

OCYG Dominican Republic Mission Trip

Meeting #1 – March 9, 2008

Trip Leaders:

David Rubio
TJ & Holly McCloud
(at least 2 other parents/adults)

Trip Participants:

Guys:

You name will go here...

Girls:

Basic Trip Itinerary: *(Subject to change)*

Saturday 7/17 – Travel/Get Settled/Orientation
Sunday 7/18 – Worship/Advertise Day Camp
Monday-Wednesday 7/19-21 – Day Camp
Thursday 7/22 – Random Acts of Kindness
Friday 7/23 – Day at the Beach
Saturday 7/24 – Travel/Return Home

Health Information:

For health information relating to travel to the Dominican Republic, visit:
<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/destinationDominicanRepublic.aspx> . This page has recommended shots as well as health tips for preparing for the trip & traveling (including best ways to prevent insect bites, etc). We are NOT traveling to an area considered at risk for Malaria. Holly & TJ have never had any shots other than those considered “routine” on this website. They have never had any problems. However, you may feel more secure having additional shots such as Hepatitis A & B as well as Typhoid. (Note: TJ & Holly have assured me that we will be a short car ride to “decent” medical facilities at all times.)

Passport:

If you haven't taken care of this, you need to do it ASAP. There is no way to know how long it will take to get this done & unexpected backups can really slow the process down. Log onto <http://travel.state.gov> and click on “Apply for a Passport” to get started.

Our Mission:

The first part of our mission is to love the kids. We will be working with poor kids from the village of Rio San Juan, DR. The most important thing we can do while we are there is love them. If they don't see the love of God in our actions & hear it in our words, then we've dropped the ball. We are there to do certain tasks, yes. But, long after our tasks are complete & we're back in the states, the love that we've shown will continue to make a difference. It will be hot. Days will be long & nights will be short...and you will get annoyed at some point. Through it all, we want you to love like crazy. Please begin preparing yourself now to make loving the kids of Rio San Juan your highest priority.

Secondly, we are going to put on a Day Camp (think of it as a mini-OCCC) that will really connect with/bless the village kids of Rio San Juan. The kids will range in ages, so we'll have to be ready for anything. Some of you will be in charge of games...some of you, crafts...some of you, the special events...and all of you will help with the worship/lesson part of the camp. ALL of us will be involved in choosing a theme and preparing to make this camp great even before we board the plane. Isn't it awesome that one of the things we do best is something God can use so powerfully?!?!

Thirdly, our mission is to encounter God. Each day, we will finish the day with the question: "Where did you see God today?" My prayer is that in everything you do, you will be looking for what God is trying to do with you & listening for what he is saying to you. We aren't going down to the DR simply to make a difference for the kids. We're also going down to be challenged & changed by God. If you're not interested in experiencing God in ways that may change you forever, then you probably don't wanna go on this trip.

Participant Expectations:

By signing up, you are committing to:

1. **Pray** for God to guide us and help us as we prepare...and to prepare those we will serve.
2. You must complete **25 hours of service** between now and the trip. The purpose of these hours is to prepare you for the week AND to insure your commitment to our team and to being a servant. (We will talk more about this at our first meeting.)
3. Work to **raise a portion of your money**. I think there is value in participating in our fundraisers as well as giving your extended families a chance to "help" send you to the mission field. I have attached a "sample" fund-raising letter for you, if you need it.
4. **Make all payments on time**. See below for a payment schedule. (See schedule below.) Please communicate with Donna or David about moneys you expect to receive by mail, etc. – we will do the same. We will be flexible...thank you for understanding your responsibility.
5. Attend all Mission Team meetings.

Trip Timetable:

March 14 – 1st Official OCYD DR Mission Team Meeting (after worship)

April 17 – Team Building Event (*details TBD*)

May 2 – Team Meeting after church in the REFUGE & Payment due (\$300)

June 2 – Trip prep after Wed. church in Refuge (*tentative*).

June 12 – Team Building Event (*details TBD*)

June 13 – Payment due (\$200)

July 11 – Team Meeting after church (*location TBD*) & Final Payment due (\$300)

Fund-Raising:

There are several things that you can do to raise money for this trip:

1. Write letters to family members/friends asking them to support you in the effort. Use the attached letter – or write your own. Give the people who know you best a chance to support what you're doing for God this summer.
2. Participate in our team fundraisers. We will be raising some of our work fund...but beyond that: the more money we raise as a team, the less you pay as an individual!
3. Be creative...come up with ways to raise your own money.



Here is the Dominican Republic in relation to the US (Florida = top left).



We fly into Puerto Plata...then a short ride to Rio San Juan.