

HAITI Jan 2-10, 2010

Eastern University partnering with Beyond Borders

Quotes from 2009 team:

"I've realized the importance of initiating friendships before preaching the gospel to them, making them more likely to be receptive."

"The trip taught me life lessons of compassion, acceptance and graciousness."

"This project changed my view of missions greatly. I always viewed missions as going to a place with poor people where we can come to help them. We would help these people financially or physically with building construction or developmental projects. This trip taught me that you don't always have to do something extraordinary in order to show others that you have Christ. Just by showing that we want to learn more about their culture by living with them really made a surprisingly strong impact on our group and the group we visited."

Team: A team of 9 will have a student team leader and faculty/staff advisor. The trip is sponsored by Campus Ministries and Beyond Borders (www.beyondborders.net).

Purpose/Work: As Beyond Borders explains, this trip will be "very different from the many work teams and short-term mission groups that frequent Haiti. Participants usually do not give any specific services to the people of Haiti. We do not build churches, teach Sunday school classes, or lead agricultural workshops. We have found that this type of 'service' often fosters a sense of paternalism among the visiting groups. Indeed, this type of giving often inhibits our ability to learn from people the realities of their lives.

Transformational Travel groups spend their time in Haiti learning about the life of Haitian people: their culture, their joy, their hunger, and their suffering. You will also meet expatriates who have spent years working for justice alongside the oppressed. There will be times throughout the week for you to reflect with your group about what you're learning, thinking, and feeling. Participants perform their most important service when they return home by the life choices they make in response to their experience and by sharing what they have learned with others in an effort to promote local and global compassion, justice, and peace."

Lodging/food/travel: The team will be hosted by typical Haitian families in their homes, usually with no electricity or running water. Even without these conveniences you will encounter a level of hospitality that surpasses anything that even the finest hotels offer.

Costs: Approximately \$1800 (\$75 deposit included). The remaining \$1725 will be fundraised as a group, primarily through sending individual support letters. Don't let money keep you from going!

Application process (apply, interview, invite, commit):

1. Read this sheet and the following sample commitment form carefully to familiarize yourself with what the trip is about and what is expected of trip members.
2. *Apply:* Fill out the application and submit it by Wed April 8th. Applying is only the first step and does not commit you to the trip; you should apply even if you are not sure about going!
3. *Interview:* Attend a group interview the week of April 13th (times and locations posted at Walton 1A).
4. *Invite:* Selected applicants will be invited by email to a pre-trip team meeting 10-10:45am on Monday April 20th (location TBA) to review the updated commitment form and fundraising.
5. *Commit:* Decision time! Students then have two weeks (by Mon May 4) to affirm their participation on the trip with a signed commitment form and \$75 non-refundable deposit (checks made out to Eastern).
6. Fundraising letters are due by Mon May 4th.

For more information, email Andy Horvath at ahorvath@eastern.edu

Haiti Missions Trip Application, Jan. 2-10, 2010

APPLICATION DUE BY *wednesday April 8, 2009*. Please campus mail to Andy Horvath or deliver to Walton 1A. Mandatory group interviews will be held the week of April 13th.

Name _____ Birth date _____ Age _____
Home Address _____ City/State/Zip _____
Home Phone _____ Major/Minor _____ Year in school _____
School/Cell Phone _____ Email (Eastern preferred) _____

Certifications

Do you have a valid U.S. Passport? Y/N Exact name (as appears on passport) _____

Have you had a Passport from another country? Y/N Expiration Date _____

Do you speak another language? Y/N Please list: _____

List any special licenses and/or certifications (driving, medical, teaching, etc.):

Experience

Present Employment _____ Work Phone _____

List the two most recent jobs (full or part-time) you held previous to your present employment:

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Dates of Employment</u>	<u>Position/Responsibilities</u>
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Personal Evaluation (Please attach a separate sheet and write a brief paragraph on each)

1. How many credits are you taking in the fall? Briefly describe your involvement with any groups, organizations, camp staffs, teams, committees, etc., whether outside or within Eastern.
2. Please list some of your strengths and weaknesses. How will this trip impact those areas?
3. Describe your Christian journey/testimony.
4. Why do you wish to participate in this mission trip? Have you ever done cross-cultural ministry or work?
5. Describe your views on evangelism and sharing your faith.
6. What role do you see yourself playing on a team? What characteristics would you bring to help develop healthy community?
7. Do you have any ongoing health or medical issues?
8. Do you have any fears, concerns or hesitations about going on this trip?

Recommendation Form

To be completed by an adult personal acquaintance (employer, pastor, teacher, etc.) other than a relative or an Eastern student. Then mail or fax **by Apr 8, 2009** to Andy Horvath, Eastern University, 1300 Eagle Road, St. Davids, PA 19087-3696, fax 610.341.1705.

Student _____ **Evaluator** _____

The individual above has applied for a missions/ministry experience in a cross-cultural situation. The applicant, if selected, would function as a team member participating in the work of Eastern University within the US or abroad. Your thorough evaluation of this applicant will help make this a healthy, positive experience for all involved. Thank you.

1. How long have you known the applicant? Describe your relationship with him/her.
2. Evaluate his/her ability to function within a group or community.
3. Describe his/her Christian development and commitment.
4. What, in your opinion, are his/her strengths and gifts?
5. In what areas does this person have room for growth?
6. Other comments?

Please, check one. I would:

highly recommend *recommend* *recommend with reservation* *not recommend*
this student to participate in this trip.

Signature _____

Phone _____

Address _____

Email _____

Please read this sample carefully. You will receive another copy to sign after invitation to join the team.



STATEMENT OF COMMITMENT EASTERN UNIVERSITY MISSION TRIP PARTICIPANT

Please read, sign and return this form by Monday May 4, 2009 with your \$75 deposit (checks made out to Eastern Univ) to the Office of Service Learning & Campus Ministries (Walton 1A) at Eastern University. It is important that every student wishing to participate in an Eastern University mission trip clearly understand the level of commitment involved in this ministry effort.

1. All participants are **accountable** to the Lord, their team leader, advisor, and the Director of SL&CM for the quality of service and commitment given to this endeavor.
 2. All participants are expected to **work together as a team** to coordinate specific activities to be done on the mission trip.
 3. All participants are expected to be **committed through prayer** prior to and during the trip. This means you will work with your team leader to have a concerted effort of prayer and spiritual formation (e.g. prayer partners, group prayer, daily personal devotions, etc.).
 4. **Confirm your participation** by submitting a signed copy of this form and the specified non-refundable deposit (\$75). Make checks out to Eastern University, memo: Haiti '09.
 5. All participants are expected to **participate in support raising efforts** for the trip.
 - a. A team of 9 will need to raise a total of *approximately* \$16,000 for this trip. The financial **deadlines** for the trip are: at least **50%** of money due by **July 15, 2009**; **balance due Oct. 30, 2009**. Please mark your calendars with these important dates and include them in your support letters.
 - b. Each individual is required to do **individual fundraising**. If you do not want to raise money individually, you can make a direct payment for the trip. The cost per person is approximately \$1800 (minus deposit is \$1725).
 - c. The team is required to do a **group fundraiser**. There is both individual and corporate responsibility for fundraising.
 - d. Should any student not participate in the trip, all monies raised will go to support remaining missions expenses/endeavors. According to law, tax-deductible donations cannot be refunded.
- I will attend and participate in any **team meetings** and a commissioning service (10am Fri. Dec.4, 2009). Permission to miss any meetings must be obtained in advance from the team leader.
 - I will respond to trip related messages promptly.
 - During the trip, I will **conduct myself according to the standards outlined in Eastern University's official *Student Handbook***, including not using bad language, alcohol, non-prescription drugs or tobacco.
 - I will not complain during the trip and will do my best to have a servant's attitude. I will remember that I have come to learn, not to teach. I may run across procedures that are inefficient or attitudes that I find to be close-minded. I will be open to new ideas and will be flexible.

- I will obey the leadership on my project (team leader, faculty/staff advisor, Beyond Borders staff).
- I will follow safety precautions on the trip, including a pre-trip health exam and any necessary shots.
- I will deliver home baked oatmeal raisin cookies to Andy whenever he requests.
- I will participate in group and individual fundraising, including delivering at least forty addressed, sealed fundraising letters to Walton IA by Monday May 4th. Please put your name and your return address on the envelopes, and include the EU return envelope.
- I will strive to not be exclusive in my relationships while on the trip.
- I will respect and support the ongoing work by Beyond Borders with the people we are working with.
- I will promote team unity by avoiding gossip and will “keep short accounts” by resolving conflicts as they arise (Eph. 4:25-27, Mt 18:15-16). If a conflict persists, I will ask the team leader or advisor to assist in resolving it.
- If any of these areas become a challenge before or during the trip, I will discuss it immediately with my team leader or the Director of SL&CM (Andy Horvath) to get assistance. I realize that failure to do so may mean that I will be unable to participate on the mission trip.

**** Your signature formally commits you to this trip.** If you are having second thoughts, please discuss with your team leader and the Director of SL&CM (Andy Horvath) before signing this. Should an emergency arise after signing this, you will need to meet in person with your team leader and the Director of SL&CM to seek permission to be excused from your commitment and you may have to cover some or all of your remaining expenses. ****** For this reason, it is highly recommended that you purchase trip insurance that will provide coverage for any losses (www.insuremytrip.com). Supplemental international medical insurance will be bought for each team member as part of the trip costs from www.missionaryhealth.net.