

CHCA Intercession 2020

January 6-17, 2020

Course Description for: *Querétaro, Mexico Service Immersion*

Instructor(s): Karen Hordinski, Hannah Frank Cisneros, Male chaperone TBA	
Course Type: International	Service Hours: 30+
Maximum enrollment: 18	Minimum enrollment: 10
Length of trip (if applicable): 8 days	7 nights
Cost:	\$1800

Overview:

The city of Querétaro is in the heart of Mexico. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Querétaro will provide a vibrant, safe, and cultural environment for our group to serve, learn, and encounter God. We will immerse ourselves in the local culture, including spending time with indigenous peoples, visiting a pyramid, and shopping in a local market. And don't forget food! We'll enjoy tacos, baked goods, and more!

Course Goals:

- Students will volunteer with and learn from the children at Pan de Vida Children's home
- Student volunteers will do service work to improve the facilities and grounds at Pan de Vida
- Students will volunteer with additional NGOs (nonprofits) in Querétaro including local indigenous artists.
- Students will visit and learn about the Otomí people.
- Students will have the opportunity to worship and have daily devotions and debriefing on their experience.
- Students will visit a pyramid, local markets, and experience local culture, food, and music.

Reading Component: Select articles about service, identity, and culture in Mexico

Writing Component: Daily Journal and Reflection Project

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Description:

Querétaro is known for its well-preserved Spanish colonial architecture, but in addition to all of its beauty, there are abused and abandoned children who have found a home at Pan de Vida. This Christian ministry started in 2006 by a Canadian couple who responded to the needs of children they met while visiting central Mexico. CHCA alumna, Hannah Frank Cisneros, spent a year teaching English in Querétaro. Ms. Frank Cisneros will assist our group on the trip.

We will live and serve at Pan de Vida, explore other nonprofits, and enjoy the beauty and adventure of this charming city. One day we will learn alongside the indigenous Otomí people. We will spend a day or more sightseeing, including a trip to a pyramid, visiting and shopping in open markets, and hopefully working with local artisans.

Sample of daily plan:

7:00 am wake up/ breakfast

8:00 am devotions as a group

8:30- am begin first service project of the day at Pan de Vida – or- work with children in schools/children’s home

12:00 pm lunch

1:45 pm - begin service project – or- work with children in schools/children’s home (days will vary)

4:30 pm – clean up, free time at dorm

5:45-8:30 dinner, visit arts/music plazas, other sightseeing, or playing with kids

8:45 pm Evening debrief, prayer

9:30pm – Free time in group activity room/lodging

10:30 pm lights out

1-2 days will include off site volunteering and touring at other nonprofits, which may include Fundacion Merced and Derive Lab. We may also enjoy the opportunity to visit local families in their homes for dinner.

1 day will be set aside for sightseeing, in addition to opportunities presented throughout the week.

This course is well suited to: Students who enjoy serving, working with children, hands on projects, adventure and learning about new cultures,

Cost: \$1800

Additional costs: Money for souvenirs, possible meals in airports depending on flights (\$10-15 each). Small Cincinnati themed gift for a local family.

Other Information:

Please note students will participate in volunteer work around the children’s home. Please do not select this trip if you are opposed to your student using lawn and general household tools or painting products. A separate power tool waiver will also be signed online designating which power tools your student may use.

International travel - Students will need a passport for International travel. Passports cannot expire before July 18, 2020.