

# Oaxaca, Mexico



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Forward Edge Medical Team

2010

## WHERE ARE WE GOING?

The state of **Oaxaca**, located in southern Mexico, is known as "Tierra del Sol", Land of the Sun. This is a region of intense beauty blessed with rugged mountains, verdant valleys and a beautiful coast on the Pacific Ocean.

Rich in culture, tradition, and history, Oaxaca is home to one of the largest concentrations of indigenous people in the world; more than 150 *dialects* are spoken in the state of Oaxaca.



When the Spaniards arrived in 1521, they found a cultural mosaic of people whose lives were ruled by rites and traditions. A colorful mix of handicrafts, art and festivities reflect their depth of history.

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. Most people live in farming villages without electricity or clean water. Typically, impoverished families survive on a meager diet of beans and tortillas.

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.

## NEED MORE INFORMATION?

Please contact **Nicole Klepec**, Forward Edge Team Coordinator for **Mexico** at **360.574.3343** or **Nicole@forwardedge.org**



### Oaxaca Facts

Only 7% of the population is Christian.

**3 out of 4 people** lack access to basic necessities like food, water, education and health-care.



Build relationships with the locals in Oaxaca, Mexico.

Everyone  
should have an  
opportunity to  
change a  
LIFE.

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*Come to the Edge...*  
where you will discover in a deeper  
way who God is, who you are and  
what God can do through you.

## WHAT ARE WE DOING?

Manos de Ayuda is equipped for cataract removal surgeries. Forward Edge is seeking ophthalmologists to perform these life-changing procedures. Other medical professionals are also needed 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.

## COST:

The team fee for this trip is **\$795 per person**. This fee covers preparatory materials, accommodations, meals, transportation in Oaxaca, some construction materials and an on-site facilitator. *Airfare and travel insurance are not included in this fee.*

## ACCOMODATIONS:

We will be housed in Oaxaca City at a YWAM facility and at other ministry guest houses.

We will join our Mexican ministry partners, local Christian organizations in Oaxaca City and outlying areas to serve this community.

## 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, Mexico! Souvenirs from your home state, towels, calendars, chocolate and tea are always great gifts.

## PASSPORT:

A passport is now required to enter Mexico. Please make three copies of your passport. Leave one at home and bring two with you.

## PREPARATIONS:

As soon as Forward Edge receives completed applications, we'll send you a team pack: T-shirt, training materials and information on Oaxaca. Please contact **Nicole Klepec** for more information at **360.574.3343** or **[Nicole@forwardedge.org](mailto:Nicole@forwardedge.org)**.

## IMPORTANT DATES

### 90 Days

Coordination  
Agreement, Application  
& Liability Release Form  
DUE.

### 60 Days:

\$397.50 Half payment  
DUE.

### 30 Days:

\$397.50 Full payment  
DUE.

### 15 Days:

Trip/Travel insurance  
SECURED for team.



A local man prepares for a cataract removal surgery

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