



## **Casa de Mi Padre, Santa Cruz del Quiché, Guatemala Mission Trip Information Packet**

### **A Word from the Director**

Thank you for requesting more information on a possible mission trip to Guatemala and the ministry of Casa de Mi Padre. We hope this information packet answers many of your questions and provides you with all the necessary information you will need for your church or group to make a decision about coming to Guatemala on a mission to help with the construction of the new Casa de Mi Padre. In this packet you will find the following information:

1. General information on the country of Guatemala
2. Information about Casa de Mi Padre
3. What your team will be doing
4. Cost breakdown of the entire trip
5. Other Logistical Information
6. Contact Information

After reviewing this information, please feel free to ask any questions this packet did not answer. You can address your questions to the following email: [crshane2010@gmail.com](mailto:crshane2010@gmail.com)

May God bless you as your review this information and make a decision for your team.

Sincerely,

Shane Sanderson  
Founder and Director  
Casa De Mi Padre  
Santa Cruz del Quiché, Guatamala

# Guatemala General Information



Officially the **Republic of Guatemala** is a country in Central America bordered by Mexico to the north and west, the Pacific Ocean to the southwest, Belize to the northeast, the Caribbean to the east, Honduras to the east and El Salvador to the southeast. It spans an area of 108,890 km<sup>2</sup> (42,043 sqmi) and has an estimated population of 15,806,675, making it the most populous state in Central America. A representative democracy, its capital and largest city is **Nueva Guatemala de la Asunción**, also known as Guatemala City.

What is today Guatemala was for centuries part of the Mayan civilization that extended across Mesoamerica. Most of the country was conquered by the Spanish in the 16th century, becoming part of the colony of New Spain (present-day Mexico). Guatemala attained its independence in 1821 as part of the Federal Republic of Central America, which dissolved in 1841.

From the mid to late 19th century, Guatemala endured the chronic instability and civil strife that was endemic to the region. Early in the 20th century, it was ruled by a series of dictators, who had the support of the United Fruit Company and the United States government. In 1944, one such authoritarian leader, Jorge Ubico, was overthrown by a pro-democratic military coup, initiating the ten-year Guatemalan Revolution that led to sweeping social and economic reforms. The revolution was ended by a U.S.-engineered military coup in 1954.

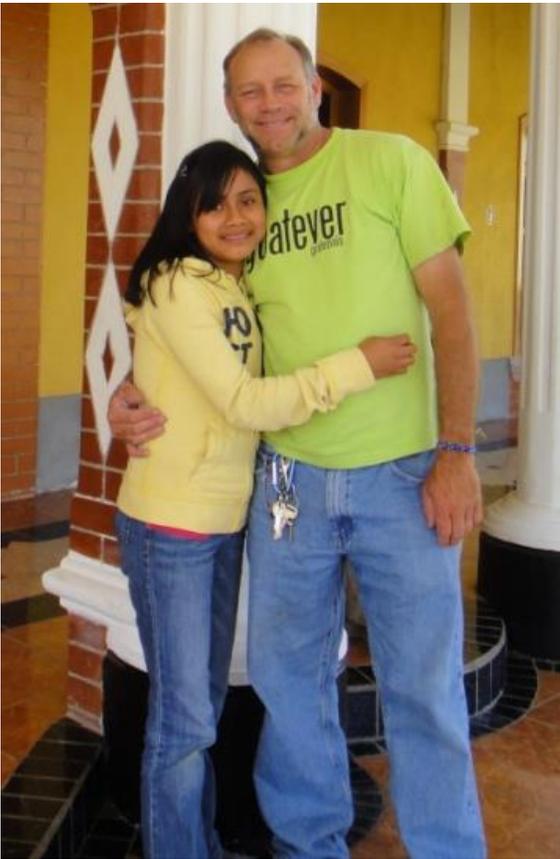
From 1960 to 1996, Guatemala underwent a bloody civil war fought between the U.S.-backed government and leftist rebels, which included a genocide of the Mayan population. Since the war ended, Guatemala has witnessed both economic growth and successful democratic elections, though it continues to struggle with high rates of poverty, crime, and instability. In the most recent election, held in 2011, Otto Pérez Molina of the Patriotic Party won the presidency.

Guatemala's abundance of biologically significant and unique ecosystems, many of which are endemic, contributes to Mesoamerica's designation as a biodiversity hotspot. The country is also known for its rich culture, characterized by a fusion of Spanish and Indigenous influences.

# About the Ministry of Casa de Mi Padre

Casa De Mi Padre (My Father's House) children's home, is located in the city of Santa Cruz del Quiché, Guatemala in Central America. The home is approximately 90 miles northwest of the capital city. Although the country is ecologically beautiful, poverty is particularly widespread throughout the countryside and large inner-city areas. Illiteracy, infant mortality, and malnutrition are among the highest in the region, while life expectancy is the lowest. The Quiche people are an indigenous group who have limited education and resources. The population of the city of Santa Cruz is between 35 and 45 thousand people. The opportunity for ministry is vast and the need for orphan care in Santa Cruz del Quiche and the surrounding region is real. Casa De Mi Padre has been established to meet this need.

Our ministry is to provide refuge and shelter for needy children coming from poverty, shattered homes, abandonment, or who are orphaned through death. Child Rescue meets the physical needs of children in order to have the opportunity to meet their spiritual needs. Child Rescue has established Casa De Mi Padre children's home where children receive hope, stability, food, clothing, shelter, family, schooling, solid Biblical instruction, and living examples of God's love.



In 2010, Shane Sanderson first came to Guatemala with a vision of helping to save kids in this very poor third world country. Through God's amazing blessing we opened our doors in early July 2011 and received our first child in late July of that same year. We went from having no children to having 16 within 2 months and we have never looked back. We currently house 23 children and are operating at capacity in our current home. We have begun the process of the construction of a brand new home for our children that began with the purchase of vacant property on the opposite side of town from our location. We are still in the beginning stages of the construction process, which we estimate will take 3-4 years. Upon completion, we will have a house that is actually owned by Child Rescue and will have the possibility to house more children and be designed to function as an actual home for our children.

# What Will Our Mission Be?

## What Will We Be Doing?

The program for your trip depends on the time of year you come and the type of gifts and talents of your team. These are determined by communicating with your leadership of your group and coming up with the type of ministry that would fit your group and a schedule that works for everyone.

## Types of Ministry Opportunities Available

1. **Time At The House:** Spending time with the kids at Casa De Mi Padre is always a favorite. These times can include scheduled games or programs or include simple hang out time with the kids.
2. **Street Evangelism:** We offer evangelism opportunities reaching out to the people of Quiche through group evangelism in the city parks. Our kids lead the way sharing the gospel and praying with people while the group members assist by praying and handing out gospel tracks or Bibles. The group needs to provide the hand out literature in Spanish. The ministry has Bibles for distribution. We also have a night available for a visit to the national hospital emergency area to pray for the sick, share a simple gospel message, pass our gospel literature, and distribute refreshments to those present.
3. **Visual Evangelism:** Groups can also go to various villages in the late afternoon and share the Jesus Film in the native language of Quiche. These outreaches work best when they are combined with some type of morning ministry to help promote the evening outreach. At the end of the movie a clear gospel invitation to receive Christ needs to be included. This can be done by the group member in conjunction with an area pastor when one is available.
4. **School Evangelism:** Groups can visit public or private schools and share the gospel or teach some kind of biblical subject. However the group needs to create an exciting children or youth program that will give the group a platform to entertain and interest the kids in order to present the gospel. An invitation to receive Christ can be given in many of the schools. The type of program will depend on the gifts and talent of each group and the leadership.
5. **Casa De Sabiduria Christain School:** We also have a Christian school where a team can prepare various educational programs to teach the kids biblical truths. One example would be giving a couple classes on biblical finances for youth. Another might be a class on how to do an effective daily devotion. A sports clinic might be another example. The opportunities in this area are up to the imagination for the group. Light work projects are also available at the school. These would include painting or small repair projects.
6. **Work Projects at Casa De Mi Padre:** We always have small work projects at the house as well as painting that needs to be done. We will keep you busy, just ask.

# Logistical Information

## How Much Does The Trip Cost?

The cost for your mission project is **\$675 per person**. All mission project funds must be sent full two weeks before your trip date. **Plus, a \$100 nonrefundable registration fee** for each participant must be sent two months before your trip date. The total mission cost for each participant is **\$775**. **The cost of each team member's flight is additional**. Depending on when you book your tickets and your point of origin in the United States, you can expect to pay anywhere from \$750 to \$950 for a roundtrip flight to Guatemala City and back. This quoted price includes all food, transportation, and lodging for the entire time you are in Guatemala. This also includes the last day's stay in the city of Antigua, and your hotel room there plus two meals there as well. The only thing not included in the cost is any additional purchasing you may wish to do while here in Guatemala. This may include things like souvenirs, gifts, and any other items you may wish to buy and take home with you. Each person is encouraged to have spending money in the amount of their choosing.

**Group Funds:** The group leader might also choose to bring some extra "Group Funds" for additional needs of the group or for ministry or outreach projects.

**Additional Charges:** Additional charges would include a \$350 transportation surcharge if the group is over 17 participants. This charge is for an additional luggage vehicle. **Also, any additions or changes** to the accommodations are considered additional charges. This would include extra hotel nights or dining during your travel and would be an additional cost to the group. The price schedule is final.

## How Long Will Our Team be in Guatemala?

We have found that the best time frame is for an eight day trip from departure to return. While this may sound like a lot, your team will have 5 actual working days while in country. Two of the days will be spent traveling to and from Guatemala with the final fun day being spent in the city of Antigua. For example, a usual trip would have you departing on a Wednesday from the United States and returning to the US the following Wednesday. We can adjust this timeframe based on your teams needs if necessary, but this is a good starting point and seems to be a good amount of time for a short-term mission project.

## Number of Participants

The number of participants per group is limited to a total of 20. A team can be split as to where they will be serving. The options for service are to serve at our home with the kids, helping with maintenance at our ministry buildings, off-site evangelism, or construction at the new property. Any combination split is acceptable.

## **Booking Your Trip**

The further in advance you book your mission trip, the more flexible we can be with the dates. You are encouraged to schedule your team as early as possible and start planning the details of your time in Guatemala. You can email us at [crshane2010@gmail.com](mailto:crshane2010@gmail.com) to get more information and/or to schedule your mission trip with Casa de Mi Padre. Once we get your team scheduled, we will send you more detailed information on your trip and how to plan everything in such a way that your time with us will be productive and fruitful. We will assist you with every facet of the planning and execution of your trip to Guatemala including all the do's and don'ts while you are in country, what to bring and what to leave home, what to expect during your time here, etc. We want your trip to Guatemala to be a huge blessing to you and your team and we will do everything in our power to make sure of that.

## **What's Next?**

1. Go to the Lord in prayer. Seek the Lord to confirm He wishes for you and your group to travel to Guatemala on a short-term mission to help us build the new Casa de Mi Padre.
2. Contact us to get any questions answered and to schedule your team. Once we have you on the schedule we will work with you every step of the way in helping you and your team to have the best possible experience you can have while on your trip.
3. Begin promoting the trip to your group or church. We will provide you with helpful information and media that will help you promote the mission to Guatemala and help cast the vision of what the mission is all about. Pray that God will touch the hearts of people that He wants to be a part of your team and ask Him to give you wisdom and direction as you begin preparing for the trip itself.
4. Once scheduled, we will work with you or your team leader and provide much more detailed information about every facet of making your trip to Guatemala from best times to travel, planning, and how to promote the trip within your group or church. This will include exhaustive travel tips, advice, and information, what to expect culture-wise during your stay with us, encouragement and helpful information on how to raise money for your individual team members and for your group as a whole if needed, the do's and don'ts of your time here in Guatemala, and many other areas of information that you will find very helpful in making your trip very fruitful and productive.
5. Most importantly, saturate the entire process with prayer. Start with prayer, pray as you go, and end with prayer. Ask God to go with you and your team every step of the way. When God's hand of blessing is on the mission, amazing things always happen. Also ask God that He not just use you and your team, but that He also uses the trip to work in and change the hearts of the individual members of your group. God can do unbelievable things when we join Him in what He is doing and follow His leadership. Ask God to work in your heart as well and pray for wisdom as you take each step in this process.

The long term impact of your team coming down will have an effect on future generations of Guatemalan children and young people for many years to come and so your commitment and investment of time and resources cannot be understated. You and your team will then have the chance to experience God using you to have an impact on the lives of other people for all of eternity. We are praying with you that God guides you and your group as you seek Him about coming to Guatemala. Our hearts are in prayer with you as well.



## **Group Financial Information Instructions**

Group Leader please provide the following information and complete the follow the instructions:

### **Registration Payment and Final Payment**

The Group Registration Forms must accompany both the registration and final payment. All participant checks can be made out to your church and the church can produce two checks (one for the registration and one for the final payment) sent with the Group Registration Form to

Child Rescue,  
709 E Hyde Park Ave,  
Saint Joseph, Mo 64504.

If the participants are writing personal checks and no church is involved the checks must be made out to Child Rescue and bundled by the group leader and sent together with the Group Registration Form to Child Rescue, 709 E Hyde Park Ave, Saint Joseph, Mo 64504.

### **Group Information**

The group leader must provide the following information on the form provided.

### **Spending Funds**

Each person should determine how much spending money they would like to use during their trip. These funds should be added to the trip amount and a list should be brought with the team. This amount must be placed on the form and sent with final payment.

### **Wire Transfer Fee**

There is a \$40 transfer fee that must be added to the final payment for the group.



# Child Rescue

CASA DE MI PADRE

## Group Deposit Form

Trip Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Leader Name \_\_\_\_\_

Group Leader Contact Information:

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Flight Information - Arrival to and Departure From Guatemala (If Known):

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Number in the Group: \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration

Number of Participants \_\_\_\_\_ X \$ 100 \_\_\_\_\_

**Total = \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Send All Funds and Form to: Child Rescue  
709 E Hyde Park Ave.  
Saint Joseph, Mo 64504

Send Digital Copy to Shane at:  
Email: crshane2010@gmail.com



# Child Rescue

CASA DE MI PADRE

## Final Group Registration Form

Trip Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Group Leader Name \_\_\_\_\_

Group Leader Contact Information:

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Flight Information - Arrival to and Departure From Guatemala (If Known):

\_\_\_\_\_

Total Number in the Group: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Total Costs: (Includes all in-country Travel, Accommodation, and Deposit)

Outreach and House Help Mission = \$ 775.00

Construction Mission = \$ 975.00

### Final Payment

Outreach Participants \_\_\_\_\_ X \$675 (\$775 - \$100 reg) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Construction Participants \_\_\_\_\_ X \$875 (\$975 - \$100 reg) = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

### Spending Money \*\*We can not except US Dollars in country\*\*

Total Amount of Spending Money for the Group = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Group Leader should bring a list to Guatemala to aid in distributing the funds to the group members

Bank Wire Transfer Fee \$40.00 = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*One Payment Per Group\*\*

Total Amount Sent to Child Rescue = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Send All Funds and Form to: Child Rescue  
709 E Hyde Park Ave.  
Saint Joseph, Mo 64504

Send Digital Copy to Shane at:  
Email: crshane2010@gmail.com

# **Contact Information**

Casa de Mi Padre is a ministry of Child Rescue of Central America. Our US address is:

Child Rescue  
709 E Hyde Park Ave.  
St. Joseph, MO 64504  
816-238-4999

**Contact email for prospective mission groups:**

[crshane@gmail.com](mailto:crshane@gmail.com)