

What: Casa de la Esperanza July 2024

When: July 21-28, 2024

Price: \$1,100

Deposit of \$300 due by 4/21 (nonrefundable, needed to purchase airfare)

\$300 more by 5/5

\$500 more by 6/2

Frequently Asked Questions:

How will we prepare for the trip? We will have **4 mandatory meetings** - April 21 (apps due by this time), and June 2, June 23 and July 14 at 12:30 PM at Harbor Arvada. Believing that God has called us to go on this trip, He also calls us to prepare our hearts for what we are about to do. Our training will focus on preparing our hearts to be positioned spiritually as well as many logistics of the trip. Preparing ourselves, as much as possible, and staying flexible for changes along the way will help our trip go more smoothly.

*If needed we can send items early with Rodney May when he goes. These items will need to be collected by May 25.

Where will we stay? Casa has a team building which includes a large gathering space where we can meet, play games, and gather as a team. There is also a large kitchen with a fridge in this building. There are two dorm rooms with bunk beds, one for men and one for women. Each has a very nice bathroom with 4 sinks, 4 showers, and 4 toilets. It is up to the team to keep this space clean and picked up throughout the week.

What will we eat? In general, teams join the Casa kids for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, but we will have snacks, tea, and coffee available in the team building.

What will we do all day? We will do work projects in the mornings and spend time with the kids in the afternoons and evenings.

Do I need a passport? Yes, if you don't have one, apply now.

Do I need a visa? Yes, the info will come later.

Is the water safe to drink? Yes

Will I need to take some money with me? While your travel and lodging and food at Casa are included, there may be meals to purchase on travel days, shopping, and offering. So a little cash is nice to have on hand. American money or credit/debit cards can be used in Mexico.

What will the weather be like? Because of the higher altitudes in Anahuac, MX the temperatures are much like here in the summer, warmer days and cooler nights.

How will we travel? We will fly to Chihuahua City, Mexico then be picked up by Casa vans to drive another 2 hours to arrive at Casa in the evening

Is there any downtime? Yes, if you need to rest at any time, you may. Also in the evening, the kids go to bed at about 7 leaving the evening free to play games, read, whatever you like

Do I need to speak Spanish? No, but it sure comes in handy. Some of the staff and kids speak a little English and hand gestures work great.

What are the ideal ages for kids to participate? 5 and up, but your toddlers would be such a blessing to the team and the Casa family. Plenty of space for pack n plays. And lots for grandparents to do on these trips!

Packing list

Carry-On Allowance: 1 small Bag + 1 Personal Item, 1 checked bag (this bag should be left for as much ministry supplies as possible), less than 50 pounds

Certain items below have been taken off of the list due to changes in travel plans and time of year.

- Bible
- PASSPORT!!!
- ~~If you are a driver and you are taking your vehicle into Mexico, you will need the Following: Original title to your vehicle and two copies~~
- ~~If you DO NOT OWN the vehicle going across the border free and clear (no loan), you MUST have a letter from the loan company on their letterhead stating they know you are taking the vehicle out of the country. Original vehicle registration and two copies~~
- ~~Driver's license and two copies~~
- Two copies of your passport
- Clothes for 7 days, maybe a couple of extra days worth in case of messy work time (there's no laundry for the missionaries at Casa)
- A lighter jacket or sweatshirt
- Most of the clothes should be "work clothes"
- The weather at Casa at this time of year is variable so bring clothing you can layer. It could get cold while we are there, so be prepared.
- Painting clothes (that you don't mind getting covered with paint)
- A nice outfit to wear to church on Sunday (the Casa girls wear dresses for church, so a dress or skirt is nice for the ladies, collared shirt for guys)
- Warm pajamas
- Shoes. You will be working in these. An extra pair is recommended in case you get

a job where you get your feet wet.

- Towel for showering
- Toiletries (flip flops or shower "shoes" are recommended)
- Water Bottle
- The water at Casa is well water and it is safe. We will need to stay hydrated while we work so your water bottle is IMPORTANT.
- If you are a coffee drinker, a travel mug is great to have on the trip.
- Work gloves if you have them
- Spending money:
 - They sell Casa T-Shirts as a fundraiser.
 - Visit a Mexican market.
 - Food during travel days.
 - Offering taken at Church.
 - **Total: \$75-\$100** should be enough.
- Money for meals on travel days. The trip will pay for your meals while in Mexico, but whatever food you need on the US side of the border is your responsibility.
- A camera. The pictures you will get will be priceless.

Bedding:

- 1 set of twin sheets with pillow case - blankets and pillows will be provided