



Welcome to Service Learning with ESNA in El Salvador

ESNA would like to thank you for following your call to join us and engage in an international service learning experience in El Salvador. The following has been put together to help you become aware of and to understand some basic guidelines that ESNA leaders and representatives try to adhere to while serving on these missions. Please remember that while on this mission, you are participating as a member of a larger body/group and that your actions as an individual can and will effect the entire body/group. These guidelines have been set in place to help provide a safe, comfortable travel environment for all who participate in this mission. Please remember this delegation is traveling within a third world country and the safety of the group is and should be everyone's first priority. We must also respect the people we are serving. Please keep in mind our cultural differences. Remember that we are on a mission to walk with and serve the people of El Salvador.

We at ESNA encourage you as a Service Learning Group to always leave your assumptions behind and enter El Salvador with openness and humility, so that you can truly "walk with the people" instead of simply trying to come into a world that you do not know and fix things that you do not have the experience to understand.

Listen, learn love and grow.

GROUP LEADER Information Packet

GROUP Parameters:

Members of must be 18 years or older or be unaccompanied by a parent or legal guardian.

Groups should not exceed 20 members unless approved by ESNA.

There needs to be at least one adult delegate designated solely as Youth Chaperone.

ESNA Housing rules:

Be in the accommodations provided by dusk.

Lights out by 10 p.m.

Keep your living space tidy at all times.

Respect male/female boundaries in sleeping quarters/Rooms.

Group leader Responsibilities and Guidelines

Prior to trip:

Working with ESNA:

ESNA CONTACT INFO :

- o Alvaro Carias cell # 503-7727-3148 email alvaroesna@yahoo.com
- o Guillermo Sensente cell # 503-7319-3682 email gfsensente@hotmail.com
- o Bill Fischer Cell # 515-490-1803 email bfischer8@msn.com

- Set Group Dates
- Build agenda timeline for tasks needed done prior to trip
- Plan the agenda with ESNA group planer
- Communicate trip expense to all participants, gather funds and forward to ESNA 90 days prior to departure date
- Arrange airline tickets or contract with ESNA to arrange travel
- Ensure all waiver forms and copies of passports are sent to ESNA 90 days prior to departure
- Designate trip treasurer, scribe, journaler, photographer, and Youth Chaperone
- Designate nightly reflection / discussion leader
- Develop a basic curriculum for nightly debriefings
- Facilitate discussions with out of town participants regarding trip expectations
- Facilitate discussions with youth, their parents and the Youth Chaperone
- Facilitate pre-trip meeting with all delegates regarding expectations
- Upon arrival in El Salvador collect all passports for safety and return them at the airport upon departure.

While in El Salvador:

The Group leader is responsible at all times for the group and is responsible to the ESNA Team Leader to handle any issues that may arise during your Service Learning trip.

- Ensure groups awareness of daily calendar
- Become the lead communicator with your ESNA Team Leader
- Lead meeting discussions with ESNA Team and “where appropriate” Communities
- Encourage participation and facilitate participation with all group members
- Look after the overall well being and safety of the group
- Handle all disciplinary action pertaining to group

Back home:

Facilitate a gathering for reflection and sharing – trip report

Youth Chaperone Responsibilities and Guidelines

The lead youth chaperone is responsible to the ESNA Team Leader for all disciplinary actions required concerning youth members.

- Abide by the basic delegate expectations and implement delegation policies with youth.
- Be available for conversations and care of a young traveler; if a young traveler is either un-healthy physically, mentally or spiritually.
- Pretend this is your own child (student) and basically keep an eye on their well-being.
- Watch for subtle signs of angst/stress that the young traveler might be experiencing
- Encourage talking and de-briefing with you or someone else within the group.
- Initiate conversations regarding what he/she is experiencing

- Watch for signs of illness (physically, mentally or spiritually)
- Tend to an illness or find someone able to do so.
- Smile, hug, encourage, listen, be in tune with and discipline lovingly if necessary
- Give space when needed and/or encourage quiet reflective time and help them find a space for reflection
- Be the 'reminder' of the rules person – tidiness of space, clothing, language