

# BAJA MEXICO TRIP JULY 14-20, 2024 BUILDING HOPE | BRINGING CHANGE

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# SUMMER 2024 MEXICO MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANT INFORMATION

DATE: July 14-20, 2024 TOTAL COST: \$600 (airfare to San Diego not included)

# **REGISTRATION DUE:** April 14, 2024 **NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT:** \$100

#### PARTNERING WITH uReach.global - Expedition:Baja

Expedition:Baja will take you 4 hours south of the border to where roads aren't paved, tacos are the world's best and you are needed desperately. In seven days, you will build a home and you will change lives – maybe yours the most.

Since 2008, uReach has built more than 100 homes and schools, done relief work and brought hope to people living in absolute poverty. They set up everything for us – safe and comfortable (but not fancy) accommodations, project managers, healthy food, transportation in well-maintained vehicles and safety-trained leaders and local staff who take care of us.

You will work hard, play harder, spend quality time with friends, and leave knowing that you changed someone's life.

# THE FOLLOWING MUST ACCOMPANY YOUR APPLICATION TO BE ACCEPTED:

- Completed Crossing Church Application (attached)
- Completed Online UReach Application
- Signed Ureach Assumption of Risk Agreement (attached)
- Release of Liability Form (attached)
- Minor Release Form (if applicable)
- \$100 Non-Refundable Deposit
- Copy of your Passport and Flight to San Diego Itinerary

#### **TRIP DETAILS:**

#### • Who can go?

Anyone can apply to be a part of the team. Due to the nature of this Home Building trip certain physical requirements are necessary making this trip not the most suitable for children under 13. Please make sure you feel fit to tackle the physical demands of the trip.

#### Where do we stay?

We will stay in dormitory-style accommodations. The facilities are clean, simple and adequate. There are indoor toilets, and showers with hot and cold running water. The food is wholesome and nourishing and is served in a large dining hall, family-style.

#### • Is it safe?

We take every precaution to ensure our trip is safe. uReach goes through great efforts with local government officials to do the best they can to ensure each group is safe in camp and on the work site.

#### What's the purpose?

Team Mexico is an amazing opportunity for individuals to provide hope for a family in need by building them a home. We will spend the week focusing on others by leaving behind the luxuries of home and going into an impoverished community, building by hand, and sharing the gospel. Going to Mexico will give participants the opportunity to meet a spiritual need by meeting a physical need.

# SUMMER 2024 MEXICO MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANT APPLICATION

### DATES AND DETAILS:

MARCH 17 Team Info & Interest Meeting				
APRIL 14	Applications and Deposits Due			
JUNE 9	Proof of Flight Itinerary and Copy of Passport Due*			
JUNE 14	Team Mexico Dinner at The Johnson's			
JULY 7	Team Commissioning/Prayer Service (9:00 AM & 10:30 AM) & Final Payment			
JULY 14	Depart Sacramento			
JULY 20	Return Home			

Please sign to acknowledge dates agreed to:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature:

\*If there is a conflict, please contact Pastor Kyle prior to 6/7.

# Please fill out COMPLETELY and NEATLY. This application will not be accepted with any blank spaces!

# SUMMER 2024 MEXICO MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANT APPLICATION

Name on Passport					
PhoneE-r	nail				
Address	City	Zip			
Birth Date//	Age Male / Female				
FOR MINORS ONLY					
School	Grade				
Parent / Guardian Names					
Father's e-mail Father's Cell Phone					
Mother's e-mail	Mother's C	Cell Phone			
Emergency Contact (other than a parent) Name Phone					
T-shirt Size (All Adult Men T-Shirt Sizes)SmallMedium Large X-L XX-L Rate your Spanish ability: 1 2 3 4 5 (1= can't find the bathroom, 5= translate sermons)					
Do you attend The Crossing Church? Yes / No How long have you attended?					
Have you gone to Mexico before with The Crossing? Yes / No How many times?					
HEALTH INFORMATION					
Complete all information below. Give a full explanation below. All answers are confidential.					
Are you taking medication under a doctor's direction? Yes No     If so, what?					
<ul> <li>Do you require a special diet? Yes No</li> <li>If so, what?</li> </ul>					

Do you have any chronic health issues or physical limitations? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No
 If so, what? \_\_\_\_\_\_

# Please fill out COMPLETELY and NEATLY. This application will not be accepted with any blank spaces!

#### TEAM COVENANT

As a member of the Mexico 2024 team, I agree to live by the following covenant (initial each one):

I will seek to grow in my relationship with Christ
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\_\_\_\_\_I will behave and act in a manner that brings glory to God.

\_\_\_\_\_I will faithfully attend church (& C/S for teens).

\_\_\_\_\_I will faithfully attend all meetings. If I must miss a meeting, I will

contact Pastor Kyle ahead of time.

_I will do everything I can to maintain the unity of the whole Mexico team
(student and adults). I will follow the leaders, refuse to participate in gossip,
deal with conflict in a Biblical manner (Matthew 5:23-24 and Matthew 18: 15-
17), and forgive others as I have been forgiven (Colossians 3:13).

I will try to be a servant like Jesus was a servant. I will try to remember that this trip isn't about me.

I will do everything without complaining or arguing (Philippians 2:14).

I will seek to be open to the Holy Spirit, depending on Him and not on myself to do the ministry that He has called me to (Zachariah 4:6 and Acts 1:8).

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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\*If there is a conflict please contact Pastor Kyle prior to 7/7.



#### The Reach Group (uReach/StudentReach) Assumption of Risk Agreement

- 1. I am aware of the hazards and risks to my person and property associated with foreign relief activities for which I am applying and will apply for in the future, such hazards and risks including but not limited to death or injury by accident, disease, terrorist acts, weather conditions and inadequate medical services and supplies. I volunteer my services on behalf of StudentReach International despite such hazards risks, and I assume the risks of death, injury and damage associated with such risks.
- 2. I attest and verify that I am physically fit and have no medical conditions that would prevent me from performing the volunteer services for which I am applying.
- 3. I waive any and all claims for damages, which I or my heirs may have against StudentReach International, or any host of StudentReach International.
- 4. I give the StudentReach International staff permission to seek emergency medical treatment.

Any sightseeing and shopping will be permitted only if it coincides with the team's main purpose, but could be cancelled if not deemed convenient for travel, time, or hinders humanitarian work. Trip costs are based on current prices and are subject to change. Teams may be switched in the event of any political, natural, or other crisis. Due to IRS stipulations, deposits and contributions are non-refundable. All donations received by StudentReach International go toward project expenses. To receive tax deduction, the IRS stipulates that the donor must release control of the money donated to the non-profit organization. For this reason, money cannot be refunded and cannot be designated to a person. The individual will be a fundraiser and will get credit for raising funds equal to the price of the trip. If an individual is unable to participate in a StudentReach International trip, the funds he/she raised , less incurred expense and administrative fees, will remain credited to his/her account for one year. In the event of political unrest or natural disaster, StudentReach International decides where to send the team. In the event that a team has cancelled for any reason, team members will be assigned by StudentReach International to another trip of similar expense. StudentReach International policies and are subject to dismissal for disobedience without refund or reimbursement. Team members, leaders, and staff adhere strictly to StudentReach International is not liable in the event of sickness, accident, death, terrorist acts, or for transportation or any other expense involved with the events listed. The StudentReach International experience includes intense physical activity including extended hiking, continuous walking, and strenuous activity. We require that all participants be in good physical and mental condition and may request a physical exam and reference from a doctor (if needed).

The information I have given StudentReach International is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge. I also give StudentReach International the right to use my picture, voice, and or/testimony in any type of promotional or advertising materials. My enclosed signature (and enclosed signature of parent or legal guardian if under 18) signifies my approval of all limitations listed above.

#### Applicant

Printed Name

correct.

Signature

Date

The Parent or Guardian of applicant has read and voluntarily signs the Assumption of Risk Agreement and does so voluntarily and with the understanding that substantial rights are being given up. I/We further acknowledge that failure to notarize this agreement shall not affect its validity.

#### Parent or Guardian Signature (If applicant is a minor): \_\_\_\_\_

STATE OF	COUNTY OF					
On this, theday of,	_, 20	, before me,,				
personally appeared		, who proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to				
be the person whose name is subscribed to the within instruments and acknowledged to me that he/she executed the						
same in his/her authorized capacity, and that by his/her signature on the instrument the person upon behalf of which the						
person acted, executed the instrument.						
I certify under the PENALTY OF PERJURY under the laws of the said state that the foregoing paragraph is true and						

WITNESS MY HAND AND OFFICIAL SEAL:

SIGNATURE\_\_\_\_\_SEAL:



# General Information for Expedition:Baja

Location: The San Quintin Valley, Baja California Norte, Mexico, approximately 180 miles south of the U.S. border on Mexico Highway 1.

Accommodations: Dorm-style enclosed cabins, tent cabins or modest Motel accommodations are provided. Hot showers (usually), flush toilets (a luxury in rural Baja) and filtered water on site are included.

Activities: During our free time, activities will include going to the beach, hiking and trips to the best taco stands on the planet! Surfing, boogie boarding, fishing, snorkeling, hiking, and other related activities are available. Please feel free to bring the items needed to engage in these activities.

Trip Length: 7 days including travel in and out of Baja.

Travel: In most cases, participants will arrange their own travel to San Diego International airport and be picked up by uReach Staff for ground transportation down the Baja coast. Travel to San Diego International airport can be arranged by Air, bus, or personal car. Free parking can be arranged by uReach with advanced notice. Flights should arrive in time for a noon pickup buy uReach staff and departure flights should be scheduled for after 4PM on the day or departure. We cannot guarantee and early pickup on the day of arrival if the flight arrives before noon. uReach staff can assist you with travel arrangement or special needs.

Currency: American dollars are accepted everywhere and small bills are most useful, nothing larger than a \$20 will be accepted at most places - one's and five's are much better. All change will be received in pesos. Please be conservative about the amount of money brought on the trip. Tacos cost \$1.25, soft drinks are \$1 and Mexican ponchos cost about \$10 just as a point of reference. Some places are starting to take Credit cards and one ATM is available. Individuals are encouraged to bring spending money for extra meals, snacks, shopping, etc. \$50-100 is usually about right.

Language: Spanish is the official language and very few people speak English. You can learn some key Spanish phrases at <u>https://www.rocketlanguages.com/spanish/phrases/common-spanish-phrases</u>

Climate: The climate is very Mediterranean with warm days and cool nights. Summer temperatures average 80°/70°, winter is 65°/50°. It's frequently cool at the beach and the Pacific Ocean water temperature is about 60-70°.

Travel Documents: At the time of this writing, the requirements for entering Mexico and coming back into the U.S. are: ALL trip participants MUST have a U.S. valid passport (or passport from another country and a valid U.S. travel visa), a US passport card or an Enhanced Security Driver's license (currently issued by Michigan, New York, Vermont and Washington – and some Canadian states).

In addition, all minors must carry a letter of permission: "Mexican law requires that any non-Mexican citizen under the age of 18 departing Mexico must carry notarized written permission from any parent or guardian not traveling with the child to or from Mexico. This permission must include the name of the parent, the name of the child, the name of anyone traveling with the child, and the notarized signature(s) of the absent parent(s). The State Department recommends that the permission should include travel dates, destinations, airlines and a brief summary of the circumstances surrounding the travel. The child must be carrying the original letter - not a facsimile or scanned copy - as well as proof of the parent/child relationship (usually a birth certificate or court document) - and an original custody decree, if applicable."

uReach will keep all documents in safe keeping for unaccompanied minor travelers.

What's included in the price of the trip: Your trip cost includes ground transport from San Diego (unless otherwise specified), all meals, purified water, construction materials/tools for house build, trip leaders, recreational activities and leadership training.

# What to Bring

Please pack in a carry-on suitcase. If you want to bring gifts or other supplies, team up with some other people. The weather is not varied, you don't need a lot of different kinds of clothing for this trip and space can be limited in our vehicles.

General –

- o Sunscreen
- Spending money (see "currency" section for guidelines)
- Toilet paper (for times away from the base)
- A backpack (normal kind)
- A water bottle (you will refill with purified water)
- o Toiletries (toothpaste, shampoo, etc)
- $\circ$   $\,$  A package of wet wipes for the job site
- More Sunscreen
- o Beach towel
- o Sunglasses
- o More sunscreen
- o A hammer
- Gloves
- A hat (something with a wide brim is recommended)

#### Clothing

- Work shoes (boots or sturdy sport/tennis shoes), walking shoes, sandals
- Your regular casual clothes
- A modest swimsuit (this is a humanitarian trip) in case of swimming opportunity.
- Light shorts/t-shirt/pajamas to sleep in
- Sweatshirt or light jacket
- Rain poncho (it is very unlikely to rain during the summer months, so skip it then)
- Work clothes (you will get dirty) and painting clothes that can get "ruined"
- Please bring long (in length, not long sleeved) shirts for the work site that don't bare your skin when you
  bend over. Shorts for the work site should be at least mid-thigh. Tank tops should be modest the
  Mexican people are very modest. We don't want to be a freak show.

#### Do not bring:

- o Any illegal substance
- Non-prescribed pharmaceuticals
- o Illegal drugs
- Marijuana-even with prescription or firearms of any kind are illegal in Mexico and carry serious penalties
- o Alcohol, fireworks and other potentially dangerous items are not allowed on the expedition.

#### Optional

- Snacks if you want
- Ear plugs (for sleeping with people who snore)
- Your own pillow
- Basic OTC meds (Advil, Pepto Bismol, etc)
- o Giveaways for children
- o Housewarming gifts (items can be purchased in Baja so you don't need to travel with them)

#### Notes:

- Sleeping bags, sheets, etc. are *not* needed unless you are notified otherwise.
- Vegetarians and people with allergies should let us know so we can try to accommodate food needs and preferences.

# Medical Information

Insurance: All participants are required to purchase insurance through Mission Assure. uReach will assist in that purchase. The cost is \$4.50/day and includes medical insurance, evacuation coverage and more.

Pre-check: Individuals are encouraged to make an appointment with the travel department of your medical provider or your primary care physician.

Medications Needed for Nicaragua: Make sure you are up to date on routine vaccines.

- All participants: All participants: Every participant should be up to date on measles-mumps-rubella (MMR), diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis, varicella (chickenpox), and polio vaccine (and your yearly flu shot).
- Optional: The following are for highly cautious participants who want maximum protection.
  - Hepatitis A CDC recommends this vaccine because you can get hepatitis A through contaminated food or water in Nicaragua, regardless of where you are eating or staying.
  - Hepatitis B: You can get hepatitis B through sexual contact, contaminated needles, and blood products, so CDC recommends this vaccine if you might have sex with a new partner, get a tattoo or piercing, or have any medical procedures
  - Typhoid You can get typhoid through contaminated food or water in Nicaragua. CDC recommends this vaccine for most travelers, especially if you are staying with friends or relatives, visiting smaller cities or rural areas, or if you are an adventurous eater.
  - *Rabies:* Rabies can be found in dogs, bats, and other mammals in Nicaragua, so CDC recommends this vaccine for the following groups:
    - Travelers involved in outdoor and other that put them at risk for animal bites.
    - People who are taking long trips
    - Children, because they tend to play with animals, might not report bites, and are more likely to have animal bites on their head and neck.

More information can be found at <a href="https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/mexico">https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/mexico</a>