

UPDATES:  
Text the message:  
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81010

# MISSION TO MEXICO 2019

JUNE 7—15  
6AM LATE



Kid's Ministry



Orphanage/  
Church Service  
Projects

Don't miss this opportunity to join the youth ministry's *second* foreign mission trip to Mexico! On this trip, teenagers (freshman-graduates and families) will serve and play with children at a Christian orphanage, distribute food to the needy, work on various service projects, worship with the Spanish-speaking church, and eat lots of Mexican food!

Cost: **\$350** (actual cost \$550)

Sign up by **Jan. 20** (Sun.) with \$100 deposit. Includes van transportation, two hotel nights, service project expenses, and accommodations and food at orphanage (nice facilities!) *Six meals on driving days not included*

**Questions?** Contact TJ or Tessa Davidson (chaperones) or visit [www.ahouseofhope.com](http://www.ahouseofhope.com)

Hosted by the  
**Casa de la Esperanza**  
in Chihuahua,  
Mexico



### SAFETY FIRST

The orphanage director, Gil Sanchez will be escorting our group from El Paso, TX and assures us that safety is his number one priority. The orphanage receives a high volume of church groups, and it is completely private and safe and located in a small community of 12,000. No worries about food contamination on facilities.



# MISSION TO MEXICO 2019

**What:** On this trip, we will serve and play with children at a Christian orphanage, distribute food to the needy, work on various service projects, worship with the Spanish-speaking church, and eat lots of tacos! Find out more about the orphanage at [www.ahouseofhope.com](http://www.ahouseofhope.com).

**Who:** 9<sup>th</sup> - Graduates (includes those going into 9<sup>th</sup>). Open to families of teens also. Let me know if you are interested. Everyone will need to pay the \$350 fee.

**When:** June 7 - 15  
Leave at 6:00am (June 7)  
Back at 11pm (June 15)

**Sign Up Deadline:** Sunday, January 20  
Sign up with a \$100 non-refundable deposit  
Pay Remainder of money by Sunday, March 3.

**Where:** Chihuahua, Mexico

**Cost:** \$350 (\$550 actual cost), Includes van transportation, hotel in El Paso, service project expenses, and accommodations (dorm style) and food at orphanage. 6 Meals on driving days not included. You can pay for the whole trip yourself or we will talk more in our meetings about raising support through writing letters.

**Lodging:** Staying at Dorm style housing on orphanage campus

**Chaperones:** T. J. and Tessa Davidson and other adults

### **Safety First:**

- 1) The orphanage director, Gil Sanchez will be escorting our group from El Paso, TX through the border crossing to our destination in Mexico and assures us that safety is his number one priority. The orphanage receives a high volume of church groups, and it is completely private and safe.
- 2) We will be staying on site at the orphanage and will be eating most of our meals there. This helps to ensure our safety and makes sure we don't eat any contaminated food.
- 3) The town we will be working in is a small town of 12,000 people and so it does not deal with the problems and dangers of larger cities in Mexico.

**Updates:** Text the Message @MexicoMT to the number 81010

## Sign Up Requirements:



1) Put your name down that you are interested in going



2) Pay the \$100 initial deposit for *each* family member going by **Sunday, January 20** (non-refundable except in the case for sickness or family emergency). Checks made to “Cabot church of Christ”, or Cash in an envelope with your name on it. Pay the additional \$250 by **Sunday March 3**.



3) Attend the **4 pre-trip meetings**. Attending is a *requirement*. Also help in other ways to get ready for the trip.



4) Get a Passport.



5) Girls/ guys buy appropriate length shorts for the trip (just above the knee). You will be **required to bring your shorts** to a meeting to get them approved.



6) Turn in the necessary forms that are in the packet. They will need to be **notarized**. I know that you can get things notarized for \$5 at the UPS store (next to the Hallmark store)

## Meeting Dates:

**Meeting 1 - Sunday, January 27 (3:15-4:45)**

**Meeting 2 - Sunday, March 3 (3:30-4:45)**

**Meeting 3 - Sunday, April 14 (3:30-4:45)**

**Meeting 4 - Sunday, May 5 (3:30-4:45)**

# MISSION TO MEXICO 2018

## THE NITTY GRITTY

### The Director of Casa de la Esperanza

Gil and Becky served at the Southwest Church of Christ in Pueblo, CO for 30 years prior to leaving to serve as Director at Casa de la Esperanza in 1998. He completed his Ph.D. in Human Resource Management at Colorado State University in 1997. He holds an M.A. in Social Science and a double major/double minor from USC in Psychology and Education. Becky had her own very successful private business in childcare for 18 years. Becky also holds a degree in nursing. Gil and Becky hold dual citizenship in the U.S. and Mexico.



### Contact Info

Website - [www.ahouseofhope.com](http://www.ahouseofhope.com)

Office Phone/Fax: 011-52-625-585-0068 (US to Mexico)



Director Gil Sanchez  
MX Cell# 044-62-511-89-025  
US Cell# (719) 252-9423



They have limited internet at the campus. That means teens will not be able to use the internet but I will try to send out email updates several times during the trip letting everyone know how it is going.

It is possible for teens to buy a phone card there and make a call at the campus to parents. Calls will be very brief. Also, many people can activate their normal cell phones to work in Mexico. There is cell service at the orphanage.

### Schedule for Trip

#### Friday

Leave at 6 am drive to El Paso, TX  
East breakfast before we leave

Arrive at 10pm (2 meals on road + snacks)

**Sat.**

Cross border (Director of Casa will help)  
Drive to Casa de la Esperanza  
Unpack, Settle in

**Sun**

Worship with the church there  
Set up for the week  
Tour of Casa

**Monday - Thursday** (Work days)

7am - Breakfast

8am-1pm

Work projects (painting, working on the grounds, maintenance, construction, food and clothing distributions, Cleaning public areas / buildings, planned activities in town for outreach, Community puppet shows, recreational sports for outreach)

2pm - Lunch

Afternoon

VBS with kids  
Recreation activities

6pm - Dinner

Night

Devotional

**Friday**

Pack up head back to El Paso very early in morning

**Saturday**

Head back to Cabot  
Arrive back at 11pm

## Passports

- Passports are required. We recommend getting the traditional passport book (\$135) but passport cards (\$55) will work also.
- They say you should spend 2-3 weeks getting the necessary documents together for your application.
- According to government websites (and travel websites) it takes 6 weeks from the time of application, including mailing time to process passports applications.
- We recommend you start the process ASAP, but no later than the due date for final money to be turned in, Sunday, March 4.



## Casa House Rules

Casa de la Esperanza means the "House of Hope." They strive to provide the best Christian care and environment for the children residing there, giving them the hope that only Jesus can provide. As we come to serve and help the children, remember that we are constantly setting examples for them, and we are here to serve the children. As Paul writes in I Corinthians 11:1, "Follow my example as I follow Christ." Therefore, there are a few basic house rules to keep in mind as we set the example of Christ daily. These rules were provided by Casa.

- Running and yelling are strictly outside activities.
- The children's bedrooms are reserved for sleeping, reading, visiting, and other quiet activities. Play is confined to designated areas both inside and out.
- Only cooks and dishwashers are allowed in the kitchen.
- Work groups are responsible for the cleaning of their respective work areas.
- If you see it dirty, clean it up, whether you made the mess or not.
- Respect the gender boundaries. (i.e., no wrestling between boys and girls, respecting privacy of both the boys and girls wings of the dorms, etc.)
- Special care should be taken while showing affection to the children, as well as other group members. This is not a trip for inappropriate relationships with the children or amongst yourselves. Many of the children come from backgrounds of physical and sexual abuse; therefore we must be conscious of our actions.
- Noise should be controlled after 7:00 p.m. as we have young children who need to be calmed down and put to bed at an early hour.
- Appropriate dress is required at all times. Shorts are permitted as long as they are loose fitting (i.e. no biker shorts) and are just above the knee. For those groups attending church services with us, it is a casual environment, but remember to be respectful. Girls are requested to wear skirts or dresses at church. Shorts, skirts and dresses should be no shorter than just above the knee.
- The wearing of short shorts, spaghetti straps, or similar clothing is not appropriate at Casa or anywhere else in this part of Mexico.



- They ask that no money be given directly to the children. If you are so inclined to provide financial support, please speak directly to Gil and he will make sure that the money is spent for the children's needs.
- Candy should be distributed at specific times so as not to upset the meal schedule.
- They do not allow sunbathing, foul or harsh language, bad behavior, smoking, CD players, video games, or roughhousing. You cannot buy or possess alcohol, drugs, fireworks, knives, guns or other weapons.
- The sewer system is septic tanks. This requires that toilet paper be put in the trash receptacle next to the toilet. Flushing toilet paper, feminine hygiene products or other solid items will clog the system.

## Doctors and Hospitals

- Casa has two doctors on call for the children. They, of course, would be available in the event they are needed by the mission teams as well.
- Instituto Mexicano del Seguro Social, (4 minutes from Casa) U.S. telephone number: 011-52-625-585-0582 or 011-52-625-585-0003.
- Hospital Medica Sierra, Cuauhtémoc (15 minutes from Casa) U.S. telephone number: 011-52-625-581-3601 or 011-52-625-581-3600.



## Safety and Security



Northern Mexico is a relatively safe and secure area, and most of the stories of being robbed by banditos or getting Montezuma's Revenge are greatly exaggerated. Actually, violent crime is much less common in Mexico than in the U.S. In general, visitors to Mexico should take the same precautions they would take when traveling anywhere else.

- Keep money and valuables secure and out of sight
- Don't venture out alone or to areas where you are not familiar.
- The local residents of Cuauhtémoc and Anáhuac are used to seeing Americans, and are very friendly, polite, and helpful.

## Drinking Water



Visitors who use common sense are also unlikely to develop serious food- or water-related illnesses. However, it is common to have some mild effects from the new foods you will experience. The water at Casa de la Esperanza comes from their own private water wells located on the property. It has been checked for purity, and is safe to drink. Last year we had no one get sick during the whole trip.

## Eating

We will eat most of our meals at the orphanage, we might eat some meals in town. Here is a "sample" menu of what we typical meal schedule:



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Rice cereal, fruit, milk	pancakes, fruit, milk	Rice Oatmeal, fruit, milk	Scrambled Eggs, toast, juice	Breakfast Rice fruit, milk	Cereal, fruit, milk	Eggs, Refried Beans, Rice, milk
Enchiladas, Rice, Beans	Beef Soup, Rice	Taco, Rice, Beans	Pizza, Green Beans	Burritos, Rice, Beans	Chile Colorado, Rice, Beans	Pork & Green Chile, Rice
Beans, Fried Potatoes, Rice	Potato Soup, Beans	Pizza, Corn	Hamburgers, Green Beans, Potato chips	Meatloaf, Rice, Beans	Enchilada Casserole, Beans, Rice	

## Elevation

Because of the elevation of Anáhuac (about 6000 ft.) many visitors get sunburned because they do not take the proper precautions of using sunscreen and wearing the appropriate clothing and hats that are required at this high elevation. Drink lots of liquid; it is a dry climate.



## Support Letter - EXAMPLE

Dear \_\_\_\_\_, (personalize each letter)

I hope you and your family are doing well. Everything is going pretty well with me. I am very excited to let you know about a chance I have to go to Mexico this summer on a Mission Trip with my church. I am very excited and I think this could really be a eye-opening and life changing type of experience. We will be working with a local orphanage Casa de la Esperanza, which means House of Hope. We will be serving the community by doing work projects in the morning and then we will work with the kids at the local orphanage in the afternoon. I am very excited to see how God could use me to serve the needs of the kids and the community. The cost to sign up for the trip is \$300 plus additional money for meals on the road and other expenditures.

I would first ask that you support me and this trip by praying for me, my group (Cabot Church of Christ), and the kids I will be serving in Mexico. I want things to go well, and I want my heart and the hearts of the people I'm serving to be receptive to how God will be working during that trip. I am also raising support for this trip. I have to have all of my funds collected and turned in by February 18. The funds pay for the training, work projects, travel, lodging, and food while we are on the trip.

I'm reaching out to those close to me hoping to raise some of this expense. I'm very excited about this opportunity and would love for you to partner with me in this mission. You can make checks payable to "Cabot Church of Christ" and write my name on the memo line.

For the Cause of Christ,

Your Name

Handwrite a personal note at the bottom to the individual.



**Medical Release Form**

I, (name of parent), hereby authorize (T. J. Davidson) to make the necessary decisions for the well-being of my child, (\_\_\_\_\_) while on the mission trip to CASA DE LA ESPERANZA in Anáhuac, Chihuahua, Mexico. Below is the necessary emergency and medical information for my child.

\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature of Notary) \_\_\_\_\_ (Date  
Notarized)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Your signature, witnessed by Notary)

**Information on Child**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_/\_\_/\_\_

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

Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Medical  
Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Current  
Medications: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Allergies to  
Medications: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Insurance**

**Doctor**

Name of Provider: \_\_\_\_\_ Family Physician: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Group Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer: \_\_\_\_\_

**Emergency Contacts**

1) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to Child: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Day Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

2) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to Child: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Day Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

3) Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relation to Child: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Day Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

Evening Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_

## Parent Consent Letter

I, \_\_\_\_\_ give permission for my child, \_\_\_\_\_, to participate in the mission trip to *Casa de la Esperanza* with **Cabot Church of Christ** (Name of Organization) under the direction of **T. J. Davidson** (group leader's name). My child is in their care for the duration of the trip, which is **June 21 - July 1**. (date of mission trip) **T. J. Davidson** a (group leader) are hereby responsible for the well being of my child and I authorize them to take the necessary measures involving the health care of my child. If there are any questions, I can be reached at the following phone number by day (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ and in the evenings I can be reached at (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_. Please refer to the medical release form signed by myself for other emergency contacts.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_ (Your Name)

Yo \_\_\_\_\_ autorizo a mi hijo(a), \_\_\_\_\_, a participar en el viaje a la Granja Hogar *Casa de la Esperanza* con **Cabot Church of Christ** (Name of Organization) bajo la dirección de **T. J. Davidson** (group leader). Mi hijo(a) estará en su cuidado por todo el viaje, que se realiza en las siguientes fechas **June 21 - July 1** (trip dates). **T. J. Davidson** (group leader) el cual es responsable por la salud de mi hijo(a) y le doy autorización a hacer decisiones de auxilio en beneficio de mi hijo(a). Si hay algún problema o duda, me puede localizar al teléfono (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_ durante el día y por la noche al (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_. Revisar la hoja de información medica referente a otras personas que puede llamar en caso de emergencia.

Atentamente,

\_\_\_\_\_ (Your Name)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Signature of Notary)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Date Notarized)

\_\_\_\_\_ (Your signature, witnessed by Notary)