

Our Team

We send a select team of people from Crossway. Applicants who are not an active part of Crossway must be involved in a local church and have a reference from their pastor. Preference will be given to applicants from Crossway.

Crossway requires a Short-term Ministry Trip application and an interview for anyone interested in participating.

Due to accommodation and logistical restraints (including the distance, duration and difficulty of this trip), we are unable to take every applicant. This is not a “nice trip” to a “nice place” and it’s not for everyone.

This experience places demands on you physically, emotionally, relationally, and spiritually as you pour yourself out for other people in very difficult circumstances.

The preparation we do as a team will determine the success of our trip. It will involve team-building activities, planning projects, cross-cultural education, watching films, and discussing logistics.

Although we will communicate important information, these meetings form the foundation of a cohesive, well prepared team. For this reason, it is extremely important for you to attend all the team meetings.



Other Information

Safety

At present Kenya is a safe country to visit. Should Kenya become unsafe and the US government recommends avoiding travel to Kenya prior to or during the week we’ve scheduled, we will not go. Like any large urban city, Nairobi can be a dangerous place. During the trip we will take steps such as traveling in (at least) pairs, remaining with our local guides, avoiding certain places at night, etc.

The FOOD is safe, relatively speaking. Any time you eat you are taking a risk. While care is taken in the preparation of our food, the risk of picking up a bug for Americans while eating in Kenya is greater than when eating in the United States. But, in the words of a veteran missionary to Kenya, “This is why we pray before we eat.”

The WATER is not safe to drink. We will use bottled or treated water for drinking and brushing our teeth.

Immunizations

Regarding immunizations, you may want to schedule an appointment with a Travel Clinic and follow through on recommended immunization and disease prevention.

Next Steps

APPLICATION, \$250 DEPOSIT and a COPY OF YOUR PASSPORT are due on or before December 8th, 2019.

Please return your complete application form to the Church Office.



KENYA



Outreach Trip

July 17th – 28th 2020

Our Ministry Partners

Christian Missionary Fellowship International (CMF)

Since 1949, CMF has been compelled by Christ's love to transform lives and communities around the world. Because their ministry is holistic in nature, they continue to move to the forefront in the resolution of social problems while staying true to their purpose of drawing the nations to Christ and His Church.

Missions of Hope International (MOHI)

In 2004 CMF and missionaries Keith and Kathy Ham developed a partnership with Kenyans Mary and Wallace Kamau who were leading the Mathare Family Hope Centers. The Hope Centers maintain official legal status as a Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) in Kenya as "Missions of Hope International."

This combined ministry is called the Hope Partnership and serves the community in many ways. The Hope Partnership provides education, clothing, and nutritious meals for the poorest children in the slums and offers a strong Community Health Evangelism (CHE) program, including the ongoing training of the CHE trainers. Additionally, the Hope Partnership offers basic health and wellness education; teaches HIV/AIDS awareness and education, and provides information on caring for those living with this disease.



Our Work



We will be there to support the long-term work of the Hope Partnership and we will be taking our cue from them. We could be involved in a variety of activities depending upon the make-up of our team.

Some of our team will be supporting the Kenyan teachers who work at the village 2 school and at the Joska boarding school. Others will be involved in ministry in the community. Some possibilities include: "Bring the Light;" Business Development visits; "Bring the Food;" "Healthy Homes" visits; leadership training; evangelism; etc. Unlike our work in El Salvador, there are not many opportunities for construction on this trip.

The ultimate goal of our trip is to encourage and empower the Kenyans we encounter. We encourage team members to engage with the Kenyans they meet, build relationships and ask questions. We won't judge the success of this trip by how much we did or how many we taught; a successful trip reminds the people in the Mathare Valley of their value as human beings and the living hope Christ extends to them through His love.

Where are we going? Mathara Valley Slums, Nairobi, Kenya

Nearly 2.5 million people live in poverty in the slums and urban areas of Nairobi, Kenya. They lack the basic necessities of life: adequate housing, clean water, sanitation services, and their educational opportunities are negligible.

Complicating the problem, there are very few jobs to provide the income needed for families to improve their lives. All kinds of diseases run rampant throughout these communities; the effects of AIDS, in particular, are devastating the area.

There are countless orphans and vulnerable children throughout the slums, where the infection rate approaches 40%. For every person who dies of AIDS, another six to ten are directly affected.

We will be serving in the Mathare Valley slums of Nairobi, Kenya. The village we are involved in is called, Kiandaruru or simply, "Village 2."

Cost

The trip will cost approximately \$3,500, which will cover everything you will need – airfare, lodging, transportation, and food – except for your passport, immunizations, and spending money. Airfare is due by March 1st, 2020 and will be approximately \$1500.

