



FEB. 23-28, 2020

PEACE & RECONCILIATION USA/MEXICO BORDER

Registration Deadline: December 1st, 2019

Does your heart ache for the thousands of people who are lining up at the US/Mexican border seeking refuge from violence, persecution, and gangs back in their home countries? As part of Overlake's mission to pursue peace and reconciliation, we are feeling called as a church to respond. It is our desire to be able to send a team down to the border to help local churches and organizations ministering to asylum seeking and refugee families. We have decided to partner with an organization called Border Perspective borderperspective.org who is working along the Texas border near McAllen. With the continual shifting of policies around immigration, and how that relates to asylum seekers, the needs along the border are constantly in flux, so be ready to be adaptable! Please Note: There is a good possibility we will be serving on both the US & Mexican sides of the border.

LOGISTICS

All flights, accommodations and transportation will be arranged by Overlake. You can expect to stay in churches. Food will either be prepared by some of the locals or eaten in restaurants.

Learn:

One of the primary goals of this trip is for us to see with our own eyes exactly what is going on at the border and to gain a better understanding as to the complexity of immigration on the border. We will help you step into another culture, hear the important stories, and hopefully walk away with a greater vision as your personal role and the church's role in peace & reconciliation at the border and beyond.

Serve:

Our desire is to serve the local immigrant church and organizations that are ministering to refugee and asylum seeking families. This may include volunteering at the local immigrant shelter, distributing food, or preparing meals for families in need.

Apply:

Our biggest challenge for each participant is for you to reflect on how God wants to use what you have learned to bring peace to your own community back home.

**Inquire or Apply
Now!**

LauraA@occ.org

occ.org/teams

PREPARATION

"I've never joined a mission trip before. I have no idea what to expect. In fact, I have never even travelled outside of the US!" We recognize that joining a mission trip can feel a little intimidating! Let us put your mind at ease, we are committed to help train and equip you for this experience. You don't need any special qualifications, other than to show up and love people. However, in order for you to get the most out of your experience, the following are some requests we will ask of you.

Training Meetings: There will be around 6 training meetings that we expect all team members to commit to attend. These are vitally important to your preparation and the preparation of the team!

Prayer Team: We ask that every team member build a prayer team of around 5-7 people who will commit to pray for you and the team.

Financial Team: We do not expect for you to pay for your trip all on your own, but we invite you to seek financial partnerships with family and friends. We will train you on how to do this.

Openness: Lastly we ask all team members to come in as a learner and seek to humbly serve. We desire that you be willing to open your heart to be able to hear and respond to God's work in your life. Keep in mind, the most important thing may not be the trip itself, but how God wants you to live as a result of your experience.



"If you spend yourselves in behalf of the hungry and satisfy the needs of the oppressed, then your light will rise in the darkness, and your night will become like the noonday." -Isaiah 58:10



Total Cost:
\$600 plus airfare
(Rough Estimation)

Trip Fee Includes:
Travel Insurance
Accommodations & Meals
Daily Transportation
Ministry Expenses

Does Not Include:
Passport Fees
Immunizations
Meals in Airport
Personal Spending Money

Payment Deadlines:

\$200 Deposit Due
with application

Airfare Cost Due
3 months prior to departure

Final Payment Due
1 month prior to departure

Where to Make Payments:

Payments can be made online at occ.org/stw-donate/. Select "Mission Trips & Projects" then select "USA/Mexico Border" or via check made out to OCC.