

**remedy**

**Mexico Mission Trip  
Info Packet  
2018**

## Frequently Asked Questions:

- 1. How much does it cost?** Team expenses include food, lodging, transportation, insurance, VBS expenses, and the building materials. The total cost for team is approximately \$47,000. All the financial support that is received goes directly into the Mexico Team Fund.
- 2. Your portion for team support is the “Application Fee” =\$100 + 30 support letters. The funds for the Mexico mission project will be raised by the normal missionary technique, requesting support from friends, relatives, and/or church members through the 30 support letters. All donations will be regarded as team funds and not individual money. All checks should be made out to LBC, with “High School Mexico Missions” in the memo. We are a team and will share all funds raised.**
- 3. My parents won’t let me send out support letters - can I still go?** Alternate arrangements can be made to meet these needs. See Joel LePere or Kyle LePere.
- 4. Do I really need to go to all the meetings?** The purpose of the meetings is to build team unity. If you do not attend the meetings we will not get to know you and you won’t have a chance to get the full benefit of this Mission’s experience. We will also talk about Mexican culture, learn a little Spanish, and learn about the building process...  
**\*\*Meeting attendance is mandatory\*\*** (One excused absence **may** be allowed-**with prior approval**).
- 5. My parents are concerned about safety - Is it safe?** We are traveling to another country, and safety is always a big concern. The adult leadership for this trip will do everything possible to make this a safe and memorable trip for every participant. LBC has been serving in Mexico with Amor Ministries for over 20 years. We are always in groups, for travel and ministry during the trip.
- 6. Will I get sick?** We are very particular about what we eat and drink. Adult members of our team will oversee the preparation of breakfast and lunch. Pastor Jim Ang and his wife will prepare dinner. We will be drinking only bottled water, soda, or Gatorade. With any large group traveling together, there is always a possibility for virus to occur amongst the group. We bring the essentials for cleaning hands properly to help keep everyone healthy as much as possible.
- 7. Where do we stay in Mexico?** We are planning to stay in a hotel in Tecate. It is not fancy, but it is clean and adequate. Usually four people sleep in a room, with two double beds.
- 8. What does “Student-led” mean?** Students will be leading this Mission Team. There is a Head Leader and Head Spiritual Leader. They will be leading the team meetings and the team activities in Mexico. A Student Construction Leader will lead each construction site. This individual is usually experienced in the AMOR building processes and has been coached in the appropriate building techniques. Student leaders will also be in-charge of VBS and Worship and many other Team functions. Adults serve as mentors during the training phases, with the goal of having the students really take over when we get to Mexico. Adults will be in charge during emergency situations and disciplinary actions.
- 9. I cannot speak Spanish - Should I still go?** Yes, absolutely. The ability to speak Spanish is a great skill and is very beneficial, but it is certainly not required. Most of our team members will not speak fluent Spanish. Each Construction team will have its own interpreter to assist with needed communication.
- 10. Can my Mom or Dad come? How about my little brother or sister?** As much as we would like to take extra people, because of lodging and security, this is not always an option. If, however, we are in need, we may recruit other adults (Spanish speaking, youth leaders, construction experience, medical personnel, drivers, etc).
- 11. I need some additional information, whom should I contact?** Please contact Joel LePere at 833-2800 or Kyle LePere 301-4705.
- 12. Can I bring my phone?** No mobile or electronic devices during mission trip.
- 13. What if my family has an emergency at home?** There is a team parent in Bakersfield that has direct access to Kyle and Joel, they can be reached in case of an emergency. If you are on the team, all team members will be given the Team Parent’s Info prior to leaving on the trip.

## Action and Attitude Guidelines

I realize that the following elements are crucial to the effectiveness, quality, and safety of our trip together. Therefore, as a member of this LBC Remedy Mexico team, **I agree to:**

- Honor God with my actions and attitudes: Bringing glory to God and only God is my primary reason for participating in this trip and I will maintain my focus on Him.
- Remember that while I have come to serve, I have come also to learn. I may run across procedures that I feel are inefficient, or attitudes that I find closed minded. I'll resist the temptation to inform our hosts or leaders about "how we do things." I'll be open to learning about other people's methods and ideas.
- Wear appropriate attire. I will remember that I am a guest in this country working at the invitation of a local pastor and ministry. I will wear "team determined attire" to avoid offending those whom I have come to serve (no tank tops, sleeveless shirts, short or tight clothing that show stomach or underwear, shorts, saggy pants, or sandals) Wear long, non-altered jeans.
- Attend all team meetings and meals with maturity both before the trip and during the trip.
- Respect my team leader(s) and his or her decisions.
- Develop and maintain a servant attitude toward all nationals and teammates.
- Refrain from gossip. I may be surprised at how each person will blossom when freed from the concern that others may be passing judgment.
- Refrain from complaining. I know that travel can present numerous unexpected and undesired circumstances, but the rewards of conquering such circumstances are innumerable. Instead of whining and complaining, I'll be creative, supportive and flexible.
- Respect the safety rules. When I am going anywhere, I will tell the leader where I am going and I will always be with at least 3 other people including 1 or more guys. I will not, at any time, go out on the balcony of the hotel rooms, or do any other high-risk behavior.
- Remember that since I am not used to the water, I will not drink the Mexican water (purified water will be provided).
- Remember that I do not know the animals I will meet, so I will not pet or tease the dogs.
- Remember that I don't own the car in which I'll be riding. I will respect the driver by keeping the car clean and respecting his wishes (specifically, keeping all windows rolled up always).
- Honor the family I'm building for and my team by not going into the house on-site.
- Remember not to be exclusive in my relationships. If my sweetheart or spouse is on the team, we will make every effort to interact with all members of the team, not just one another. If I am attracted to a teammate, I will not attempt to pursue that relationship until after we return.
- Refrain from any activity that could be construed as romantic interest toward a national or teammate. I realize certain activities that seem meaningless in my own culture may seem inappropriate in others (i.e. Back Rubs).
- Not bring any matches, lighters, alcohol, tobacco, drugs, knives, firearms, or anything else that may be deemed inappropriate

## Passport Information

### Start the passport application process now!

- Everyone must have a U.S. Passport or Passport Card to go on this trip.
- You must include a photocopy of your passport (card), or your submitted passport application, with the application to go on the Mexico Mission Trip.

### Official website:

[www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov) (and select the PASSPORTS tab)

- All forms and detailed application information can be found at this site.
- This information is subject to change, so verify all the data below against the website before turning in your passport applications.

### U.S. Passport Card:

You can now use a Passport Card (like a driver's license) to travel in certain countries, including Mexico. It is less expensive than a full passport, but there are restrictions.

- It can't be used for travel by air
- It is valid for Canada, Mexico, Bermuda & the Caribbean only

### To apply for a Passport:

You must apply in person *if*:

- This is the first time you've applied for a passport
- You are under age 16, or if your previous passport was issued when you were under 16
- Your previous passport was lost, stolen or damaged, or is more than 15 years' old
- Passport office:

Stockdale Post Office, 5601 Stockdale Hwy, 93309, (661) 834-4158.

You can also go to the office in Shafter on Saturday mornings. Be there by 9 am.

Note: Pegasus Drive Post Office no longer takes passport applications

### Special requirements for minors:

Under age 16

- Minors under age 16 must be accompanied by **BOTH** parents/guardians (or one parent with a notarized Statement of Consent from the other parent, or proof of sole guardianship), Age 16 – 17
- Must establish parental consent with specific forms

### Do I need to renew my Passport?

Check the expiration date on your passport!

- If the expiration date is not later than October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017 (or six months past the trip) it is best to renew now.

### Costs:

	<u>Passport</u>	<u>Passport Card</u>
First time applicants		
Adults *	\$135	\$55
Minors **	\$105	\$40
Renewals (adults only)	\$110	\$30

\* Adults are age 16 and older      \*\* Minors are under age 16

## **SAMPLE MEXICO SUPPORT LETTER - Student**

**This is just a sample letter. Please do not copy it word for word. Make it your own.  
Send out a minimum of 30 letters.**

Dear Family, Friends and Church Members

I am fifteen years old now and active in the youth group at Laurelglen Bible Church. During the next few months, I will be spending a lot of time with some of my friends at church preparing for a 5-day missionary trip to Mexico. We will be learning building-skills and preparing for leading the children in a Vacation Bible School. We will leave Friday March 23, 2018 through Wednesday March 28, 2018. By going to Mexico, we hope and pray that we will have an impact on the lives of others.

We will be working with AMOR Ministries and building homes for needy Mexican families. A council of pastors from local churches selects the families who receive homes and directs all AMOR's building activities. Last year the LBC High School team built 3 homes for families in Mexico during Spring Break. They hand-mixed all the concrete for the foundations, constructed 2x4 stud walls, and roofed and wrapped the homes, and then stuccoes all the homes. The best part is that many family members and others in the neighborhood accepted Christ. Our Mission Team is responsible for raising the funds to purchase all the building materials, VBS materials, and provide for our own transportation, food and lodging.

Please pray for our team and for me. Here are a few specific prayer requests:

1. Safe travel & Good health
2. We will fulfill God's plans for our trip
3. Strength for the adult leaders and coaches
4. That we will grow together as a team & spiritually
5. God will use us to introduce Christ to others
6. Financial support

Yes, there are costs involved in a trip like this. If you would like to be a part of sending our team and me on this missionary outreach, please make your check payable to LBC (Laurelglen Bible Church) and complete and return the enclosed coupon to the church. If you could support me financially, even a little bit, I would be grateful. I am really looking forward to this time of being God's servant. You can follow our adventures on the following website:

Your friend in Christ,

**(Remember to sign your letter)**

## **SAMPLE MEXICO SUPPORT LETTER - Adult**

**This is just a sample letter. Please do not copy it word for word. Make it your own.  
Send out a minimum of 30 letters.**

Dear Family, Friends and Church Members

This Spring I am going to participate in the Laurelglen Bible Church High School Mexico mission trip. During the next few months, I will be spending a lot of time with High School students and other adults at church preparing for a 5-day missionary trip to Mexico. We will be learning building-skills and preparing to lead the children in a Vacation Bible School. We will leave Friday March 23, 2018 and return Wednesday March 28, 2018. We will be going to a settlement outside of Tecate, Mexico. By going to Mexico, we hope and pray that we will have an impact on the lives of others.

We will be working with AMOR Ministries and building homes for needy Mexican families. A council of pastors from local churches selects the families who receive homes and directs all AMOR's building activities. Last year the LBC High School teams built 3 homes for families in Mexico during Spring Break. They hand-mixed all the concrete, constructed 2x4 stud walls, roofed and wrapped the homes, and then put stucco on all the homes. The best part is that many family members and others in the neighborhood accepted Christ. Our Mission Team is responsible for raising the funds to purchase all the building materials, VBS materials, and provide for our own transportation, food and lodging.

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Your friend in Christ,

**(Remember to sign your letter)**

## Team Job Descriptions

**ENCOURAGEMENT:** Provide an encouraging item every morning and night for every person on the team, as well as other encouraging things. Must have an encouraging attitude and want to encourage always.

**NEWSLETTER & BULLETIN:** Put Mexico announcements in the church bulletin. After Mexico, gets the newsletter put together and sent out in a TIMELY fashion.

**WEB UPDATES & PICTURES:** Responsible for updating the daily blog and taking pictures before and during the Mexico trip. After the trip, makes copies of the pictures available on CD, for participants and their families.

**VIDEO:** Video tape before and during Mexico trip. Will also put together a video at the end of the trip.

**MEDICAL TEAM:** Makes sure that all medical forms are turned in and that every person has had their shots. Takes care of health needs on the trip.

**PRAYER & DEVOTION:** Puts together a devotion book, and has devotion for every day of the trip. Will take prayer requests from members of their construction team and hold them up in prayer.

**T-SHIRT:** Chooses the color and design of the team shirt. Is responsible for ordering, picking up, and distributing the shirts.

**SECURITY TEAM:** Puts together security books for all the vehicles. Collects all copies of insurance and drivers' licenses from the drivers. Prepares radios, batteries, and keeps extra vehicle keys. Orders Mexican Insurance.

**WORSHIP TEAM:** Leads worship during meetings before, during trip and responsible for making a worship CD for each vehicle.

**IGLOO, ICE, WATER TEAM:** Makes sure there is the required number of igloos and ice chests to take to Mexico. Gets the water and ice donations before Mexico. Makes sure there is always water available for drinking.

**VBS:** This includes many jobs such as registration, games, music, puppets, bible story, memory verse, crafts, refreshments, MC, and others.

**DESIGNATED DISCIPLE:** Has a heart for reaching others with the gospel and sharing the reason for our labor of love. A translator will help.

**FOOD TEAM:** Helps plan, shop, set-up, serve, and clean up after meals.

**CONSTRUCTION LEADER & CO-LEADER:** Will plan and execute the building of the house.

## Mexico Mission Trip Calendar

Unless otherwise noted – all dates are Sundays

At least one parent MUST attend one of these (identical) safety meetings

\* Core Team meets from noon to 1:00pm on these dates

Date	Day	Event	Location	Cost	Time
Nov 17	Wed	Mexico Applications Go Out	LBC-Remedy	N/A	7-8:30pm
Jan 7	Sun	Parent Mexico Meeting #1	HS Room C 109	N/A	1-2pm
Jan 10	Wed	Parent Mexico Mtg #2//Apps/letters/Fee Due	HS Room C 109	N/A	7pm-8:30pm
Jan 14	Sun	Parent Meeting #3	HS Room C 109	\$100	10:15am
Jan 14	Sun	Mexico Core Team Meeting #1	C 109	N/A	12-2pm
Jan 21	Sun	Mexico core team Mtg #2	C109	N/A	12-2pm
Jan 28	Sun	Mexico Core Team Meeting #3	C 109	N/A	12-1pm
Jan 28	Sun	Mexico Team Meeting #1	Activity Center	N/A	1-3pm
Feb 11	Sun	Mexico Core Team Meeting #4	C 109	N/A	12-1pm
Feb 11	Sun	Mexico Team Meeting #2	Activity Center	N/A	1-3pm
Feb 25	Sun	Mexico Core Team Meeting #5	C 109	N/A	12-1pm
Feb 25	Sun	Mexico Team Meeting #3	Activity Center	N/A	2-4pm
Mar 4	Sun	Mexico Core Team Meeting #6	C 109	N/A	12-1pm
Mar 4	Sun	Mexico Team Meeting #4	Activity Center	N/A	1-3pm
Mar 4-5	Sun-Mon	Pre-Trip	Activity Center	N/A	Sun 3pm-Mon-11pm
Mar 11	Sun	Mexico core Team meeting #7	C 109	N/A	12-1pm
Mar 11	Sun	Mexico Team Meeting #5	C 109	N/A	1-3pm
Mar 18	Sun	Mexico Core Team Meeting #8	C 109	N/A	12-1pm
Mar 18	Sun	Mexico Team Meeting #6	C 109	N/A	1-3pm
Mar 18	Sun	Mexico Team Commissioning	Worship Center	N/A	8:45am & 10:30am
Mar 21	Wed	Construction Team Pack Tools	TBD	N/A	TBD
Mar 22	Thurs	Mexico Packing Party	C 102/Kitchen	N/A	6pm
Mar 23-28	Fri-Wed	Mexico Mission Trip	C 102/Kitchen	N/A	Fri 6am-Wed 7pm
Mar 28	Wed	Mexico Return Pizza	LBC Activity Center	N/A	7 pm
Apr 4	Wed	Mexico Debrief Night	LBC Activity Center	N/A	7pm