

PANAMA MISSION TRIP FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Who can go?

- Adults and students. Under age 18 with a parent or guardian. Medical and non-medical.

What is the cost of the trip?

- Trip cost is set each year based on airfare estimates.
- The 2026 trip is \$1,900.

What is included in the trip cost?

- airfare, ground transportation, trip insurance, lodging, in-country meals, translators, and supplies

What is not included in the trip cost?

- passport
- clearances
- airport meals
- excursion day meals and activities
- souvenirs

When is money due?

- \$100 due with registration
- 50% due 3 months before departure
- 100% due 6 weeks before departure

What is the refund policy?

- Your \$100 deposit is refundable.
- Money donated to Charter Oak Church beyond the \$100 deposit is not refundable.

How much spending money should I bring?

- We recommend bringing \$200 in small bills, nothing larger than \$10s.

Do I need to exchange my money?

- No. US dollars are widely accepted in Panama.

What documents do I need to travel?

- US citizens need a US passport that is valid for 6 months after the trip.

What immunizations do I need?

- Be up to date on standard shots, including tetanus.

Do I need to speak Spanish?

- No. Translators are available.

How can I raise money for my trip?

- We will talk about this at the first pre-trip meeting. We encourage you to write support letters, and we will provide a sample letter.

What are senders?

- Senders are people called by God to support your trip through prayer, financial gifts, supplies, and other forms of encouragement.

What if I cannot come to the pre-trip meetings?

- The meetings are mandatory. Talk to the missions manager in advance about conflicts. Missing more than one meeting may result in removal from the team without a refund.

Where do we stay?

- We stay in Panama City in a hotel that has air conditioning, a café, and a swimming pool.

How do we get around in Panama?

- The missionaries arrange our transportation which may include bus, flatboat, or canoe to reach deep jungle villages, remote mountain villages, or the inner city of Panama City.

What do we do?

- Our team supports long-term missionaries, David and Marienella Bueno, in their work among the forgotten indigenous people groups of Panama, through medical care and evangelism.
- Opportunities may include:
 - Medical: triage, pharmacy, clinician, runner
 - Adult evangelism: sharing Jesus through conversation and your testimony
 - Child evangelism: sharing Jesus through fun activities like sports, games, and crafts
 - Praying with locals
 - Delivering food to people experiencing homelessness
 - Worship at a local church
 - A fun excursion

What should I take?

- We will provide a packing list.
- Bring a heart submitted to the Lord, eyes open to His glory, the humble posture of a learner, and a lot of flexibility!