome Baptist Church members (50% outside our church)
- Friends, relatives, Christian contacts, non-Christians that God may open a door to witness to through this process

Write the Letter

You are asking people to support the ministry of West Rome Baptist Church. If you are asking for financial contributions, you are asking them to help with the cost that you will incur by conducting the ministry (transportation, meals while on the field, in-country housing, visa, travel insurance, etc.) A common testimony for team members is that while they were initially put off by the idea of sending support letters, the experience turned out to be a highlight of the trip.

Tracking Support Received

We (the church) will keep detailed records of all contributions given to each member of the mission team, but we also recommend that you keep your own records to help track your progress and for follow-up.

The following guidelines will help you keep track of the support you receive:

- Create an Excel spreadsheet or journal to record the financial contributions your receive
 - Record the Amount (\$\$) given and the date it was given
 - Record the method of payment – Example: cash or check (if check, record the check #)
 - Record the name and address of the person who gave the support
- Turn in money to the church as you receive it.
 - It gives the missions staff the opportunity to help you keep record of the contributions you receive.
 - It will help to insure that money does not get lost

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Support Letters

The following guidelines will help you in writing your support letter:

Types of letters you can send:

- A letter asking for prayer support only (*if you are paying your own way*)
- A letter asking for prayer and financial support
- A letter asking for project support (*if you are paying your own way*)

Drafting your letter:

- While sample letters that you find on the Internet can be very helpful in drafting your support letter, be careful that you do not fall prey to the temptation to copy the letter you find and just change a few details. Your team wants to hear from your heart not someone else's. We encourage you to use sample letters to help you with format or creative ideas but the content need to come from you.
- **We recommend including some or all of the following information in your letter:**
 - ***Make it personal***
 - Tell about where you are going and how God called to go
 - Why you want to be involved in the trip (*reasons that you feel the most strongly about*)
 - Information regarding the culture, economics, and politics of the country you are going to
 - Description of what the team will be doing – the main focus of the trip
 - ***Provide the important details***
 - The cost of the trip (\$)
 - The amount (\$) you are sacrificially giving towards the total cost of the trip
 - You may want to recommend a giving amount (\$25, \$50, \$100, etc...) for financial supporters.
 - ***Invite them to get involved***
 - How you would like the reader to be involved (*prayer, financial, both*)
 - All checks must be payable to West Rome Baptist Church
 - Mail the check to you (*the team member*)
 - The date you need the money
 - ***Keep the letter brief*** – we recommend one page or less
- **Include the following with your letter:**
 - A self addressed stamped envelope
 - A support record sheet
- **Sending your support letter:**
 - Mail your support letters as early as you can – if you wait you might not get the support you need
 - We recommend mailing your support letters prior to March 1, 2016.

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Other Ways to Raise Financial Support

- Start a GoFundMe page :: learn more @ gofundme.com
- Host a yard sale
- Share about your trip via your social media network
- Design and sell T-shirts

Follow-Up

Following up with each member of your support team is a very important part of raising support. The support team you build wants to know, that you are thankful for their support financially and through prayer. Second they want to hear about your trip and how God changed you through it.

Here are a few things we recommend to help you follow-up with your support team:

- Send a thank you note to every person on your support team thanking them for their support financially or in prayer.
- When you return from your trip – send a letter to every person on your support team.
 - Tell them about your trip
 - Tell them how God changed your life
 - Thank them for their support
 - Maybe even include a few photos from your trip