

Partners for Rural Health in the Dominican Republic

Winter Trip 2019

Dear Interested Volunteer:

Partners for Rural Health in the Dominican Republic (PRHDR) is delighted that you are interested in participating in our Winter Mission 2019! We look forward to working with you. Our 21 year old organization is unique from other missions of which you may have heard. We are a service learning program. Participating medical professionals primary role is to provide teaching and mentoring to students. You will be contributing to the foundation of future medical professionals in the setting of primary care. Interpreters, and support staff and an integral part of the team.

Two books are highly recommended regarding the tumultuous history of the Dominican Republic:

“WHY THE COCKS FIGHT” NY Times review of the book, <https://archive.nytimes.com/www.nytimes.com/books/99/05/02/reviews/990502.02markeet.html>

“THE EASTERN STAR”

Dates: The trip will take place from January 3rd to January 15th. Students and faculty will be flying to and from Santiago, DR on these dates.

Volunteer Fee: The fee for this trip will be \$820. This cost includes: room and board, all ground transportation and evacuation insurance.

Application Process: Letter of Intent: The Letter of Intent (LOI) is the first step in the application process. It is required for new volunteers only. The LOI will help us understand your specific skill set and qualifications. Please go to the Volunteer page of the website www.prhdr.org and click on Volunteer, “Letter of Intent.” Two References are also required at this time.

Volunteer Application: Once your LOI has been accepted and we have received two letters of recommendation, you will be notified to proceed with the remainder of the forms, found on the Volunteer page.

Returning Volunteers: If you have not submitted the Agreement/Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability for Volunteers form

together with the Employment Service form in over one year, you are required to submit these updated forms, signed and dated.

An update on your medical form is required, unless there has been no change in your medical history.

November 1, 2018, \$100.00 deposit must be received, and will be applied towards the overall trip cost of \$820. ALL PAPER WORK must be received by this date

November 15, 2018, Total amount of \$820 must be paid in full.

Payment Options:

Online Payment: Fees can be paid with your credit card, via Paypal on the PRHDR web site, first page, on the right.

By Check: Please make checks payable to: Partners for Rural Health in the Dominican Republic. Mail your check to PRHDR, PO Box 1742, Portland, ME 04104

Volunteer Fundraising:

All volunteers are expected to participate in fundraising for the trip, with a goal of \$300 per participant. This funding is essential to helping PRHDR purchase medicines and equipment for the trip. We will send you helpful information and ideas for fundraising.

Group Flights: These are the flights that the students, staff and faculty will be taking. As a volunteer you are responsible for your own travel arrangements. Many volunteers like to book their reservations on the same flights. This is very convenient for all. We highly recommend that you do this. Because the aircraft out of Portland can be small, I would recommend that you book as soon as possible.

Jan 3, 2019

Jet Blue flight 2807 Portland (PWM) to JFK 5:36AM

Jet Blue flight 1537 JFK to Santiago 9:50AM. Arriving at STI at 2:34PM

Jan 15, 2019

Jet Blue flight 1536 Santiago (STI) to NY (JFK) 4:35PM

Jet Blue flight 108 NY (JFK) to Portland (PWM) 10:55PM. Arriving in Portland at midnight.

*****Orientation: If you live close to Portland or Boston, we are required to attend Orientation which will be **Saturday, December 8, 10:00 to 2:00** at USM. This is an important meeting where you will meet members of the team, gain information regarding your role and responsibilities. You will participate in packing medical equipment bags. You will receive more information about the orientation as time draws near. So mark your calendar!!

*****PRHDR uses Gateway International Plan for trip insurance (www.GatewayPlans.com./ahins/) and this is included in trip fees. This covers Emergency evacuation. Please read the policy carefully for all information

Please email us as soon as possible to let us know that you will be applying for the winter mission

Other Info to Remember:

- *Passport is required.
- *Vaccines including hepatitis A, typhoid oral or injectable and TB skin test within a year prior to travel.
- *Tetanus booster every 10 years, and hepatitis B series of 3 vaccines are recommended since even non-medical persons can be exposed to body fluids.
- *Occasionally we have a case of traveler's diarrhea.
- *Some volunteers will want to take malaria prevention tablets. For more detailed health information for travel to the Dominican Republic please can check the Center for Disease Control web site.
- *Dengue, Zika, and Chikungunya have all been reported. We take precautions by liberally applying insect repellent, and use netting on beds.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to seeing you on the trip!

Sincerely,
Robin Hetzler
Board President
PRHDR

Mary Berg,
Volunteer Coordinator
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