

# **2014 Youth Service Trip to Montana**

## **July 18-26, 2014**

### **About Our Team**

The Metropolis of Boston sent a group of 16 people on their first trip to Montana in the summer of 2012 through a group known as YOCAMA (Young Orthodox American Missions Adventures). That trip had such a positive impact upon our teens (and adults), the Metropolis is organizing another group to travel with YOCAMA to New Mexico in 2013. We are returning to Montana this year for another wonderful experience.

Our Team, made up primarily of high school teens from throughout our Metropolis, along with their adult chaperones, willingly donate one week of their summer vacations to help people living in poverty. This trip has provided very unique, personal experiences for our teens as well as memories and lessons that will remain for a lifetime.

### **Who is YOCAMA?**

YOCAMA stands for Young Orthodox American Missions Adventures. With the Blessings of Metropolitan Savas of Pittsburgh, YOCAMA's mission is to serve people living in poverty throughout America and provide our Orthodox Christian youth opportunities to share the love of Jesus Christ through good works and learn more about the Orthodox Christian Faith and deepen their love for our Savior Jesus Christ. YOCAMA hosts two trips each summer to serve people living in poverty - one to Montana to serve the people on the Blackfeet Reservation and one to New Mexico to serve the people on the Navajo Reservation. YOCAMA is under the direction of Ann Salvator and is based in Ohio.

### **When will we be traveling? Who will we be serving this summer?**

The dates of our trip are **July 18-26, 2014** and we will be traveling to Montana to serve the people of the Blackfeet Native American Reservation.

### **What kind of work will we be doing?**

At this time we have not yet received our assignments for this trip but we can share with you the type of work that we have done in the past:

- Build additional structures to Playgrounds
- Renovate a Homeless Shelter
- Serve lunches to school children
- Participate in a summer recreation program with Blackfeet Youth

Typically there is a small medical team that travels with us that donate their services to providing basic hearing, sight, and dental exams to the children of the reservation. While those exams are being conducted, a team is assigned to playing games with the children while they wait.

### **What might a typical day look like on the trip?**

Wake up followed by morning prayer and breakfast. Head out for the day with work until lunch time. Lunch is prepared in the morning and eaten on the worksites. Return to the dormitory for cleanup, downtime, dinner, group activities, and bedtime.

Divine Liturgy is celebrated during the week and a hike is planned towards the end of the week as well as time to shop.

**How much does the trip cost?**

The total cost per person is **\$1,200.00**.

This fee includes:

- Roundtrip airfare from Boston to Chicago, IL
- Roundtrip shuttle service from O'Hare Airport in Chicago to Union Station train station in Chicago
- Roundtrip train tickets from Chicago to East Glacier, Montana
- Building materials and tool fees
- Lodging and food during the stay in Montana

**Why does the team travel by train?**

For two reasons: this is a very unique opportunity to travel cross-country by train; during the train ride from Chicago to Montana all of the team members will have time to get to know one another. By the time the group arrives in Montana everyone will be ready to be split up into teams the next morning and ready to work.

**Fundraising Opportunities**

All team members are required to do their own personal fundraising.

- A donation letter template and donation form template will be provided to you. Each team member is encouraged to personalize the letter and the donation form and mail them out.
- Every team member has the ability to create a profile with our team's RAZOO online giving account so that family and friends have a way to easily and securely make a donation online.
- Team members have gotten creative with their personal fundraising. For example, you may wish to hold a yard sale or bottle and can drive in your neighborhood.

**Registration Procedures and Due Dates**

- 1 Registration fee of \$150.00 and completed application form are due as soon as possible to reserve your spot. If there are any questions prior to submitting your application, please contact Eleni Kalioras at [ekalioras@boston.goarch.org](mailto:ekalioras@boston.goarch.org) or at the Metropolis at (617) 277- 4742
- 2 \$350.00 payment due by Monday, May 5
- 3 \$350.00 payment due by Monday, June 9
- 4 Remaining \$350.00 payment due by Friday, July 4

**Contact Information**

Eleni Kalioras – [ekalioras@boston.goarch.org](mailto:ekalioras@boston.goarch.org)