

MEXICO

Open Trip to Oaxaca 2017

#1469 July 7-14

OAXACA AT A GLANCE

Oaxaca, Mexico has a rich history and culture, and is an exciting place to visit. Unfortunately, Oaxaca is also a place of significant poverty. High rates of illiteracy, malnutrition and infant mortality all dominate the region, especially in the Native population. According to the National Nutrition Survey of Rural Mexico, 500,000 children suffer from some level of malnutrition in Oaxaca, and 46,000 of them are severely malnourished! Forty-eight percent of these children are also raised within single parent families.

Trigo y Miel (Wheat and Honey), a Forward Edge ministry in Oaxaca, focuses on serving children and their families in the very poor and underdeveloped area near the city garbage dump on the outskirts of Oaxaca City. The people who live in the *colonias* (neighborhoods) have come from smaller villages in search of a better life. Most families are dealing with severe unemployment, poor education, and large numbers of children. For many, daily life is focused on survival with little hope for a prosperous future. They desperately need to know the One who gives eternal hope!

MAKING A LONG-TERM IMPACT

Trigo y Miel (TyM) currently provides a healthy meal once a day, four days a week, to over 100 children. With the help of sponsors, we hope to increase that to five days a week. While the children are at TyM there are many opportunities for teams to serve, including helping with homework and teaching English or basic computer skills. In Oaxaca, the average child doesn't finish 7th grade, and less than 14% complete more than the 8th grade (INEGI Census 2010. National Institute of Statistics and Geography). On Saturday mornings, TyM directors Victor and Lety Velasco, teach Bible lessons to the children in the neighborhood, similar to having Sunday School.

Forward Edge is looking for partners to help *Trigo y Miel* bring lasting solutions — not just quick fixes — to poor, families in need within Oaxaca. One of our future projects is building the second level on Ty M's building. This will provide additional space for classes, onsite team lodging and other TyM activities. We are also working on a multipurpose sports court to be used for various activities such as youth outreach and community events. Another project is investing in an earth block machine that will help provide secure and safe homes for families in need.

We invite you to join us as we partner with God as He advances His work in Oaxaca!



IMPORTANT DATES

Total Trip Fee:

\$895 per person

April 9, 2017

\$200 non-refundable deposit

(applied towards trip fee)

Registration & Medical Release Forms DUE

May 4, 2017

\$347.50 Payment #2 DUE

June 3, 2017

\$347.50 Payment #3 DUE

Live Your Mission ▶

For More Information:

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TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATIONS:

Trip Fee includes:

- Food, lodging, translators, ground transportation, team packs, mission trip medical coverage and an on-site Facilitator.
- Trip preparatory materials and complete logistical coordination provided by Forward Edge.

Trip Fees do not include:

- Your flights to and from Oaxaca.

PAYMENTS:

A \$200 non-refundable deposit is due at the time of registration. The deposit will be applied towards your trip fee. Payments can be paid by check or by credit card at www.forwardedge.org (Pay Trip Fees). Make checks payable to: Forward Edge International. All payments need to reflect the team member name and team number.

PASSPORT:

A passport is required to enter Oaxaca. No other identification is needed. If you already have a passport, be sure that it extends at least six months past the date of your departure.

OTHER INFORMATION:

IMMUNIZATIONS: The government of Oaxaca does not require any shots or immunizations to enter the country. However, Forward Edge highly recommends that all team members are current in the tetanus vaccination, and that they consult a personal physician for further recommendations.

TEAM PACKS: As soon as Forward Edge receives the completed applications for the team, we will send the Group Leader the team packs to distribute to the team members.

SCHEDULE: Forward Edge will work directly with your Group Leader to match the gifts and desires of your team to the projects and needs that have been identified ahead of your arrival. Each day your team will experience a morning devotional, an evening debrief, and relationship building opportunities through serving the local people. It is the hope and prayer of all Forward Edge staff that God challenges you in your experience as you have answered His call to serve.



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