

OAXACA

2011 Medical Teams

Forward Edge International

WHAT IS THE NEED?

Rich in culture, tradition and history, Oaxaca is unique because it is home to one of the largest concentrations of indigenous people in the world—more than 150 *dialects* are spoken here. A colorful mix of handicrafts, art and festivities reflect their depth of diversity.

Sadly, Oaxaca is also a place of significant poverty. High rates of illiteracy, malnutrition and infant mortality dominate the region, especially in the Native population. Impoverished families survive on a meager diet of beans and tortillas. In the villages scattered throughout the mountains, disease and poverty are rampant. .

We believe that *where there is much need, there is much opportunity*. There is so much need in Oaxaca, that there are opportunities to satisfy any team's vision of service. Your team is headed to Manos de Ayuda (*Helping Hands*), a medical clinic equipped for cataract removal and cleft palate surgeries. Manos de Ayuda has served over 348,000 poor people with medical care since 1988.

For More Information:

Nicole Klepec, Team Coordinator for Oaxaca:
360.574.3343 or nicole@forwardedge.org.



Local Oaxacan woman receiving life-changing treatment



IMPORTANT DATES

(Total Team Fee: \$795 per person)

90 Days Prior

Application & Liability Release Form and
\$175 deposit DUE.

60 Days Prior

\$300 Half Payment DUE.

30 Days Prior

\$320 Full Payment DUE.

2 Weeks Prior

Trip/Travel insurance secured

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WAYS YOU WILL SERVE:

Manos de Ayuda is equipped for cataract removal surgeries. Forward Edge is seeking ophthalmologists to perform these life-changing procedures, along with other medical professionals to support these surgeries and provide basic medical care.

You may also visit local villages to conduct simple wound care, provide health and hygiene clinics, or even pour cement pisos (floors) in villagers' homes. Through simple acts of service your team will make a lasting impact on these poverty-stricken people.

THINGS TO KNOW:

Culturally, it is important to bring small gifts as a sign of appreciation for your hosts. Please talk as a team about what you could bring to bless those who serve you in Oaxaca. Souvenirs from your home state, twin sheets or towels will greatly help our hosts as they prepare for many teams. Calendars, chocolate and tea are also great gifts.

WHAT WILL IT COST?

The trip rate for all teams to Oaxaca in 2011 is **\$795 per person*** for 8 nights. This will cover everything once you arrive in-country. Food, lodging, ground transportation, materials, interpreter and complete logistical coordination will be covered. Trip insurance is required and will cost approximately \$20. *Fee does not include your flight to Oaxaca.

PASSPORT:

A passport is required to enter Mexico, and please be sure that it **extends at least six months past the date of your arrival**. Please make three copies of your passport. Leave one at home and bring two with you. Children under the age of 18 are required to have signed and notarized permission from both parents.

PREPARATION:

As soon as Forward Edge receives completed applications, we'll send you a team pack: T-shirt, training materials and information on Oaxaca.

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A local man prepares for a cataract removal surgery

Everyone should have an
opportunity to change a LIFE.