



March 2017 Update

Through some discussion and conversations with those parties interested in attending the trip we have decided to devote our time and energy into both FCA's ongoing ministry in the DR and the Holt's House of Hope project. Our mission trip is July 15 - 21, 2017 to Boca Chica, Dominican Republic. The trip will cost approximately \$1200 per participant. This includes all expenses (transportation, airline, food, lodging, translators).

We are excited about what God is doing in your life and how he wants to use you in this incredibly important mission down in the Dominican Republic. Thank you for your willingness and interest to be used by God for His kingdom. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to email missions@thebridgechurch.org.

God Bless You,

Dennis Rivera
Bridge Staff Support

cc: Raz Pataca, trip coordinator & missions lead

2017 TBC DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TRIP



Trip Information and Application Packet

Prepared for: Mission Trip Applicants & those interested in the trip

Prepared by: Dennis Rivera, Operations Pastor & Raz Pataca, Trip Coordinator

March 2, 2017

Trip Date: July 15- 21, 2017

TRIP SUMMARY

Objective

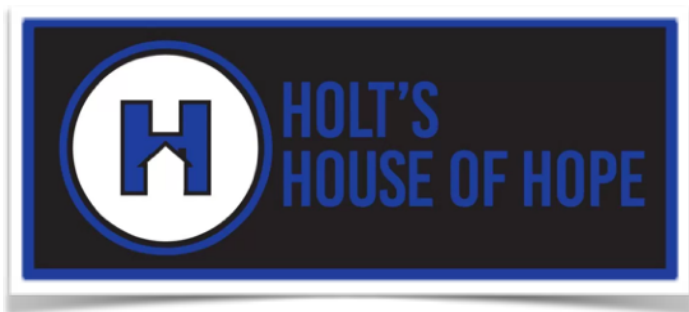
At the Bridge we recognize that missions are most effective when done by those who are living out the Gospel in their context be it local or foreign. Therefore, we want to structure our short-term trips in such a way that when possible we are encouraging and supporting the work of missionaries in country who are doing the hard labor of building up Gospel foundations.

Goals

To further the kingdom of God through our partnership with Holt's House of Hope and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Specifically: through the assistance of Holt's House of Hope pavilion and classroom project assistance and miscellaneous support and aid to our existing FCA team in the Dominican Republic—whether this is through Sports Ministry, Bible studies, providing aid through our skill sets, etc.

Mission Partners

We are partnering with Holt's House of Hope and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA):



2017 TBC DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TRIP

Holt's House of Hope (HHH) : <http://holtshouseofhope.com/>

"HOLT'S HOUSE OF HOPE (HHH) WILL BE A REFUGE FOR THE LESS FORTUNATE BOYS OF THE STREETS AND BEACHES OF BOCA CHICA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC. THE WORLD SEES THESE BOYS AS DRUG ADDICTS, SWINDLERS, WINDOW WASHERS, PANHANDLERS, AND THIEVES. WE SEE THEM AS GOD'S CHILDREN WHO NEED A SAFE PLACE TO GO, BE FED SPIRITUALLY AND PHYSICALLY, TO CLEAN UP THEIR SOULS AND THEIR BODIES, A PLACE TO REST AND FIND HOPE WHEN THE WORLD HAS FAILED THEM." cont...

HHH Project Phases

Phase 1 [2016]- to make HHH an official nonprofit w/ local bank account and funding sources

Phase 2 [2016-2017]- purchase land in Boca Chica and begin building a facility to train, feed, educate and develop the boys.

Phase 3 [2017-forward]- Add on to phase 2 facility, or build additional structure to serve as a meeting place for the church, visiting mission groups, and educational classes.

Hopes: to provide at least two meals a day, clean clothing, showers, nightly classes, devotionals, etc.

Prayers & Needs:

- That God would receive the glory through Holt's House of Hope and all ministries
 - For God to prepare the hearts of the boys of Boca Chica
 - Full Support to be raised for Chris and Abby
 - For God to bless the time they have left with family, friends, church, and work relationships before they move
 - God will give confidence to Chris and Abby in learning the language well
 - That God will give wisdom and guidance over this new ministry and especially wisdom to Chris and Abby as they transition
 - For God to guide Edwin as he ministers daily to the boys
 - For Edwin as he is newly married
 - That God will provide the hands and resources to finish the construction of all facilities
 - That God will bless the city of Boca Chica through Holt's House and the new church plant
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Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) in the DR : <http://www.fca.org/international/globalregions/latin-america/dominican-republic> & <http://fcadr.org/>

“Since its establishment in 2011, FCA Dominican Republic has expanded to Boca Chica, Santo Domingo and San Pedro de Macoris and includes twelve staff. Through weekly huddles, sports camp and baseball specific ministry, FCA Dominican Republic is making an impact in the lives of coaches and athletes in a significant way throughout the country. Staff and volunteers offer their own time, resources and funds to reach coaches and athletes at all levels of sports”

Prayers & Needs

- That God continues to work through the FCA partners and coaches to reach these men
 - For spiritual growth for the DR men and team
 - For needs to be met
 - For their endeavors in Boca Chica and surrounding areas
 - Partnership with HHH
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Project Outline

Trip will go from July 15th until the 21st. Throughout these days we aim to help and do the following:

- Help HHH with construction project
- Help HHH with classroom construction
- Help HHH with Pavilion wrap up
- Help with final touches on Pavilion
- Pour into HHH workers
- Interact with HHH boys
- Potentially help with HHH classes &/or huddles
- Assist FCA with sports ministry
- Be available
- Find out needs for FCA & HHH and bring some items to them
- Continue to pour into our partners and give them new Bridge contacts that will continue to lift them up and support them long after the trip is over

*Specific daily activities and plans will come as the trip comes closer. No way to predict where the HHH project will be, and no real way to see if they will have any delays in construction. The plan is for July 2017 the pavilion part of the project to be well under construction and almost finished**

BUDGET & INDIVIDUAL TRIP COST

FCA & Holt's House of Hope Trip Details

See the price below. These numbers are estimates and may change slightly (specifically airfare). If you have any questions/concerns please email missions@thebridgechurch.org

Description	Quantity	Unit Price	Cost
Lodging (includes meals)	1	\$ 400	\$ 400
FCA Sports Ministry	1	\$ 100	\$ 100
Airfare	1	\$ 700	\$ 700
Total			\$ 1,200

* Some funds may be used out of designated Missions Fund for general expenses (i.e. travel to and from airports, FCA dinner, etc.)

NEXT STEPS

1. Commitment

- Fill out application
- Inform Bridge Missions your intentions of joining the trip
- Age restriction: **16**, but with consent and conversation with Bridge Missions Team exceptions can be made (Minor travel)

2. Application (*see attached application*)

- Once application is received you will receive a sample support letter
- Application will outline training dates*

3. Support Letter & Fundraising (*see sample support letter*)

- Make a list of friends and relatives to mail support letters to
- Now all who receive a letter will respond positively—this is just a fact.
- Some individuals will not be able to support financially but will commit to prayer (just as important)
- Others will see this as your responsibility to raise funds—but don't let this deter you or discourage you
- If planning on raising a large number of support, then a lot of letters must be mailed out
- Realize that you may need to raise funds through another means—bake sales, car washes, chores, pocket money, etc.
- The Bridge Missions Team will attempt to make some fundraising options available—but this will most likely cover some miscellaneous trip costs for the entire group.

4. Attend Trainings (*see key dates page*)

- Mark off calendar dates for training
 - Training isn't just a Missions 101 but it is a time for fellowship and team building
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- Some “trainings” will simply be grabbing a bite to eat or going bowling

5. Be mindful of trip milestone dates—funding dates (see *key dates*)

- 50% funded by May 1st
- 100% funded by June 5th

6. Prepare your heart

- Pray that God prepares your heart
 - Spend time with God (Prayer & in the Word)
 - Spend time with like-minded believers
 - Get **involved** in local mission efforts (missions doesn't just happen outside of the country)
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Resources

Passport:

An appointment to apply for a passport is required for this Post Office™ location. Call 678-377-5340 for an appointment. For more passport information, contact the Department of State at travel.state.gov. Some PO's only work on passports certain days of the week. This process can take 7-10 business days for application to be processed, and then an additional 10 business days for it to arrive.

<https://www.usps.com/international/passports.htm>

Ages 16 and up:

Application fee: \$110

Execution fee: \$25

Ages 16 and under (child passport):

Application fee: \$80

Execution fee: \$25

Renewal (for those that have an expired passport):

Renewal fee: \$110

Passport photo:

If not providing your own: \$15

Dominican Republic

- Capital: Santo Domingo
 - Gov't: Republic
 - 10,075,045 population (2016 estimate)
 - Language: Spanish
 - July is the hottest month in Boca Chica with an average temperature of 29°C (84°F) and the coldest is January at 26°C (79°F).
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Duolingo

- excellent, **free** language learning tool
 - Download on App Store or Android Store
 - Create profile, choose Spanish, and begin!
 - Join Bridge Spanish Club: use club code QHJDW9
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KEY DATES

TRAINING DATES

All training will be held at 12:30 following second service on Sundays in the Crossover Room at the Bridge Church unless otherwise specified.

April 23 - Training Session

May 14 - Bowling

May 28 - Dominican Lunch & Hangout

June 18 - Final Training

July 9 - Final Preparation/ Schedule /Packing list

FINANCIAL DATES

May 1st - 50% Funded

June 5th - All funds to be received by Dennis Rivera

TRIP DATES

Saturday, July 15th - Friday, July 21st

Flight times will be determined no later than a month before departure. Estimate arriving at the Bridge 3 hours before flight departure times. It takes an estimate 45 minutes to an hour of travel time to the airport and checking everyone in can be a lengthy process.



GENERAL INFORMATION

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ ST. _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Email: _____

Best Way to Contact You: _____

Do you have a background check on file at the Bridge? _____

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Are you a Christian? ____ If no, would you be willing to talk with someone about this? ____

If yes, explain how you would tell someone else how to become a Christian.

(Please turn over the page if you need more space.)

What do you believe are your strengths and weaknesses and/or spiritual gifts (if known)?



Have you ever been on a mission trip before or traveled outside the country for work or vacation? If yes, where and when?

Why do you want to go on this mission trip?

Do you have any specialized training that you currently employ or have employed in the past? If so, please describe.

Do you speak any other languages? If yes, please list.

How would you describe yourself in a group? leader, critical thinker, organizer, energizer, harmonizer, creator, or your own description

Do you agree with the Bridge Church's mission? If not, please explain. (this can be found in introduction letter)