

# Red Knights Planting Seeds of Change

The God's Child Project

Antigua, Guatemala

Tuesday, July 9 – Wednesday, July 17, 2019



**Benilde-St. Margaret's**

A Catholic, college preparatory school, grades 7 - 12

[www.bsmschool.org](http://www.bsmschool.org)



[www.godschild.org](http://www.godschild.org)

- International, non-profit family of charities
- Cares for and educates orphaned, homeless, poverty-stricken children
- 2019 is 5<sup>th</sup> year
- 131 students have built 21 homes



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# Service learning immersion

- Prior to trip students collect donations at the Treasure Hunt- Sat. May 4, 2-4 pm
- Prepare a suitcase of donations
- In Antigua, students work with families to build a home with bunk beds and an outdoor kitchen
- Students shop for house warming basket of household goods
- Students stay with middle class families (minimum 2 students)



# Host Families

- families in Antigua vetted by GCP
- families are experienced working with groups like us
- in groups of at least two students
- breakfast and dinner with the host families



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# Middle class host families



Hot water and electricity

# Worksite family



# Construction Sites

- teams of eight students with 1 chaperone
- GCP foreman guides the process
- families live in the surrounding villages
- each team builds a house, outdoor kitchen and bunk beds from the foundation up without power tools
  
- GCP prepares & delivers sandwich lunches
- we provide bottled water



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# Itinerary

Tuesday, July 9: travel day, meet host family

Wednesday, July 10: orientation and walking tour of Antigua

Thursday, July 11 - Thursday: construction begins

Friday, July 12: construction continues

Saturday, July 13: tour of Mayan ruins & Lake Atitlán

Sunday, July 14: Mass and Chichicastenango market excursion

Monday, July 15: construction continues

Tuesday, July 16: construction finishes, closing ceremony

Wednesday, July 17: return home



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# Map of Guatemala



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# excursions



# Health Considerations

We will be working at construction sites for at least eight hours a day. Students should be able to lift twenty-five pounds and work on their feet.

People who have problems in high-altitudes (heart, breathing, etc.) should be aware that Antigua is at an altitude of 5,600 ft.

We will do a lot of walking on cobblestone streets.



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# Vaccines

Although no vaccinations are required to enter Guatemala, we recommend you consult with your doctor and have the following vaccinations or boosters before going to Guatemala:

1. Tetanus Toxoid or DT (a combination of tetanus and diphtheria)
2. Hepatitis A and B Vaccines
3. GCP does not recommend malaria pills since the risk of infection is so low.



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# Cost

\$2,900 which includes

- transportation: airfare & bus
- lodging: host family & hotel
- non-travel day meals
- building materials: students both build the house and pay for it
- excursions: Antigua walking tour, guided tour of pyramids, lake boat ride, market visits

Additional money for

- food in the airport on travel days
- souvenirs at the market
- miscellaneous snacks



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# Impact

In the past four years...

- 131 students participated
- 21 homes built
- \$162,392 donated through construction materials
- \$61,169 donated through suitcase donations

¡Gracias!



Thank you!



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# Application process

Submit the following to Sr. MB in room 139

1. application and BSM permission slip – Tuesday, January 22
2. passport copy valid through December 31, 2019 and BSM medical paperwork - Friday, March 1, 2019

Payments billed through tuition

February - \$1,100 non-refundable deposit

March - \$600 installment

April - \$600 installment

May - \$600 installment

**Note that students must be in good academic and behavior standing and tuition accounts must be current. We will submit a list of applicants to the administration for their approval.**



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