



# Sierra Service Project Honduras

## 2010 Project Information

Since 2003, Sierra Service Project has sent teams of volunteers to Honduras, one of the poorest countries in the Americas. Our volunteers are in Honduras **to serve and to learn**. They are immersed in the culture, live in a small community, learn together and serve alongside Hondurans. In total, SSP has constructed 28 houses in Honduras. In addition to the home building work, which is done with Honduran families and community members, volunteers will visit a school, factory, health center and social organizations working on behalf of the poor in Honduras.

### Join Us In 2010!

<u>Session 1:</u>	<b>Departure Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday, June 23, 2010</b>	<b>Return Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday, July 7, 2010</b>
Team 1A Leader: To Be Announced	<b>Talanga</b>	Talanga is a mid-sized agricultural town located about two hours by bus from Tegucigalpa. With few paved streets, bicycles and horses are more common in Talanga than cars! The team will stay at the local hotel and eat Honduran meals at the local United Methodist Church.		
<u>Session 2:</u>	<b>Departure Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday, July 14, 2010</b>	<b>Return Date:</b>	<b>Wednesday, July 28, 2010</b>
Team 2A <i>(Special Service-Learning Session Available for College Credit!)</i> Leader: Rev. Kathleen Day	<b>Danli and La Jagua</b>	Danli is a mid-size Honduran town located about 2 hours from Tegucigalpa. The team will be housed in a local church in Danli and will eat meals prepared by Honduran cooks. One house will be built in Danli and the other in nearby La Jagua, a small farming village.  This is a special session intended for college students. It is available for one unit of college credit from Northern Arizona University (NAU). Participants interested in obtaining college credit must register through the university. Please call our office for information on this option and visit NAU's website: ( <a href="http://international.nau.edu/education_abroad/honduras/day.html">http://international.nau.edu/education_abroad/honduras/day.html</a> )		
Team 2B Leader: Rev. Beth Rambikur	<b>Fuerzas Unidas, Tegucigalpa</b>	Fuerzas Unidas is an urban community on the outskirts of Tegucigalpa, Honduras' capital. It is a teaming community with a thriving United Methodist Church. SSP Honduras has a long history of work in this community. We will stay in a small, simple hotel in the city and commute daily to Fuerzas Unidas. This session will include an overnight trip to Danli, located in the countryside about two hours from Tegucigalpa.		



### **Leadership**

SSP Honduras employs an experienced bilingual staff. This team is co-led by Laura Rambikur and Luis Rios Valle. Laura has worked in Honduras for three summers and has a degree in Spanish Language Instruction. Luis is a fully bilingual Honduran and has extensive experience working as a translator for mission teams. Two additional translators will join Laura and Luis.

### **Orientation**

Upon arrival in Honduras, the groups will undergo a one-day orientation and teambuilding session at a retreat center. This orientation will prepare you for your time in Honduras and enable you to get to know all your teammates and fellow volunteers.

### **Construction**

Team members will work side by side with family members and others from the community to build two simple, but safe, dry and secure brick dwellings. Nearly all of the work is done by hand. This includes moving bricks, sand and water. You will also mix mortar and dig and pour footings. It's hard, sweaty work! SSP participants are guided by and work alongside a few skilled Honduran workers.



### **Cultural Immersion and Education Activities**

In order to more fully understand Honduras, teams will take part in a number of cultural and education activities. These will include visits to organizations providing ministries of service to the poor. In the past, we have visited a self-help ministry for former street prostitutes, a



center for street children, a human rights organization and a group championing the rights of women. We also take a tour of a factory, visit a Honduran elementary school and visit a Centro de Salud – a local primary care health clinic. Much of our cultural interaction occurs on the worksite and at church, however. The groups will attend church on Sundays with our Honduran hosts and will spend time with Honduran youth before and after church. This has proven to be one of the most significant and enjoyable parts of the experience – simply sharing time with Honduran

children and youth, playing soccer and other games, or just talking.

### **The Benefits of International Mission Experiences**

An international service and study experience offers an unparalleled opportunity for spiritual growth, maturation and education for young people. With our Honduras Project, SSP provides an intense, third-world immersion experience. Our goal is to provide youth from the United States the opportunity to act out their Christian faith by working in solidarity with poor and marginalized communities in Honduras. Educational, cultural and worship activities provide an eye-opening window for participants to understand the third-world reality of Honduras and see the impact that Christian community and service can have. These trips bring inspiration and consciousness for personal and social change upon our return to the United States.

### Who Can Attend

This project is open to high school juniors and seniors and college-age young adults. Some knowledge of Spanish is helpful but not necessary. Each team has 10 to 12 members, plus an experienced adult who serves as team leader. Because our Honduras programs entail 14 days in a foreign country, team members need to be mature, in good health and very good at working with others. All participants **must have** prior service project experience, a recommendation from a youth leader and be capable of doing hard, physical labor. Youth register for this project as individuals, not groups.

### Passport and Visa Requirements

A valid passport is required for entry into Honduras. There is no visa requirement for holders of a U.S. passport. Minors must have an affidavit signed by both of their parents giving permission to enter and leave the country.

### Cost: \$1,800

Cost includes airfare to and from Los Angeles, California, and includes all meals, lodging and transportation within Honduras. For individuals from outside of the West Coast who will want to depart from Houston or another US city, we can make suitable arrangements.

**Sierra Service Project  
2010 Honduras Program Locations**

The map displays Honduras and its neighboring countries: Belize to the north, Guatemala to the west, El Salvador to the southwest, and Nicaragua to the south. Major cities and towns are marked, including Tegucigalpa, San Pedro Sula, La Ceiba, and Puerto Lempira. Three callout boxes provide specific location details:

- Talanga:** Located about an hour from Tegucigalpa, Talanga is the center of a large valley devoted mostly to cattle ranchers.
- Fuerzas Unidas:** Fuerzas Unidas is a crowded, bustling community built on a steep hillside overlooking the city of Tegucigalpa.
- Danli:** Danli is a mid-size city in the center of an agricultural region.

At the bottom of the map, contact information for the Sierra Service Project is provided: P.O. Box 992 Carmichael, CA 95609, www.sierraserviceproject.org, and 916.488.6441.

## Tentative Schedule

What will your two weeks in Honduras be like on a day-to-day basis? The itinerary for each of the teams will be slightly different. As you can see, this is a jam-packed, exciting schedule! Unless there is another activity scheduled, each evening will include a brief time of reflection and sharing.

	<b>Team Talanga</b>	<b>Team Danli</b>	<b>Team Fuerzas Unidas</b>
Wednesday	Depart US after safety orientation.	Depart US after safety orientation.	Depart US after safety orientation.
Thursday	Arrive in Tegucigalpa. Visit Picacho overlook site and lunch at restaurant. Travel to Talanga. Rest time. Dinner followed by in-depth orientation session.	Arrive in Tegucigalpa. Visit Picacho overlook site and lunch at restaurant. Travel to local retreat center. Rest time. Dinner followed by in-depth orientation session.	Arrive in Tegucigalpa. Visit Picacho overlook site and lunch at restaurant. Travel to local retreat center. Rest time. Dinner followed by in-depth orientation session.
Friday	Work day.	Travel to Danli after breakfast. Work in afternoon	Work day.
Saturday	Work in morning. Rest, recreation and education visit in afternoon.	Work in morning. Visit Casa de Cultura in El Paraiso in afternoon. Attend church service in evening.	Work in morning. Education visit or tour of city in the afternoon.
Sunday	Rest day. Attend church.	Visit La Jagua in morning. Soccer match with youth in La Jagua.	Recreation with youth in Fuerzas Unidas and community lunch. Worship in afternoon at Fuerzas Unidas church.
Monday	Work day.	Work day.	Work day
Tuesday	Work day.	Work day.	Work day
Wednesday	Work day.	Work day	Educational and cultural visits in Tegucigalpa.
Thursday	Visit Tegucigalpa for education and cultural activities. Return for dinner in Talanga.	Take public bus for day of educational visits in Tegucigalpa. Return for dinner in Danli.	Work day.
Friday	Work day.	Work day.	Work day.
Saturday	Work in morning. Rest, recreation and education visit in afternoon.	Work in morning. Team from Fuerzas Unidas arrives in afternoon. Dinner with Fuerzas Unidas team. Attend evening worship service.	Work in morning. Following lunch, take public bus to Danli. Dinner and sharing with Danli team. Attend evening worship service and overnight with Danli team.
Sunday	Visit Valle de Angeles (crafts center). Attend church in afternoon.	Travel by bus to Valle de Angeles artisan center. Visit Fuerzas Unidas in afternoon. Return to Danli for dinner.	Travel by bus to Valle de Angeles artisan center. Return to Fuerzas Unidas in afternoon.
Monday	Work day.	Work day.	Work day.
Tuesday	Full or half work day. Despedida (farewell party). Closing worship.	Work day. Despedidas (Farewell parties) in Danli and La Jagua. Closing worship.	Work day. Despedida (farewell party) and closing worship.
Wednesday	Depart Tegucigalpa. Participants will be met at airport in the US by an SSP staffer.	Depart Tegucigalpa. Participants will be met at airport in the US by an SSP staffer.	Depart Tegucigalpa. Participants will be met at airport in the US by an SSP staffer.