

Programa de Reconstrucción Rural (Honduran Partner & Host)

PRR was founded in 1983, as an affiliate of the International Institute for Rural Reconstruction. At the core of PRR's programming is an integrated and holistic approach to socio-economic development that focuses on four core areas: social organization, health, education, and economic improvement. PRR works in over 80 communities in the provinces of Santa Barbara and Comayagua, and is currently serving over 1,200 rural families.

Mujeres en Acción (Guatemalan Partner & Host)

MeA (Women in Action) is a self-governing NGO of more than 900 rural Guatemalan indigenous women. Through education, training and micro-credit loans, it works to increase the productive capacity and self-sufficiency of rural women. With this assistance, women are able to improve their economic situation through agricultural, craft, and commerce projects within their communities.



First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto

We affirm and promote:

- The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
- Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth...
- A free and responsible search for truth and meaning;
- The goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all;
- Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part.

Central America Community Development

Toronto First has worked on development projects in Central America since 1997 with the goal of building understanding between people and improving the social, economic and living conditions in the poorest areas.

175 St. Clair Ave. W., Toronto, Ontario M4V 1P7
(416) 924-9654

www.firstunitarianontario.org
→ outreach & denomination
→ Central America project

World Accord

World Accord is a human resource and community development NGO, located in Waterloo, Ontario. Since 1980, World Accord has provided programs, which allow the poor in the developing world to break the cycle of poverty through their own efforts. World Accord works at the grass roots level through partnerships with, and under the direction of, indigenous NGO's, facilitating local solutions to local problems in eight countries. Major Canadian funding partners include CIDA, the World Hunger Fund and the Wild Rose Foundation of Alberta.

World Accord has been sponsoring Construction Expeditions since 1995.

Charitable Registration Number 11883 6030 RR0001

For additional information or questions:
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Office

World Accord
185 Frobisher Drive, Waterloo, Ont. N2V 2E6
(519) 747-2215 or 1-800-525-3545
www.worldaccord.org
E-mail: waccord@worldaccord.org

Mission Statement: "World Accord brings people together. Affirming the sacred worth and dignity of each person, we respond as partners to opportunities that nurture the basic wellbeing of all."



World Accord's **Construction Expeditions**

2008/9



In partnership with
First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto

Central America Community Development

People grow through experience if they meet life honestly
and courageously ~ Eleanor Roosevelt

Application

Passport: First Name _____ Last _____
First Name (you like to be called) _____
Address _____
City & Prov _____ PC _____
Phones: Home (____) _____
Bus: (____) _____
E-mail Address _____
(ask a friend if you don't have one) _____
Gender _____ Birth Date _____
Frequent Flier #: Delta Airlines _____
American _____ Continental _____

Trip Request: 2008 - 2009

- 2008** November 1 – 15 -- Honduras
 2009 ~~January 17 – 31 – Honduras~~ (full)
 February 7 – 21 -- Honduras
 March 7 – 21 – Guatemala
 March 13 – 23 -- Honduras (tentative)
 I would like to travel independently before or after the Construction Expedition

Emergency contact in Canada

Name _____

Relationship _____ Phone (____) _____

Describe your skills and experience

Spanish language _____

Construction _____

Other (e.g., musical, photography): _____

Special dietary requirement _____

Yes, I want to be part of this Construction Expedition and will carry out-of-country medical insurance for the duration of my trip. My deposit of \$1,000 accompanies this application or has been submitted separately. I will ensure that the total cost of \$3,000* is submitted at least two weeks prior to my departure.

Signature _____

If you are under 18: Name of guardian

who will be travelling with you _____

Guardian's Signature _____

Parent's Signature (approval to travel) _____

Mail your application & deposit cheque to:
World Accord 185 Frobisher Drive, Waterloo, Ontario N2V 2E6

Building a Better Life

The campesino (peasant) farmers of west-central Honduras have been working hard to improve life for their families. They recognize the important role education plays in their children's future. New and expanded schools will improve the quality of education currently available and add opportunities for more children to attend.

The community of Chichoy, Guatemala was devastated by Hurricane Stan in October 2005. Now the people are rebuilding their lives, community, roads and water system. The purchase of property by Mujeres en Acción, our Guatemalan partner, will allow 16 families to build new homes.

Projects in 2008 - 9

Help build Schools in the Lago de Yojoa region of Honduras or a house in Chichoy, Guatemala

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Highlights, according to past travellers

- Living and working in community with team members and local volunteers
- An adventure that includes service to others
- Delicious indigenous food
- A weekend excursion to the ancient Mayan city of Copan or beautiful Lago de Atitlán.
- An opportunity to learn and speak a little Spanish

Teams

Each team will consist of about 12 people drawn from across Canada who will work together with local volunteers. While construction experience and Spanish language skills would be assets, neither is required: both are welcome.

Anyone in reasonably good health, willing to do physical labour for about 7 hours a day is welcome: men and women, 18 to 75+ (youth under 18 must travel with a parent or guardian). Volunteers will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis.

Construction

Construction will be carried out under the direction of a local foreman using local methods and materials: cement block and reinforced concrete. The work will be manual. Skills will be taught as required.

Working and Living Conditions

The work is like heavy-duty, spring yard work or do-it-yourself renovations, requiring some stamina. Team members are asked to pace themselves as necessary. Billeting will be at the head-quarters of our local partners. Local women trained in safe food handling practices will provide tasty and hearty meals. All drinking and cooking water is bottled. There are warm showers.

Medical

Medical assistance is available locally. All travellers must have out-of-country medical coverage.

Weather

Temperatures will be moderate: 70-85⁰F (22-29⁰C) with nights as cool as 45-50⁰F (7-10⁰C).

Commitments

As a role model for the local people and a courtesy to other team members, participants are requested to abstain from consuming alcohol, tobacco and illegal drugs during these trips.

Cost

Each trip costs \$3,000/person including airfare (Toronto departure), billeting, food and transportation in Central America, and a contribution for construction materials. There may be additional costs for departures from other cities, airline fuel surcharges or late bookings that will be confirmed with participants prior to buying plane tickets.

Participants are encouraged to raise donations from friends, families and colleagues. Previous travellers have found that many people are pleased to be asked to participate by contributing toward the cost of construction materials. Each traveler should target at raising a minimum of \$800 (included in \$3,000 above). We will help with effective fund raising ideas. Receipts for income tax purposes will be issued in accordance with Canada Revenue Agency guidelines.

Other Costs

Other costs that may be incurred include: out of country medical insurance, immunizations, camera, film, souvenirs and passports.

Applications

Additional applications are available through the World Accord office or web site. Completed applications along with a \$1,000 non-refundable deposit should be sent to World Accord in Waterloo. All travellers will receive a detailed Handbook.