

MISSIONS PACKET



ARISE - GO - SERVE

3609 AUSTIN BLUFFS PKWY SUITE 31-1117 - COLORADO SPRINGS, CO. 80918

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ARISE GO SERVE IS A 501(C)(3) NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION

INTRODUCTION TO MISSIONS

Overview:

Our mission trips are founded on the principle of unconditional love - **Love is**, will be, and always has been the foundation that governs all we do on the mission field! We do not simply talk about loving people, we **Model Love**, through a consistent outward expression of service that is compelled by an inward conviction that we are called to **Love Thy Neighbor! You're** guided into the mission field to embody **Your** unique narrative, to author **Your** own story, as **You** venture by faith into another country, guided by the Spirit. It's no longer reading about a missionary; **You're the missionary**, crafting **Your story** for others to glean inspiration from! No matter Your age, no matter Your ethnicity, no matter the size of **Your** group, no matter where **You're** from, our team is ready to lead and host as **You** create **Your** story by **Serving Others in Jesus' Name!**

A Reverent but Unhealthy-Reached People Group: While some consider the Dominican Republic as an over-reached people group, I'd somewhat concur; however, the extensive outreach to this country has often resulted in unhealthy and undisciplined disciples with an unclear biblical worldview. So, the results, an unhealthy-reached people group! AGS is committed to providing a solution to this problem!

Bridging the Biblical Worldview Gap: Dedicated to addressing the deficit in sound Biblical teaching, discipleship, and service, we strive to fill the void by establishing a strong biblical foundation. Through our ongoing efforts and the establishment of a school of ministry, this foundation will foster personal spiritual growth, enabling each believer to live and view their life and the world through a healthy biblical worldview. Centered on ensuring a long-term and sustainable gospel impact, AGS's aim is set on empowering and investing in the next generation of Indigenous leaders within the Dominican Republic.

Mission & Service Opportunities

Relationships

At the heart of our mission experience lies a profound emphasis on engagement and the cultivation of relationships. It's a journey that transcends the mere accomplishment of tasks, duties, and box checking! Our focus is not just on serving communities; it's about becoming a part of them. This interaction and bond-building are not secondary but the primary focus of our mission. We believe that the most impactful changes occur through the power of relational engagement, where every smile, conversation, and shared experience contributes to a deeper understanding and lasting missional impact. It's these human connections that form the cornerstone of our mission!

Church Partnerships

AGS has developed strong alliances with Pastoral Alliances across the Dominican Republic, a key aspect of our impact in the region for over a decade. These partnerships, spanning locations like Gaspar Hernandez, Puerto Plata, Luperon, and La Vega, facilitate significant mission work and community engagement.

Outreach & Service Projects

A broad spectrum of service projects meets diverse community needs. These include Vacation Bible Schools, city-wide festivals, construction, painting, and beautification projects for school campuses, all aimed at making a service-based gospel impact.

On-Campus Conferences & Outreach

Collaborating with over a hundred schools, we have an open door to offer on-campus youth conferences focused on empowerment. These

include language and educational resource provision, character development, and nurturing a biblical worldview among students.

Construction Projects

In Gaspar Hernandez and Luperon, AGS participates in vital construction projects. A notable initiative is the building of a Christian School in Luperon, driven by a collaboration with a local pastor, enhancing educational opportunities and aiding community development.

VBS & Community Outreach

The organization collaborates with local pastors to conduct Vacation Bible Schools (VBS) in villages. These outreaches consist of engaging children, their mothers, door to door evangelism, and prayer walks through various villages, and fostering long-lasting relationships through these community impact outreaches.

Community Festivals (God Bombs)

AGS galvanizes the local Body of Christ to harness their gifts, talents, and resources in a concerted endeavor to serve the community and spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ on a grand scale. This divine impact ripples through every corner of the community, reaching the desks of the Mayor, School Superintendent, Fire & Police departments, the Business Community, and beyond, leaving an indelible mark.

School of Ministry

With the aim towards fulfilling the Great Commission and making disciples within the Dominican Republic we are centered on ensuring a long-term and sustainable gospel impact through our School of Ministry. This summer and soon to be year around investment encompasses in-depth engagement of our Dominican Republic students through the teaching and studying of the word of God and prayer, community outreach, student retreats, and much more...

Trip Costs

In-Country Cost

Mission trip per participant: 7-Day Trip \$975 Per Person + \$25 reservation deposit per person (Details are below)

Price Includes

3 Meals Daily

Lodging

Team Transportation to & from Airport

Team Transportation to & from Mission sites

Detailed Ministry Itinerary

Translators

Administration

An Awesome, Impactful, Life-Changing Mission Trip!!!

Required Additional Costs

- **Each team is responsible for coordinating, securing and paying for their own airfare.** The options for flying into the Dominican Republic are either **POP or STI airports**. We are ready to assist by providing information to guide your team throughout the process.
- Each team is encouraged to gather and provide finances and or resources to assist in executing the designated ministry and outreach to the communities their team will be serving. Project costs vary pending on the work. Please ask your leader from AGS.

Additional Cost (Optional But Highly Suggested)

- Tips for Ministry & Transportation Team
- Personal souvenir money
- Internet Cost, \$15-\$25/Week/person (Pending Location)

HOW TO PAY FOR YOUR TRIP

In an effort to be good stewards of our resources, we have initiated a required reservation fee and payment system for all mission trips. Please see the below guidelines regarding trip payments.

- \$25 non-refundable fee per person to reserve dates
- 50% of total team payment due 90 days out from trip departure date
- 100% of total team payment due 30 days out from trip departure date

Trip Payment

Trip payments are non-refundable and should be made online on your Trip Leader Dashboard. If you are a trip participant, your trip leader will provide you with a team link where you can make payments toward your trip.

BOOKING FLIGHTS

All flights must be pre-approved by our team before booking.

Teams and individuals are responsible for their own airfare, **as it is not included** in the cost of the trip. AGS asks that all flights arrive and depart from Santiago (STI) on the **Approved Days of Arrival & Departure**. This allows us to be good stewards of transportation expenses, as well as ensure your team is met by one of our staff members. If you are unable to find a flight that meets our request, we may allow you to book flights into an alternate airport for an additional fee for the team (pricing varies by group size). There will be a fee associated with the off-day travel pickup. When at all possible (and the cost is reasonable), we ask that you please purchase flights that arrive into STI before 9:00 PM. However, when the savings are significant, we do permit teams to purchase flights that arrive later. Be sure to check with the airline for current restrictions, luggage weight limits, etc. prior to traveling.

TENTATIVE DAILY SCHEDULE

Monday - Arrive in the Dominican Republic, Settle into Housing, Eat, Orientation

Tuesday - Strategic Ministry Time, Community Projects, VBS, etc...

Wednesday - Strategic Ministry Time, Community Projects, VBS, etc...

Thursday - Strategic Ministry Time, Community Projects, VBS, etc...

Friday - Festival Planning, Prayer Walks/Evangelism, Unified Church Meeting

Saturday - Community-Wide Festival

Sunday - Church, Excursion Day, Shopping, PM/Debriefing after Dinner, Pack

Monday - Departure to Airport

This schedule is tentative schedule if your team arrives on these specific days. However, please note that these plans are subject

TENTATIVE TIMELINE SCHEDULE

06:30 am - Arise

07:00 am - Breakfast

08:30 am - Travel for Missions Work

09:15 am - Missions: VBS/Construction Project/Etc...

11:30 am - Travel

12:00 pm - Lunch

01:00 pm - Travel

01:30 pm - Missions: VBS/Construction Project/Etc..

04:00 pm - Travel

04:30 pm - Down Time

05:30 pm - Dinner (Pending Location 2hr Window)

07:30 pm - Debrief & Devotions

08:30 pm - Rooms, Shower, Solo, Down Time, etc...

10:00 pm - Lights out

ALLERGY DISCLAIMER

For individuals with food allergies (such as nuts, gluten, dairy, etc.), it's essential to bring supplementary food items, as we cannot guarantee avoidance of cross-contamination. We appreciate your understanding.

For severe food or substance allergies, it's advisable to carry two EpiPens as a precautionary measure.

PREGNANCY DISCLAIMER

As a safety measure, we advise that any women who are pregnant or suspect they might be pregnant refrain from traveling with AGS until further notice, owing to the potential threat of the Zika virus. Although the infection typically presents mild symptoms, it poses significant risks to the development of a fetus and has been associated with microcephaly in infants when contracted by the mother during the initial trimester of pregnancy.

PHYSICAL CONDITION AND MEDICATIONS

If you're aged 50 or older, or if you have any medical conditions (such as heart disease, diabetes, asthma, lung issues, severe allergies, mental health conditions, etc.), it's vital to undergo a comprehensive medical assessment before journeying to the Dominican Republic. Please communicate these conditions and requirements to our team leaders during registration and again before your arrival. In case of a newly diagnosed condition or illness prior to the trip, it's advisable to postpone or reschedule your travel plans. Those with chronic illnesses like diabetes or heart conditions should carry medical identification (such as tags, bracelets, cards, etc.) at all times.

Traveling to the Dominican Republic can pose moderate physical and mental stress, particularly due to factors like high temperatures, intense sunlight, mosquitoes, rugged terrain, and significant walking. Individuals with mental health issues or physical disabilities must disclose this information to us before being approved for travel. Ensure that you carry all prescribed medications in your carry-on luggage. If you have a history of asthma, sinus problems, or allergies, bring your medication, even if it's not currently in use or needed at home.

INTERNET CAPABILITIES

AGS's staff are equipped with functional cell phones solely for emergency purposes. These devices are not intended for general communication by team members. Certain American cell phone providers offer service in the Dominican Republic. Additionally, WiFi access is usually accessible at our host hotels for a fee of \$25 per person per week.

DAILY SCHEDULES & COMMUNICATIONS

Upon arrival in the Dominican Republic, your team will be transported to our host hotel and typically will have down town for checkin to your rooms and opportunity to rest before meeting as a team for briefing. Our briefing consists of prayer, team introductions, itinerary communication, Q&A, and team devotions.

WATER

Please do not drink or brush your teeth with tap water. Purified water will be provided for you. We encourage you to drink as much purified water as possible. Make sure you are drinking continuously, even when you do not feel thirsty. You will need to bring a reusable water bottle for the week.

FOOD

We provide three meals daily for you and other visiting groups throughout the week. Water and some drinks provided as well for all meals.

HANDOUTS TO LOCALS

AGS kindly asks you **not to hand out any items to locals.** We ask that you please work hand in hand with our team in providing any type of resources for locals. It is our heart to work hand in hand with our local team and churches to provide the resources needed for the locals.

FREE TIME AND SOUVENIR OPPORTUNITIES

You will have the opportunity to shop and enjoy the beauty of the Dominican Republic on our free days. Depending on the length of your trip, we

provide 1-2 rest and recovery days that allow for the enjoyment of the beauty in which this island provides. You will be able to shop, snorkel, swimming, cliff jumping, fishing, or just simply relax on the beach.

LOSSES

AGS and/or its team, or volunteers are not responsible for any team member's lost money, stolen money, damaged luggage, lost luggage, or loss of any other personal property. We do everything possible to prevent these unfortunate incidents; however, they sometimes occur despite our efforts. Our team and leaders are trusted and faithful members of the Body of Christ and serve our teams faithfully!

FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS

We trust this addresses your team's inquiries, and eagerly anticipate collaborating with you and your team in the Dominican Republic for a life-changing mission trip. Your partnership and dedication will leave a lasting impact on the hearts of those we serve. Should you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to us anytime. Until we embark on our journey to the Dominican Republic, may the Lord bless and watch over you, as you continue to Arise, Go, & Serve your community.

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