



# Guatemala ~ Team 1907

## Eyeglasses

### Team Description

*“Impacting the World for Jesus Christ”*

**DATES:** August 3-10, 2019

**LOCATION:** Puerto Barrios, Guatemala

**ESTIMATED COST:** \$2,300-2,500 with estimated airfare

#### **COST INCLUDES:**

- Airfare
- Ground Transportation
- Housing
- Meals
- Logistical, Spiritual & Cultural Training Materials
- Trained Team Leader
- In-country Arrangements and Costs
- Supplemental Health Insurance
- Crisis Management Plan
- Team Medical Bag with Nursing Protocols
- 24/7 On Call Doctor



#### **MATERIALS NEEDED FOR EYEGLASS PROJECT:**

- Each eyeglass team is asked to collect 3,000 pairs of eyeglasses to help replenish the inventory of eyeglasses we process for their team.
- Witness materials and eyeglass cases are needed. Directions to make the witness materials are available on our [website](#).



#### **PROJECT DESCRIPTION-EYEGLASS:**

Using a very simple testing system created specifically for MOST Ministries, this team will test vision and distribute eyeglasses to those in need. During the daily clinics, team members will test patients' eyes and then fit them with the appropriate corrective lenses. Depending on the number of team members, a team can serve 100-300 people daily.

Eyeglass training is provided by the team leader and is completed in three to four hours during one of the team meetings. When the team arrives on the mission field, a final hands-on training is provided.

In order to minister to the spiritual needs of patients, each eyeglass clinic includes a witnessing station unless it is prohibited by the host country. At the witnessing station, the Gospel message and information about the home church is shared by the local missionaries, national pastors or lay ministers. Team members are always welcome to work at the witness station or to share Christ's love with the patients as they come through the clinic.

**VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR:** Nury de Milian, Lead-a-Child Central American Director

**LEAD-A-CHILD IN GUATEMALA:** Lead-A-Child partners with Lutheran pastors and teachers in 25 countries to provide Christian education. Each site selects the form of education that best meets their needs: scholarships, teacher stipends, after-school programs, preschools, English as a second language, or vacation Bible schools. Today, over 241 Lead-A-Child project sites bring life changing opportunities to more than 25,000 children, many of whom would not otherwise receive an education.

Since the beginning, Guatemala has become almost synonymous with Lead-A-Child. Prayers are needed for the newly formed Lead-A-Child Committee of Guatemala. Lead-A-Child Guatemala oversees eighteen projects and provides coordination and support for Lead-A-Child sites in Guatemala.

**TENTATIVE WEEKLY SCHEDULE:**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						Depart US Arrive
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship ½ day project?	Project	Project	Project	Project	Tour Day	Return home

**ENTRY / EXIT REQUIREMENTS:**

Americans traveling in Guatemala are encouraged to register with the U.S. Embassy through the State Department’s travel registration website to obtain updated information on travel and security within Guatemala. MOST Ministries registers all teams with the US Embassy in each country we serve.

A valid U.S. passport is required for all U.S. citizens, regardless of age, to enter Guatemala and to depart Guatemala for return to the U.S. While in Guatemala, U.S. citizens should carry their passports, or a photocopy of their passports, with them at all times.

Please Note: Passports must be valid for at least six (6) months beyond the team return date to the United States. If this requirement is not met you may be refused re-entry into the country. Please visit the [U.S. Department of State website](http://www.state.gov) for additional information.

**EMBASSY INFORMATION:**

Address: Avenida Reforma 7-01, Zona 10, Guatemala City, Guatemala  
 Emergency Phone Number during normal business hours: (502) 2326-4501  
 Emergency Phone Number For after-hour emergencies: (501) 2331-2354  
 See [http://guatemala.usembassy.gov/acs\\_contact\\_information.html](http://guatemala.usembassy.gov/acs_contact_information.html) for additional information.

**VACCINATIONS:**

Before visiting Guatemala, you may need to get the following vaccinations and medications for vaccine-preventable diseases and other diseases you might be at risk for at your destination:

Vaccination or Disease	Recommendations or Requirements for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases
Routine	Recommended if you are not up-to-date with routine shots such as, measles/mumps/rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus (DPT) vaccine, poliovirus vaccine, etc.
Hepatitis A or Immune Globulin (IG)	Recommended for all unvaccinated people traveling to or working in countries with an intermediate or high level of hepatitis A virus infection where exposure might occur through food or water. Cases of travel-related hepatitis A can also occur in travelers to developing countries with "standard" tourist itineraries, accommodations, and food consumption behaviors.
Vaccination or Disease	Recommendations or Requirements for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases
Hepatitis B	Recommended for all unvaccinated persons traveling to or working in countries with intermediate to high levels of endemic HBV transmission, especially those who might be exposed to blood or body fluids, have sexual contact with the local population, or be exposed through medical treatment (e.g., for an accident).
Typhoid	Recommended for all unvaccinated people traveling to or working in Mexico and Central America, especially if visiting smaller cities, villages, or rural areas and staying with friends or relatives where exposure might occur through food or water.
Rabies	Recommended for travelers spending a lot of time outdoors, especially in rural areas, involved in activities such as bicycling, camping, or hiking. Also recommended for travelers with significant occupational risks (such as veterinarians), for long-term travelers and expatriates living in areas with a significant risk of exposure, and for travelers involved in

any activities that might bring them into direct contact with bats, carnivores, and other mammals. Children are considered at higher risk because they tend to play with animals, may receive more severe bites, or may not report bites.
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**DRUGS TO PREVENT MALARIA:** (<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/guatemala.aspx>)

If you will be visiting a malaria risk area in Guatemala, [chloroquine](#) is the recommended antimalarial drug. Malaria Risk Areas in Guatemala: Rural areas only at altitudes below 1,500 m (<4,921 ft). No risk in Guatemala City, Antigua or Lake Atitlán.

This is based on current information from CDC (Center of Disease Control & Prevention). Always consult with your doctor regarding vaccinations, as MOST Ministries cannot be held liable for any recommendations made.

**MOST MINISTRIES SHORT TERM TRAVEL INSURANCE:**

*MH Ross Trip Armor Travel Protection Plan and ACE American Insurance Company (Foreign Liability)*

MH Ross Trip Armor Travel Protection Plan provides individuals heading to the mission field protection and assistance in these areas:

**Medical Coverages & Services**

- Medical expenses ~ accident and sickness
- Accidental death and dismemberment
- Medical emergency family reunion (bedside visit)
- Hospital admission deposit advance
- Foreign medical referral service
- Medical consultation and monitoring service
- Prescription drug replacement service
- Medical assistance:
  - Multi-lingual assistance
  - Emergency medical evacuation
  - Medically necessary repatriation
- Return of mortal remains

**Travel Assistance Services**

- Benefits verification and claims assistance
- Embassy and consular information
- Emergency cash advance
- Emergency family travel arrangement assistance
- Emergency message transmission
- Foreign legal access
- Return of rental vehicle
- Return of traveling companion or dependents
- Translation and interpretation

**Security Assistance Services**

- Contingency political evacuation planning
- Political evacuation
- Security crisis center

**Liability Coverages-ACE American Insurance**

- Foreign liability insurance
- Employer’s liability insurance

See [http://www.mostministries.org/team\\_insurance](http://www.mostministries.org/team_insurance) for additional information.

**LOGISTICS:**

<b>Electricity</b>	Electricity in Guatemala is 120 Volts, alternating at 60 cycles per second. If you travel to Guatemala with a device that does not accept 120 Volts at 60 Hertz, you will need a voltage converter. Click <a href="#">here</a> for more information.
<b>Currency</b>	<a href="https://www.oanda.com/currency/converter/">https://www.oanda.com/currency/converter/</a>
<b>Lodging</b>	The team will stay in a clean, modest on site guesthouse.
<b>Meals</b>	Lunches will be cooked by the women of the local church. Breakfast and dinner will be prepared by the workers at the guesthouse.

**CLIMATE:**

During the months of November through February, the average daytime temperature is around 65 degrees, with the thermometer rising as March and April arrive. Once the rainy season comes in from May through October, the skies remain somewhat clear mainly during the morning with showers moving in during the afternoon and evening. Light rain gear is advisable during these months.

A light jacket is comfortable during the evening when temperatures drop a bit, and sweaters are ideal during the months of December and January.

**CULTURE:**

Guatemala's culture is a unique product of Native American ways and a strong Spanish colonial heritage. About half of Guatemala's population is mestizo (known in Guatemala as ladino), people of mixed European and indigenous ancestry. Ladino culture is dominant in urban areas, and is heavily influenced by European and North American trends. But unlike many Latin American countries, Guatemala still has a large indigenous population, the Maya, which has retained a distinct identity. Deeply rooted in the rural highlands of Guatemala, many indigenous people speak a Mayan language, follow traditional religious and village customs, and continue a rich tradition in textiles and other crafts. The two cultures have made Guatemala a complex society that is deeply divided between rich and poor.

([http://www.countriesquest.com/central\\_america/guatemala.htm](http://www.countriesquest.com/central_america/guatemala.htm))

If you are interested in learning more about Guatemala's religious statistics, please visit [Joshua Project](#).

**CULTURAL INFORMATION WEBSITES:**

The Lonely Planet	<a href="http://www.lonelyplanet.com/guatemala">http://www.lonelyplanet.com/guatemala</a>
CIA World Factbook	<a href="https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/gt.html">https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/gt.html</a>
Every Culture	<a href="http://www.everyculture.com/Ge-It/Guatemala.html">http://www.everyculture.com/Ge-It/Guatemala.html</a>

**SIGHTSEEING:**

The team will have various options in the Antigua area.

**FAST FACTS:**

Languages	Spanish and Amerindian languages 40% (23 officially recognized Amerindian languages, including Quiche, Cakchiquel, Kekchi, Mam, Garifuna, and Xinca)
Religions	Roman Catholic, Pentecostal, Mayan-Catholic fusion
Population	14,099,032
Ethnic Groups	Mestizo (mixed Amerindian-Spanish - in local Spanish called Ladino) and European 59.4%, K'iche 9.1%, Kaqchikel 8.4%, Mam 7.9%, Q'eqchi 6.3%, other Mayan 8.6%, indigenous non-Mayan 0.2%, other 0.1%

**CONTACT / APPLICATION INFORMATION:**

MOST Ministries believes that the work of foreign missions must be a direct response to the requests and needs of the mission field. Through strategic planning, areas of need are identified and a plan of action is set in place to enable team members to utilize their gifts and talents in meeting those needs. If you are interested in utilizing your gifts in touching the lives of others in Guatemala, please contact Tyler Seehafer at (734) 994-7909 ext. 7 or [tseehafer@mostministries.org](mailto:tseehafer@mostministries.org).

**MOST MINISTRIES**

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