

## Puerto Rico Mission Trip Information

### **Trip Objective and Mission:**

Downtown Presbyterian Church is partnering with Hunger Corp for a one-week trip in Dorado, Puerto Rico. The 2024 Puerto Rico Team from DPC will assist in poverty relief and development through community engagement and construction work. Our three goals are to **encourage** local believers and ministry leaders with whom we come in contact, **grow** in our understanding of poverty and the ways God is at work, and **serve** alongside other Christians who are bringing the love of Christ to their communities.

All DPC members that are interested are encouraged to apply. If you are in 7th-12th grade, this trip is for you too! But you will need to apply with at least one parent who will go with you on the trip. **This trip is intentionally organized so that families are able to serve together; however, it is not just for families.**

### **General Trip Itinerary:**

Saturday, July 6: Travel day

- Airline travel is reserved for you through United Airlines and is included in the trip cost—travel itinerary is listed below
- Arrive in SJU, where we are picked up and brought to our lodging in Dorado

Sunday, July 7:

- Worship at Trinity Church, Puerto Rico or Iglesia La Travesía
- Visit Old San Juan
- Meals in Old San Juan and Dorado

Monday—Wednesday, July 8-10: Service days

- 8:30am-4:00pm Work Schedule
- Meals on site and at lodging

Thursday, July 11: Service and beach day

- 8:00am-1:00pm Work Schedule
- Visit a local beach in the afternoon

Friday, July 12: Travel day - Return to Greenville, SC

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**Flight Itinerary:** (example)

Saturday, July 6

AA 2150

Depart CLT 11:00am

Arrive SJU 2:43pm

Friday, July 12

AA 1847

Depart SJU 8:44am

Arrive CLT 12:30pm

**Lodging:**

The team will be staying in downtown Dorado in three small hostels, located on the same block. Each hostel will have 10-12 people, and family units will be able to stay together in the same hostel. Sleeping arrangements are bunk beds, with linens and towels provided. The rooms have air-conditioning.

**Trip Cost:**

The total cost per person for the trip is \$1,600. This cost includes airfare, lodging, meals, ministry work, as well as a day at the beach. Fundraising is encouraged and is an integral part of being sent on a mission trip. The cost breakdown is as follows:

ITEM	ANTICIPATED COST
Flights and bags	\$600
Room and board, transportation	\$825
Miscellaneous meals, travel	\$175
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1600</b>

**Fundraising:**

Every team member is expected to build a prayer team of at least 3 individuals, and this team might include financial donors as well.

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The Missions Committee will also be fundraising for additional trip costs. Some of these funds can be distributed to individuals who need additional support. Any team member is welcome to request additional funds as DPC does not want finances to be the reason someone does not go on this trip. If you would like to make a request for additional funds from the Missions Committee, contact Jeff Heiser at [jheiser@downtownpres.org](mailto:jheiser@downtownpres.org).

**Payment Timeline:** all payments are tax-deductible

Due at registration: \$100 (non-refundable)  
Due April 30: 50% of remaining balance, \$750  
Due May 31: remaining balance, \$750  
Total payment: \$1,600

**Short Term Missions Training:**

Part of your commitment to growth on this trip is participation in three STM training sessions prior to departure. You are expected to attend all three of these trainings. They will be 8:30-10:00am one Saturday a month from March to May. These trainings will be focused on a philosophy of STMs and best practices for our trip.

Additionally, during the trip, we will debrief, individually each day, and as a group on the last night of the trip.

**Passports & Travel Documentation:**

To travel and serve in Puerto Rico, a passport is not required. Unless you are a minor, you will need a valid drivers license or ID to board the plane.

**Immunizations:**

Puerto Rico does not require certain vaccines prior to entry. However, the Missions Committee supports the immunizations that are recommended by the Center for Disease Control. Visit the [CDC's website for Puerto Rico](#) to review recommended immunizations prior to travel. Consult with your doctor for further recommendations.

- Vaccinations are not included in the price of the trip.
- Recommended vaccinations for all trips: Hepatitis A and B
- Required vaccinations for all trips: Tetanus/Diphtheria

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**Team Registration:**

Registration will open on October 16th, 2023 at 8:00am and be open through November 15th . There is space on this trip for 32 individuals. The team will be decided no later than November 30th.

Applications can be found at [www.downtownpres.org/stm](http://www.downtownpres.org/stm).