

Srta Hawkins Squad VOLUNTEER & CULTURAL IMMERSION PROGRAM TO GUATEMALA JUNE 14-22, 2020

DAY 1: GROUP ARRIVAL + TECPAN ORIENTATION

Arrive in La Aurora International Airport in Guatemala City, where friendly staff members greet you and transport the group 1.5 hours to the rural modern Maya community of Tecpán. Our Guatemala Director provides a colorful introduction and orientation. Time providing take a walking tour of the community, enjoy a scavenger hunt and start prepare lesson plans for the weeks of volunteering ahead.

DAYS 2-6: GLOBAL EDUCATION PROJECTS

Over the course of the next couple weeks in the mornings from 8:30-12:30, your group will be matched with a school to improve educational outcomes through classroom support and impact projects. In addition to providing valuable tutoring and lessons in the classroom each day, the group will experience the tangible accomplishment of much needed small construction projects to better infrastructure in the school. Participate in conversation groups and recreate with the students each day.

AFTERNOON CULTURAL ACTIVITIES – Each afternoon the group will engage in guided cultural activities, educational workshops and excursions in the area. Visit a rural family farm and learn local agriculture and visit a rural home to make traditional pottery. Take a guided tour of the impressive Maya ruins at nearby lximche Archeological Park and participate in a Shaman ceremony. Engage in Kachiquel and Spanish lessons and learn about local history and culture with guest speakers.



22+ YEARS OF THE SAFEST AND HIGHEST QUALITY STUDENT GROUP VOLUNTEER TRIPS

HOME-BASE ACCOMMODATIONS

At the Home-Base, you'll enjoy authentic local cuisine, connect with staff, and enjoy your downtime. Volunteers stay in same-sex rooms with private bathrooms. One room accommodates 4-6 people. Private rooms for teachers /chaperones are typical.

STAFFING

Our incredible team will be on call to support you every step of the way —including our Country Director and expertly-trained cooks, security guards, house managers, and drivers. A leader will be assigned to the group at all times.

COMMUNICATION

Our staff can be reached 24/7 in the event of an emergency. Students will have the opportunity to access the internet and landlines for set periods of time on most evenings. Trip updates may be posted on our blog for friends and family to follow along.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Individual Program Contribution includes all incountry expenses, including meals, lodging, transport, scheduled activities, staffing, travel medical insurance, and volunteer project support. Squads requires a minimum of one teacher/chaperone for every nine students enrolled. One free chaperone is provided with 5 or more, two free with 6-16, and 3 free for 17 or more students. Airfare not included but may be provided and included in the price upon request. Baggage fees for group flight not included.

DAY 7-8: LAKE ATITLAN + ANTIGUA EXCURSIONS

On the weekend enjoy full-day excursions to Lake Atitlan and Antigua. Travel one hour from Tecpan to Panajachel on the northeast shore of Lake Atitlan. Explore the bustling artisan markets and take a private boat tour across the lake to the small Maya village of San Pedro where the group will visit local artisans who provide experiential workshops on weaving and medicinal plants. Return to Panajachel and the home-base for a final dinner and closing ceremony. On Sunday transport to the World Heritage colonial city of Antigua. Enjoy a guided historical tour of Antigua and the many colorful markets and an amazing Guatemalan meal.

DAY 9: PROGRAM CLOSURE + RETURN HOME

After two amazing weeks in Guatemala embark on a return flight home! Friends and family will love to hear of the many exciting stories of the friendships and discoveries you made in Guatemala!



PROGRAM CONTRIBUTIONS, DUE DATES, AND HOW TO ENROLL

Individual Program Contribution: \$1390 per student not including roundtrip airfare, tbd
Group Project Contribution: \$1500 as a group towards the host enrichment project.
Due Dates: Application & \$350 deposit due December 31, 2019, balance due 60 days prior
How to Enroll: Online @ https://www.empowered.org/Srta-Hawkins-Squad

www.squads.ngo Communicate with our Director of School Group Programs, Erik Werner @ ewerner@squads.ngo or 559-761-0351