**Short-Term Mission and Global Awareness Trip Application**

May 11-19, 2018

**Organizational Mission Statement**

As Franciscan followers of Christ, we build partnerships with Catholic women and men who are inspired to live and serve in solidarity with economically poor communities across the globe – and to bring the transformative experience of mission to North American societies and churches as advocates for peace, justice, reconciliation and care of creation.

**Franciscan Mission Service Approach to Short-Term Mission**

At Franciscan Mission Service, we believe the call to mission is universal. We aim to provide different pathways for as many people as possible to experience the richness of mission, and our upcoming short-term trip is one of those pathways. As a trip participant, you will have the opportunity to cross borders, step outside of your everyday reality, and walk with and learn from people of another culture. The trip will allow you to experience God in new and surprising ways, while also growing in deeper understanding and appreciation of the Franciscan values and approach to mission.

The Franciscan Mission Service approach and philosophy is based on a popular education model guided by the motto “see, reflect, and act.” This model asks us to observe, reflect, and ask questions as we witness challenging social injustices and new realities, and then to consider how this new information will impact our future behavior. Other avenues to learning include discussions with volunteers and local Bolivians, group/individuals reflections, direct service, and prayer. Participants will be invited to think critically about their experiences abroad in order to better appreciate God’s creation and to better discern their responsibility as Christians in building the kingdom of God on earth.

**Applicant Qualifications**

* Minimum age of 16 years old (trip participants who are minors must be accompanied by a guardian)
* Eagerness to learn about another country, be immersed in a new culture and interact with Bolivians
* Desire to gain a greater awareness of different social justice issues occurring in Bolivians
* Respect for Catholic practices and openness to learning about Franciscan values
* Ability to handle unexpected schedule changes with patience, flexibility and a positive attitude
* Ability to walk on uneven terrain for approximately 5-7 miles (10,000-15,000 steps) during the course of a day
* Few, if any, dietary restrictions.  (For questions about whether a particular dietary restriction can be accommodated, contact Meghan at meghan@franciscanmissionservice.org)

**Trip Location:**

The Unidad Académica Campesina-Carmen Pampa (UAC-CP or the College) is dedicated to making higher education available to young Bolivians with talent and ambition but with few economic resources. Through programs that address the most pressing concerns of rural people—health, education, agriculture, animal husbandry, and the environment—the College gives young Bolivians the tools to become leaders in the development of their own communities. Integrated in its academic curriculum are unique components that contribute to students’ educational experience. These include: production, research, social service extension, and leadership formation. (Source: https://carmenpampafund.org/)

**Prospective Itinerary:**

**Day 1-Friday, May 11 (Travel)**

* Group meets at Miami airport (MIA) in late afternoon
* Group flies Miami to La Paz in late evening

**Day 2-Saturday, May 12 (Carmen Pampa)**

* Arrive La Paz in early morning, clear immigration and customs
* Travel by public transportation to Carmen Pampa (~3 hours)
* Settle in and rest
* Campus tour with tourism students
* Evening prayer

**Day 3-Sunday, May 13 (Carmen Pampa)**

* Mass in Coroico
* Market shopping activity
* Meeting with missionary Franciscan sisters
* Workshop on indigenous life and culture
* Dinner with Carmen Pampa volunteers

**Day 4-Monday, May 14 (Carmen Pampa)**

* “Comunitario”-Campus-based service alongside Carmen Pampa students
* “Intercambio” with English students
* Coffee farm tour or coca tour

**Day 5-Tuesday, May 15 (Carmen Pampa)**

* “Comunitario”-Campus-based service alongside Carmen Pampa students
* “Intercambio” with English students
* “Pastoral” (campus ministry meeting)

**Day 6-Wednesday, May 16 (Carmen Pampa)**

* Trip to neighboring Afro-Bolivian village
* Cultural exchange night organized and facilitated by short-term group

**Day 7-Thursday, May 17 (Carmen Pampa)**

* Painting project
* Hike to Puerta del Viento with reflection on poverty and development
* Bolivian dance lesson

**Day 8-Friday, May 18 (La Paz)**

* Early morning departure from Carmen Pampa
* Lunch in La Paz
* Time for souvenir shopping
* Tour of colonial-era Franciscan church and closing prayer service
* Dinner and to bed early

**Day 9-Saturday, May 19 (Travel)**

* Early departure from La Paz
* Mid-morning arrival in Miami
* Participants depart from Miami to home

**Accommodations**

We will be staying in the guest accommodations on campus. You can generally expect to be housed two or more to a room. Bathrooms are shared and hot water may not always be available, but we aim to provide it.

**Cost**

The trip cost is $1450 and includes lodging at the Carmen Pampa campus and a hotel in La Paz, meals, cultural excursions, community visits, visas, in-country transportation, and travel insurance. The cost of airfare, souvenirs, and personal snacks is not included.

**To Join the Trip**

* **Step 1:** Complete the application and return to Meghan Meros at meghan@franciscanmissionservice.org
  + **Application deadline:** March 12, 2018
  + **Priority**given to applicants who have previously expressed interest in a short-term trip and who submit their applications by February 20, 2018.
* **Step 2:**Secure your reservation with a deposit of $725, due by March 15, 2018
* **Step 4:**Purchase flights, in consultation with Franciscan Mission Service
* **Step 3:**Participate in a pre-trip webinar, obtain needed vaccines, and submit visa paperwork to Franciscan Mission Service

**Application**

Please type your answers in the “click here to enter text” sections.

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Name:Click here to enter text. | | |
| Date of Birth:Click here to enter text. | Gender: Click here to enter text. | Religious Affiliation:Click here to enter text. |
| Current Address:Click here to enter text. | | |
| CityClick here to enter text. | State:Click here to enter text. | Zip code: Click here to enter text. |
| Phone:Click here to enter text. | Email:Click here to enter text. | |
| Please describe your language abilities. (Please note that Spanish skills are not necessary to participate in the trip.)  Click here to enter text. | | |
| How did you hear about FMS and this trip?  Click here to enter text. | | |
| In 300-600 words, provide some background about your interest in the 2018 mission and global awareness trip to Bolivia. Please describe your previous service/cross cultural experiences, including mission trips and other travel. Please also describe your personal understanding of “mission” and the role of faith in your life.  Click here to enter text. | | |
| Please list the full name and contact information (phone and email) of three references. Please also include how you know the person and the number of years you have known the person.  Click here to enter text. | | |

**Authorization**

I authorize Franciscan Mission Service (FMS) to retain and rely on this application, and to obtain additional information as needed for my participation on a Short-Term Mission and Global Awareness Trip. I understand that FMS will maintain all information in privacy and confidence, limiting its release only to parties involved with the facilitation and implementation of the trip.

I am aware that my participation on the FMS Short-Term Mission and Global Awareness Trip will be voluntary. I clearly understand that, if I am accepted, raising all expenses will be my responsibility. I further agree, if selected, to conduct myself in a manner befitting to the host country and FMS.

To the best of my knowledge, all information in this application is accurate and complete.

Signature of Applicant: Click here to enter text. Date: Click here to enter text.

***Please e-mail completed application to*** [***meghan@franciscanmissionservice.org***](mailto:meghan@franciscanmissionservice.org)



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