

# HOH Mexico | Men's Team

## May 3-6, 2024

**DATES:** May 3-6, 2024

**Price:** \$950

**Application Deadline:** December 3, 2023 (application with \$200 deposit)

### What Will Be Doing?

1. Building new homes for families in need
2. Building relationships with the families we build homes for and the staff at the YWAM base

### Where Will We Be Staying?

- YWAM Base, Ensenada, Mexico

### INFORMATION MEETINGS

- Sunday October 29, 12:30pm, Admin
- Sunday December 3, 12:30pm, Admin

### TEAM MEETINGS \*All team meetings are required

- Sunday January 28, 2024, 12:30pm, Admin
- Sunday February 25, 2024, 12:30, Admin
- Sunday April 28, 2024, Prayer in services, meeting at 12:30pm, Admin
- 

### TEAM DEADLINE DATES

- Total Due February 25, 2024

### Important Things to Know:

- **You will need a valid PASSPORT valid at least 2 months after visit**
- Every team member needs to **register with Homes of Hope**. Your team leader will provide you with the link when it is made available to us.

For more information contact [missions@4sq.church](mailto:missions@4sq.church)

# BEFORE YOU GO

## Applying for a Passport

Passports are required for travel to the Ensenada, Mexico. If you do not already have a valid Passport please apply for one as soon as possible in order to avoid rush fees.

- The City of Stanwood is no longer accepting Passport Application. Please reach out to one of the leaders if you have not already applied for a passport and you need to know where. We can help you.
- Passport Forms are available online at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov)
- Rite Aid, and Bartells are two great places to purchase your passport photos.

## Immunizations

Travel to Mexico could expose you to disease. Please make sure all your basic vaccines are up to date (such as tetanus) and pursue the additional recommended travel vaccines.

- Please consult your doctor and visit the Center for Disease Control Website for more information on recommended vaccines.  
[www.cdc.gov/travel/](http://www.cdc.gov/travel/)

## Emergency Contact Information

YWAM San Diego/Baja  
1888 YWAM BAJA or 619-420-1900

Jim Seaton  
425-760-9584

Josh Govert  
971-533-5698

## Fundraising

Fundraising is an important part of each of our journeys. Each of us has the opportunity to trust God for financial provision for our trip. God provides in many ways and often in different ways at different times. Our part is to say YES to him and to be diligent and faithful in what he asks us to do. Since relationships are fundamental to how God has chosen to work in our world, provision usually flows through relationships. In light of this, we will not be doing official team fundraisers, but you are encouraged to partner with other team members in order to pursue creative fundraising options. Remember, God has given you a unique sphere of influence and relationship!

### Support Letters:

- In your letter, tell what we are going to be doing and your need. Invite people to partner with you financially and through prayer. You can also let them know that you are available to hire for odd jobs in order to raise funds for your trip.
- For tax deduction checks must be payable to Stanwood Foursquare Church, with "Mexico Men's Team 2024" on the memo line. Your name must not appear on the check.
- Have all checks returned to YOU. Do not have any checks placed in the offering.
- Please send letters to no more than 5 people who attend Stanwood Foursquare so that our church is not oversaturated. Please focus on your unique circles of relationship and influence.

### Other Fundraising Ideas:

- Yard Work, garage sales, housesitting, selling items on Buy, Sell Swap

## Making a Deposit

In order to make sure those partnering with you financially are able to receive a tax deduction and that you get credited with all donations please carefully follow these steps when you deposit any funds for the trip.

1. Make sure every check is made out to STANWOOD FOURSQUARE CHURCH
2. Make sure every check has "Mexico Men's Team 2024" in the memo line

## Getting Spiritually Ready for Departure

As a team we are working hard to get all the physical aspects of our trip prepared, but it is essential that we do not forget to prepare spiritually as well. As the Scriptures tell us, our battle is a spiritual one, so we must be intentional to prepare spiritually. The good news is that this battle has already been won!

There are four simple ways that we are going to focus our spiritual preparation.

### 1. **Prayer Support.**

There is a small group of us going on this particular trip to Ensenada but we are part of a much greater team! There are many in our congregation and our lives who are called to join our team by prayer for us, our time in the village, and the village itself. Please ask at least three people to commit to pray intentionally for you while we are traveling.

### 2. **God's Word.**

God's Word is true and powerful. It guides us, shapes us, teaches us, and helps us to discern. As a team we will spend time in God's Word daily on our trip inviting it to speak to us individually and as a team.

### 3. **Worship.**

As we worship God's ways are invited to be built in us and extended through us. We will worship daily as a team. It will help each of us put our attention on God and keep it there.

### 4. **Knowing Our Identity in Christ.**

Entering a new context can be scary and overwhelming at times. It is at these moments that it is absolutely essential for us to remember who the Bible says we are. A great way to prepare for our trip is to spend time regularly remembering who we are in Jesus. Here is a short list to get you started.

- I am God's child. (John 1:12)
- I have been chosen by God and adopted as His child. (Eph. 1:3-8)
- I have been redeemed and forgiven of all my sins. (Col. 1:13-14)
- I am confident that God will complete the good work He started in me. (Phil. 1:6)
- I have not been given a spirit of fear but of power, love, and a sound mind. (2 Tim. 1:7)

# WHEN YOU ARE THERE

## Communication, Promises, and Gifts

We always want to begin with relationship. It can seem like a good idea to give gifts to individuals we get to know or who help with the build. However, unintentionally this can communicate something different than we intend or create jealousy amongst those we work with. Thus, we will give everything as a group (home, furnishings etc.) with the help and direction of the Homes of Hope Staff.

Please do not give anything directly to an individual. If you have any questions, please speak to the team leader.

Also, please never promise anything. Making promises across cultures is very troublesome. It is possible to make a promise without even knowing it, so do not say anything that is anywhere close to a promise. Remember, it is always better to under-promise and over-deliver.

## Staying Healthy

Travel to the Mexico and staying in the country is physically strenuous and at times emotionally challenging. We will experience many wonderful new things, but we will also be exposed to some germs and weather to which we are not accustomed. Consequently, it is important for us to follow these guidelines in order to stay healthy during our trip.

- Use purified water
  - When brushing your teeth.
  - When drinking water.
- Make sure ice is made from purified water (usually purified ice has a hole in it).
- Keep your mouth closed while showering.
- Drink lots of water.

Dehydration happens quickly. It is one of the easiest ways to get sick on our trip. Remember to utilize electrolyte powders (such as Gatorade) since just drinking water might not be sufficient to avoid dehydration.
- Keep eating even when you do not feel like it.
- Use bug spray.
- Use Sunscreen. The sun is stronger than we are used to and you will burn quickly!

# Safety

## Travel Safety Guidelines

- Pay careful attention to the instructions given to the group and remember that traveling in a group is different than traveling with your family.
- Stay with the group. Never go anywhere alone.
- Only leave the YWAM base with an adult leader.

## Safety Roles for Each Building Participant

### Adults:

- Your safety; your children's safety.
- One parent is required to teach the Safety Guidelines to all your children and work alongside any child under 14
- Set an example for all—it is expected and ok for you to intercede tactfully when you see others of any age working in an unsafe manner.

### Youth 16-18 Years:

- Know all safety rules
- Only operate power tools when parents give approval, when you have been specifically assigned to and trained on, and ONLY when you are under adult supervision.

### Youth 12-15 years old:

- Know all safety rules
- DO NOT OPERATE ANY POWER CUTTING TOOLS (drill ok)
- Work alongside at least one parent or assigned adult at all times.

### Youth under 12 years old:

- Know all safety rules
- DO NOT OPERATE ANY POWER TOOLS
- DO NOT GET ON ROOF
- Work alongside one of your leaders at all times

## Worksite Safety Guidelines

1. Only operate power tools you have been specifically assigned to or trained for
2. Use safe lifting/carrying techniques
  - a. Lift with your knees, not your back
  - b. When carrying long or awkward objects, have a helper assist you and carry the object by the ends to avoid accidents.

## Power Tool Safety

- Never wear gloves, loose jewelry, clothing or long, loose hair while operating power tools—they may get caught in the power tools and pull you into dangers
- Always wear safety glasses
- 
- Know what is on the other side of what you are cutting or drilling—if you can't see, check and assign someone to monitor the other side  
Use only the "Sawsall" reciprocating cutter to cut out the windows of upright walls—the circular saw poses too much danger when used to cut out windows.
- Stop using any power tool that is missing guards, is dull, or has frayed electrical parts

## Chop Saw Safety

- TRAINED ADULTS ONLY
- Never cross your hands in front of a moving blade
- Wait until the blade comes to a stop before moving your hands or the work piece
- Wear safety glasses
- Do not wear gloves, loose jewelry, loose hair or loose clothing

## "Skill Saw" (Circular Saw) and "Sawsall" (Reciprocating Saw) Safety:

- TRAINED ADULTS ONLY
- Never cut objects laying on the ground—saw may snag on the ground and "run away" from you
- Use only sharp blades
- Never cut something you cannot have monitored on the opposite side
- Wear safety glasses

# WHAT TO BRING

## Airline Luggage Allowance

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| One personal item | 36 in (total dimensions)<br>(purse, backpack, laptop case)                      |
| One carry-on bag  | 45 in (total dimensions)<br>No larger than 22 in. long, 14 in. wide, 9 in. high |

## Packing List

- Passport (This will be given to you at the airport before departure)
- 2 Copies of your Passport
- Alternate Photo ID (Driver's License)
- Cash for Souvenirs (Crisp, new bills are needed. Small bills are best for shopping.)
- Medical Insurance Card
- Prescription Medications (pack in carry-on luggage)
- Bible
- Journal
- Pens
- Work Clothes: long pants, shorts & t-shirts that can get dirty
- Casual Clothes for the evenings
- Modest Pajamas
- Sweatshirt or Jacket for plane and cooler evenings
- Work Shoes (Closed Toe)
- Sandals or Flip-Flops
- Work Gloves
- Hat or Bandana
- Towel (quick dry recommended)
- Flashlight
- Refillable Water Bottle
- Ear Plugs
- Baby Wipes



- Body Wash, Shampoo and Conditioner, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrush
- Personal Toiletries (Razor, Tweezers, Q-tips)
- Hand Sanitizer
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Camera
- Small Bags for Dirty Laundry

### **Optional Items**

- Cards and Table Games for the Evenings
- Baby Powder
- Cough Drops
- Imodium AD
- Pepto-Bismol
- Allergy Medication
- Anti-Itch Cream
- Tylenol/Advil

### **What Not to Bring**

- Expensive Electronics
- Expensive Jewelry, Large, noticeable Jewelry

## Basic Spanish Phrases

For additional study resources consult the Snohomish County Library Resources Online or [duolingo.com](https://www.duolingo.com) for online lessons (phone app available).

Thank you.

Gracias.

Thank you very much.

Muchas gracias.

You're welcome.

De nada.

Please.

Por favor.

Yes.

Sí.

No.

No.

Excuse me.

Con permiso.

I'm sorry.

Lo siento.

I don't understand.

No entiendo.

Nice to meet you.

Mucho gusto.

I don't speak Spanish very well.

No hablo español muy bien.

What's your name?

¿Cómo se llama? (older)

¿Cómo te llamas? (younger)

My name is \_\_\_\_\_.

Me llamo \_\_\_\_\_

How are you?

¿Cómo está? (respect/older)

¿Cómo estás? (familiar/younger)

Do you speak English?

¿Habla inglés?

How much does that cost?

¿Cuánto cuesta?

Where is the bathroom?

¿Dónde está el baño