

Vietnam 2009 Children's Outreach Project

Dates: Flexible – teams can discuss potential dates with LHM. Optimal timeframe is 10 days in country, excluding travel days.

Individual Budget: Approx \$650 – This includes food, lodging, in-country transportation, and travel/health insurance. This is an estimated cost and does not include international flights and is based on a team of 10 people.

Materials for Project: \$4,000. This includes all materials for the project and required tools. The whole volunteer team should provide these costs.



Children's Outreach Project

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam, a communist country in Southeast Asia, is situated in eastern Indochina—bordering China, Laos, Cambodia, and the South China Sea. It is the most populous country among the mainland Southeast Asian countries. Only about eight percent of Vietnam's population claims Christianity, but a growing, witnessing Christian church is emerging from years of persecution. Since reunification in 1975, a turning to God is taking place in both registered and unregistered churches, especially among the mountain tribal peoples of central and southern Vietnam.

In the midst of this much-needed change in direction, Vietnam is facing many new challenges. Repression of all types of freedom continues while social issues are on the rise. Drug addiction, AIDS, prostitution and exploitation of children are all too common. There are two abortions for every live birth, one of the world's highest documented rates.



Because of communist restraints it is very difficult, and illegal, to openly share the Gospel. You and your team will have the opportunity to visit Vietnamese public schools and share milk with malnourished children in the name of Jesus. Part of your project costs (\$2,700) will go towards supporting this evangelistic program for one year. The team will also have the opportunity to lead (with the help of translators) a Vacation Bible School (VBS) over 3 days in a local church while you are there. You and your team will make a difference for Christ in Vietnam and leave an indelible mark on a nation that longs to hear a message of hope.

Project Location

The team will be based in the Tra On District of the Vinh Long province, which is about 3-½ hours southwest of Ho Chi Minh City.

Sample Itinerary

- Day 1. Arrival and rest. Overnight in Ho Chi Minh City
- Day 2. Travel to Mekong Delta, orientation, visit project site and planning
- Day 3. Worship and free time
- Day 4. Workday
- Day 5. Workday
- Day 6. Workday
- Day 7. Workday
- Day 8. Workday
- Day 9. Wrap up of project and return to Ho Chi Minh City
- Day 10. Worship and free time/sightseeing
- Day 11. Sightseeing
- Day 12. Departure

A detailed itinerary will be customized and provided to you by LHM according your travel days and team size.

Entry/Exit Requirements

A tourist visa is required and your team is responsible for applying for the visa.

Documents required

- U.S. Passport must be valid 6 months beyond intended stay
- Tickets and Documents for return or onward travel
- Visa Application Forms, fully completed and signed
- Passport-type photographs required
- Embassy fee for tourist visa - \$65

Visit the Embassy of Vietnam's web site at www.vietnamembassy-usa.org for the most current visa information.

Embassy of Vietnam

1233 20th St NW, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20036
Tel. 202.861.0737
Fax 202.861.0917

info@vietnamembassy.us
consular@vietnamembassy.us



You may use a visa agency or Travel Documents who, for a reasonable fee, will obtain the visa on your behalf.

- Travel Document Systems – www.traveldocs.com or (800) 874-5100
- Travisa – www.travisa.com or (800) 222-2589
- Visa HQ – www.visahq.com or (800) 345-6541

Airport departure – check with your flight agency whether departure tax is included in your ticket as there is a departure tax of approximately \$14.

REGISTRATION/EMBASSY LOCATION: Americans traveling in Vietnam are encouraged to register with the U.S. Embassy through the State Department’s travel registration website so that they can obtain updated information on travel and security within Vietnam.

Vaccinations

Vaccination or Disease	Recommendations or Requirements for Vaccine-Preventable Diseases
<u>Routine</u>	Recommended if you are not up-to-date with routine shots such as, measles/mumps/rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria/pertussis/tetanus (DPT) vaccine, poliovirus vaccine, etc.
<u>Hepatitis A</u> or immune globulin (IG)	Recommended for all unvaccinated people traveling to or working in countries with an intermediate or high level of hepatitis A virus infection where exposure might occur through food or water. Cases of travel-related hepatitis A can also occur in travelers to developing countries with "standard" tourist itineraries, accommodations, and food consumption behaviors.
<u>Hepatitis B</u>	Recommended for all unvaccinated persons traveling to or working in countries with intermediate to high levels of endemic HBV transmission, especially those who might be exposed to blood or body fluids, have sexual contact with the local population, or be exposed through medical treatment (e.g., for an accident).
<u>Typhoid</u>	Recommended for all unvaccinated people traveling to or working in Southeast Asia, especially if visiting smaller cities, villages, or rural areas and staying with friends or relatives where exposure might occur through food or water.

Drugs to Prevent Malaria (Antimalarial drugs)

If you will be visiting a malaria risk area in Vietnam, you will need to take one of the following antimalarial drugs: Only [atovaquone/proguanil](#) or [doxycycline](#) in the southern part of the country in the provinces of Tay Ninh, Song Be, Lam Dong, Ninh Thuan, Khanh Hoa, Dac Lac, Gia Lai, and Kon Tum. All other areas: [atovaquone/proguanil](#), [doxycycline](#) or [mefloquine \(primaquine\)](#) in special circumstances and only after G6PD testing).

Note: Chloroquine is NOT an effective antimalarial drug in Vietnam and should not be taken to prevent malaria in this region.

Malaria risk area in Vietnam: Rural only (includes minimal risk in Mekong Delta), except no risk in the Red River delta and the coastal plain north of the Nha Trang. No risk in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), Da Nang, Nha Trang, Qui Nhon, and Haiphong.

This is based on current information from CDC. Always consult with your doctor regarding vaccinations, as Lutheran Hour Ministries cannot be held liable for any recommendations made.

<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/destinationVietnam.aspx>
(Information from CDC website – August 2008)

Lodging & Meals

The team will be staying at hotels in Ho Chi Minh City and in the Mekong Delta. All hotels are air-conditioned and the hotel in the Mekong Delta does have mosquito nets. The team will eat their meals at a choice of local restaurants.

Sightseeing

The team will be offered some sightseeing options during orientation. Sightseeing options usually include the Cu Chi Tunnels, Reunification Palace, Notre Dame cathedral, and the Ben Thanh Market.

Budget

Costs for Global Work & Witness teams are split into 'Individual Costs', which is your food, lodging, transportation, etc., and your 'Project Costs', which is the cost of the materials for the actual project you participate on. Whether it is a VBS or a construction project we ask that your team cover these costs as a group.

Sample budget of **Individual Costs** based on 10 people traveling 11/12 days:

	Based on team of 10 people	
Insurance	14 days @ \$2.75	\$38.50
Lodging	7 nights @ \$20 and 4 nights @ \$30 (double occupancy)	\$260.00
Meals	11 days @ \$15	\$165.00
Bottled Water	Approx \$5 per day	\$60.00
Transportation	Incl. Gas and driver	\$100.00
Total		\$623.50

You must also budget for your international flights, entry visas, sightseeing, souvenirs and departure taxes (if necessary).

The budget is estimated and your team may choose to eat a little more expensive or a little cheaper meals, which would obviously affect your budget. We tend to try and over budget as much as possible so you do not run short of funds but it never hurts to have some extra funds available. It would also be wise to carry a small amount of additional contingency funds for any medical emergencies that may occur or unexpected costs.

Project Costs for this project is \$4,000 – this covers \$2,700 towards the Milk Project and the remainder is for the VBS (includes snacks and soda for kids and items that have to be purchased locally). Local volunteers will be working alongside the volunteer team.

Insurance Coverage

Medical evacuation for all team members is mandatory and LHM provide insurance from AIG at the cost of \$2.75 a day. We will provide you with an insurance card with a policy number on it and a contact number in cases of extreme emergency – i.e. something that requires evacuation. The person you talk with will advise you on what to do in those circumstances. For all other claims please pay any bills that you incur and make a claim directly to the insurance company when you return.

LHM Ministry Center

Lutheran Hour Ministries (LHM)-Vietnam works with existing government-recognized congregations and organizations to assist in outreach in this country, where atheism is the "semiofficial" religion. Government regulations prohibit any religious activities outside the church; therefore, LHM-Vietnam cooperates with local congregations to spread the Gospel through programs such as **Bible Correspondence Courses (BCC)**, puppet shows, videos, and musical performances. Since all television and radio stations belong to the Vietnamese government, LHM-Vietnam cannot broadcast Christian messages through the media. The ministry center meets this challenge by showing LHM produced animated cartoons to young audiences inside local churches. Residents in remote areas, especially children, do not have access to televisions, making LHM-Vietnam's video projection a popular event. Children and adults take delight in watching the LHM-Vietnam puppet shows. The team performs plays such as "The Lost Son" to teach about the love, forgiveness, and salvation of Jesus Christ. Many audiences are so inspired after watching the puppet shows that they vow to trust in Jesus Christ as their Savior.

With such strict government regulations inviting youth to the church to listen to the Gospel is not easy. Therefore, LHM-Vietnam creatively attracts youngsters with its evangelistic music show performed by a Christian musical team. LHM-Vietnam's **Equipping The Saints (ETS)** program trains lay persons to nurture the spiritual life of individuals referred to LHM. Most of the local congregations lack the materials as well as the means to train their congregational workers, so **ETS** is highly appreciated in the community.

LHM-Vietnam

431 Vinh Vien St.
Ward 6, District 10
Ho Chi Minh City
VIETNAM

Mr. Doan Thanh Truc, Director

Phone: (848) 856-3060

E-mail: truth@saigonnet.vn - Office

trucvoh@hotmail.com - Director

Web Site: www.luthasia.net/vietnam

Skype: trucdoan

Ministry Established: 1999



ON THIS GLOBAL WORK & WITNESS TRIP YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT VIETNAM THROUGH AUTHENTIC CROSS-CULTURAL EXPERIENCES AND HAVING FELLOWSHIP WITH LOCAL LUTHERANS, AND WILL HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO SHARE THE LOVE OF JESUS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN TOUCHING LIVES IN VIETNAM PLEASE CALL JEANNE LAWRENCE @ 314-317-4168 OR EMAIL JEANNE.LAWRENCE@LHM.ORG.