

SIERRA TARAHUMARA MTS.

2011 Teams

Forward Edge International—Team #



Tarahumaran Native Americans

WHAT IS THE NEED?

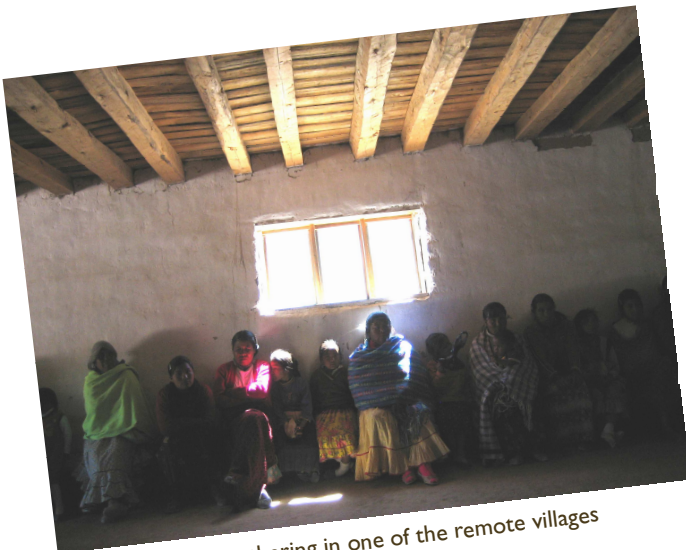
Your team will be traveling to an altitude of around 10,000 feet to the very peaks of the Sierra Tarahumara mountains. This amazing mountain range extends throughout much of the Chihuahua state in northern Mexico. The Sierra Tarahumaras are so gorgeous that many Mexicans vacation there and say that the Grand Canyon is “child’s play” by comparison.

More importantly, the Sierra Tarahumaras are home to the Tarahumaran Native Americans, who are probably descendants of the Anasazi (*Cave Dwellers*). The total population of only 50,000 live in small villages scattered throughout the mountains. Though they’re an incredible people, Pastor Gilberto of the Ebenezer Foursquare Church in Juarez says, “They are the poorest of the poor.” Many Tarahumarans lack basic necessities such as electricity and running water, shoes and basic education. Since the government has largely ignored this people group, churches like Ebenezer Foursquare have helped pick up the slack.

Pastor Gilberto is connected to the Tarahumaran people because he oversees another Foursquare church in the mountains pastored by Pastor Eliseo. The Good News of the Gospel has been welcomed with open arms, and there are already six church plants in the surrounding villages. On Sundays, church members often walk three to four hours to get to service. Pastor Eliseo is Tarahumaran himself, and envisions positive change for his people, but they need our help!

For More Information:

Nicole Klepec, Team Coordinator for Sierra Tarahumara Mountains: 360.574.3343 or nicole@forwardedge.org.



Church gathering in one of the remote villages

IMPORTANT DATES

(Total Team Fee: \$595 per person)

90 Days Prior

\$100 non-refundable deposit applied toward team fee. Application & Liability Release Form DUE.

60 Days Prior

\$250.00 First Payment DUE.

30 Days Prior

\$245.00 Final Payment DUE.

2 Weeks Prior

Trip/Travel insurance secured for team.

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WAYS YOU WILL SERVE:

You will be serving at Templo de la Salvación Foursquare church in the upper region of the Sierra Tarahumara Mountains. They have a thriving church body of indigenous peoples. Pastor Eliseo has been the pastor of this church for the last 13 years, and already, there are six church plants in the surrounding villages. Your team will help construct one of two new rooms at the church that will be used as overnight lodging and a dining hall for their own church members, and also as team houses for future teams. Not only is this a beautiful blessing for all those who walk to church on Sunday, it is an absolutely *critical* step in bringing more help and resources to our brothers and sisters. These projects are *not possible* to complete without outside assistance. Additionally, you will be interacting with the Tarahumaran people, taking part in their church services and helping with outreaches to their remote villages.



Pastor Gilberto preaching to a local village

WHERE WILL WE STAY?

While in the mountains, your team will be staying in cabins located about two minutes away from Templo de la Salvación church. The cabins have electricity, rudimentary toilets, makeshift showers, and beds. You will need to bring your own bedding and mattresses. Your hosts will be Pastor Gilberto and Pastor Eliseo.

PASSPORT / IDENTIFICATION:

Mexico requires a *passport and a valid photo ID*. Please be sure that it *extends at least six months past the date of your arrival*. You must *have your identification with you at all times*.

WHAT WILL IT COST?

The team fee for this trip is **\$595 per person**. This fee covers preparatory materials, accommodations, meals, transportation on-site, some construction materials and an on-site Facilitator. This fee does not include transportation to El Paso, Texas (ELP). The FEI Facilitator and someone from the church will pick you up and take you across the border into Mexico. You will be driven by van approximately 10 hours to the Sierra Tarahumaras. The roads are nice and the scenery is amazing!



Local villager

PREPARATION:

As soon as Forward Edge receives completed applications, we'll send you a team pack: T-shirt, training materials and information about the Sierras. Please note: FEI strongly recommends that each team member has a current **tetanus shot**. Your group leader will be in close contact with Team Coordinator Nicole Klepec at Forward Edge.

Nicole@forwardedge.org 360-574-3343

Everyone should have an
opportunity to change a LIFE.