



**STUDENT**  
MINISTRIES

# Cuba 2020 Impact Trip



Hosanna partners with the Evangelical Bethel Church of Cuba to advance God's Kingdom in Havana and beyond. Trip participants will conduct construction aide in local churches, revival meetings, experience prayer walks and home visits. We'll also receive some training from pastors doing incredible disciple making and more. This trip also offers the opportunity to experience Cuban culture, shop in Havana, and visit a beautiful Cuban beach by the ocean while working with Hosanna's missionaries - Mark and Kathy Strandjord.

***For Students Entering 10<sup>th</sup> Grade-Graduated Seniors***

***Trip dates: August 10-17, 2020***

***Cost: \$1600***

**Trip Leader:** Michael Baker, Student Ministries Pastor  
([MichaelB@Hosannalc.org](mailto:MichaelB@Hosannalc.org), 952.898.9186)

**Application opens online Sunday, January 26 at 5 p.m.**

**\$200 deposit due at time of application.**

\*\*Spots are filled based on the order applications are received, priority given to students regularly attending and registered for HSM. **You will be notified once accepted** or if you're placed on **waiting list**.

# IMPACT TRIP

## ***What will our team be doing?***

We have partnered with Evangelical Bethel Church of Cuba to advance God's Kingdom in Cuba. We will be aiding in construction projects at local churches in the Havana area; prayer walking in key Havana districts; visiting pastor's homes to encourage and pray for them; and preaching in many house-churches. All team members will be sharing testimonies in the house-churches and praying for those present. Also, we will be experiencing Cuban culture, shopping in Havana, and visiting a beautiful Cuban beach by the ocean.

## ***Safety:***

Students will be sleeping at Pastor Faustino's church in Havana. It is used for conferences and trainings and therefore is well equipped to safely house even larger groups than ours will be. Separate sleeping spaces and bathrooms for male/female participants. We will be utilizing vans driven by local Cubans from partner churches, and not public transportation!

## ***Team Expectations***

Must be a Christian who loves and serves well. We are looking for those who demonstrate humility; meekness; a pure heart; and a willingness to engage in prayer ministry and evangelical outreaches empowered by Holy Spirit. With peace as our anchor and joy as our strength, we expect our teams to endure long days of ministry. Must be willing to share testimonies in the house-churches. (No experience is required, we will train).

There is also expectations to be present at all training meetings and hitting key fundraising dates in order to equip, inform and train for the trip!

## ***Example Itinerary***

Day 1 - Travel + Arrive in Havana, get settled into living space and meet local pastors.

Day 2-4 - Morning devotionals @ host site. Work project 9AM- 4PM. Lunch at work site.

Visit local church in evening for service and prayer ministry.

Day 5- Morning devotionals @ host site. Prayer walk in Havana with lunch downtown. Visit work site to pray and bless church. Evening at local church to share testimonies and minister to local Cuban people.

Day 6 - Morning devotionals, travel to Matanzas for peer to peer ministry and recreational time. Evening Debrief

Day 7 - Beach time in morning. Head to airport and back to MSP.

# COUNTRY OVERVIEW

**Size:** Cuba is approximately the size of Pennsylvania



**Population (2015):** Cuba 11,200,000 – Havana 2,400,000

**Language:** Spanish

**Race demographics (2012):** White 64% - Mulatto (White/Black mix) & Mestizo (mainly Spanish/ American Indian mix) 27% - Black 9% - Asian less than 1%

**Average Salary (2013):** 471 pesos or US\$20/month

**Literacy:** Cuba has one of the highest literacy rates in the world – 99.8%

**Government:** Communist State

**Religion:** In Cuba, there are Jehovah's Witnesses, Mormons, Jews, Orthodox, Muslims, Protestants of various denominations, disciples of the "New Era" movement and followers of the spiritualism of Yoga. 85% who follow a religion are nominal Roman Catholics or 52% of the Cuban population professes to be Roman Catholic. The Roman Catholic Church is steeped in syncretism: the combining of different, often contradictory beliefs. The Roman emperors used syncretism to help unite their expanding empire by accommodating various beliefs.

**Health:** Cuba possesses one of the best health care systems anywhere in the world! The typical life expectancy is equal to any other progressive nation.

**Other:** Cuba is a very safe country to visit! The worlds' smallest hummingbird and smallest frog are found in Cuba. 5% of Cubans have access to the open Internet. Government vehicles in Cuba are legally required to pick up any hitchhiker. The favorite sport is baseball.

# Fundraising Dates

## Finances

- Deposit due (\$200) at time of application  
**NOTE:** Deposit is NOT tax-deductible and non-refundable once you've been accepted to the team.

## April 2

- Fundraising expectation is \$700
- Airline tickets will only be purchased for team members who have made **ALL** payments to date.

## May 14

- Fundraising expectation is \$1200

## July 22

- Trip expected to be fully funded by this point.



We encourage the team members to take an individual approach to raising support. Support letters are a great place to start, and a sample support letter is included in this informational packet.

The total cost of the trip is **\$1600**. This will include;

- All transportation costs, including round trip airline tickets & in-country transport
- Accommodations
- All meals within the country (not airport meals)
- Ministry materials

## Payment Remittance

Your primary venue to collect donations will be through your own personal fundraising page on the Managed Missions website. (More details to follow) It is the responsibility of the participant to collect and track all contributions to cover the trip cost. Participants should give all cash/check donations to the team leaders at team meetings. **Note:** it is imperative that the students' contributors make checks written out to Hosanna and not the individual person.

Contributions are tax deductible **with the exception of the \$200 deposit** and cash (unless the donor is noted). Hosanna has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds. All contributions are non-refundable and non-transferable.

## Fundraising

Raising support is a HUGE part of the mission trip experience. Even if you have the means to pay for a trip in full, it is our belief that raising support is a key part of a mission experience. It allows students to see the goodness of God additionally through the provision of the trip cost.

Raising support is a partnership – us and God! The phrase “God will provide” can often lead us into a mindset of laziness or lead us to an apathetic approach to raising support. *“All hard work brings a profit, but mere talk leads only to poverty.” Proverbs 14:23.* Not only is this mindset unbiblical, it will also jeopardize the team’s effectiveness if ALL funds are not raised.

# Team Meetings and Training Schedule

There will be 7 team meetings. It is imperative that **all** team members attend **every** team meeting. Team meetings are used for training and practice. Failure to attend team meetings will greatly impact the participant's experience and may result in the participant not being able to go on the impact trip. Note the **TENTATIVE** schedule below. Dates are subject to change.

**\*\*Dates/meeting locations subject to change**

## **2 All TRIP Training Meetings**

Sunday February 9, 12:30-2pm | Lakeville Campus | CLC

Sunday March 1, 12:30-2pm | Lakeville Campus | CLC

## **Cuba Team Meeting 1**

Thursday, March 12, 7-9 pm | The Baker's House<sup>1</sup>

\* Copy of passport, notarized forms

## **Cuba Team Meeting 2**

Thursday, April 2, 7-9 pm | The Baker's House

\* First payment due (\$500)

## **Cuba Team Meeting 3**

Wednesday, May 14th, 7-9 pm | The Baker's House

\*Second Payment Due (\$500)

## **Cuba Team Meeting 4**

Wednesday, July 22, 7-9 pm | The Baker's House

\*\*Final Payment Due (\$400)

## **Cuba Team & Parent Meeting 5**

Wednesday, August 3, 7-9 pm | The Baker's House or Lakeville Campus (TBD)

\*\*Parents invited to meeting 8:00-9:00 pm for prayer and final prep!

Passports collect.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Bakers live near county road 42 & Lac Lavon, on the Apple Valley/Burnsville border.

# Passports and Travel

**If you do not have a valid passport, now is the time to get one!**

**For more information on obtaining your passport,** or making amendments to an existing passport, go to: [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov)

**A copy of your passport** must be turned in to your leader by March 12. The meeting before departure, you will be asked to turn in the actual passport to your leader.



## **How to get your passport:**

- Go to your nearest passport processing office.
- Find Passport Processing Centers near you at: [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov)

## **Make sure you have the following:**

- Proof of U.S. citizenship: previous passport, and/or certified birth certificate.
- Proof of your identity: driver's licence or other picture ID.
- Money to cover the basic fee, which will be approximately \$105.

## **Obtaining a passport can take up to 6 weeks.**

- Expediting a passport application can cost between \$40-75, so act quickly to avoid paying extra fees.

## **VISA**

- US citizens do not require a tourist visa for travel to Cuba. If you are a citizen of another country, please inform your Team Leader. We will provide step by step instructions in team meetings on how to acquire one (it's easy!).

## **Medical Requirements**

- Families are encouraged to visit a travel doctor and decide which vaccines are necessary for their student. None are required for entrance into Cuba.

## **Travel Insurance**

- Travel Insurance is required to participate in any Hosanna Impact Trip. Travel insurance is the responsibility of the participant to purchase. Hosanna requires the International Volunteer Card (IVC) available at <http://www.volunteercard.com/hosanna.html>. **Please purchase either the "plus" or "premium" coverage. The "basic" coverage is NOT extensive enough! This card MUST be printed in color.**

# Application Details

- **Application opens online Sunday, January 26 at 5 p.m.**
- Students entering 10<sup>th</sup> grade through graduated seniors are invited to apply.
- **\$200 deposit due at time of application. Credit card payment required and will be charged upon acceptance to the trip.**
- Spots are filled based on the order applications are received, priority given to students regularly attending and registered for HSM.
- **You will be notified once accepted** or if you're placed on waiting list. **Please do not inquire about the status of applications for at least 2 weeks after sign-up date.**
- There is **one application** for all 6 Student Ministries Trips this summer (Guatemala, Haiti, Wyoming, Florida, India, Cuba). You will be given the opportunity to indicate your interest in other trips and prioritize your trip preferences on the application.

## **The following essay questions will be on the online application.**

Prepare your answers ahead of time in order to submit your application in a timely manner!

### **1. Overseas Experience**

Please describe where/when you've traveled outside of the U.S.

### **2. References**

List three people who know you well and can act as a personal reference. If you have been on a previous Impact Trip, please include the trip leader. (Please include name, relationship and contact number).

### **3. Application Essay: Please write out a 250 - 500 word essay that addresses the following questions:**

- How would you describe your faith?
- How has your background (family, environment, experiences) impacted who you are and your faith?
- What are your expectations for this trip?
- Why is it important that you go on this trip?
- How do you believe this impact trip will impact you personally?
- How are you going to impact the team you will be a part of?
- How do you hope to impact the people you will be interacting with on this trip?

# Sample Fundraising Letter

Dear \_\_\_\_\_:

This (*month*) I have the amazing opportunity of serving with a team to (*location*) on a Hosanna Impact trip through Hosanna Student Ministries and Hosanna Lutheran Church. Hosanna Church facilitates Impact trips from the United States all over the world. This summer I will be joining an Impact team from (*dates*). I am excited that the Lord has enabled me to be a part of this experience.

As a part of the team, I will be involved in (*briefly describe ministry you expect to do*). I am really looking forward to sharing God's love in the communities we are visiting.

I know that this kind of work is in vain without prayer, so I am asking that you consider praying for me, for our team, and especially for the people I will serve in (*location*). I also ask that you prayerfully consider contributing financially. The total amount I need to raise toward the missions project is (*trip cost*). This amount includes all cost associated with travelling to and staying in (*location*), ministry materials, and missionary offering. My hope is to have the necessary funds together by (*week prior to payment deadline*). I have faith that God will make it possible.

Please pray with me that this need will be met. I'm excited, hopeful and expecting to learn so much through this experience. I greatly appreciate you letting me share with you what I believe will be one of the most meaningful experiences of my life.

Sincerely,

Contributions are tax deductible with the exception of cash (unless the contributor's information accompanies the cash). Hosanna! has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds. All contributions are non-refundable and non-transferable. A tax-receipt letter will be sent to all donors who donate to Hosanna! in a calendar year. Tax receipts will be sent out in January 2021.

*This paragraph must be included in your fundraising letters.*

(optional tear off portion)

I wish to support (*your name*) in their ministry to (*trip location*).

\$50 Donation    \$100 Donation    \$\_\_\_\_\_ Donation

## **Support Via Online Contribution:**

You may contribute online via my personal fundraising page on the Managed Missions webpage:  
**[INCLUDE LINK HERE]**

For those wishing to donate via check,  
Make checks payable to **Hosanna**  
(Please DO NOT include my name in the memo)  
Mail checks to:

Your name  
Your address  
Your city, zip, state