



## GUATEMALA VBS/Lutheran Community Center Construction

**Dates:** March 9-17, 2012

**Individual Budget:** Approx. \$610.10. This includes food, lodging, in-country transportation, translators, and travel/health insurance. This is an estimated cost and does not include international flights, and is based on a team of 25 people for 9 days in country.

**Project Costs: Total-**\$7,950. \$7,500 includes all materials and labor for construction, \$450 covers cost for one computer. This is a shared cost between all team members.

Team is also to provide any materials for VBS.

**PLEASE NOTE:** *Construction Project can be done in two steps-one in March 2012, second in 2014. Costs would then be \$3,750.00 for each time frame.*



### VBS/Construction Project

This project combines three outreach activities for the volunteer team consisting of construction, technology and VBS. The construction involves constructing a perimeter wall for the Lutheran Community Center. You will be working together with members of Christ the Savior Lutheran Church on the construction. The technology portion is the donation and installation of one computer for the LHM Internet Café. This is an outreach that promotes bible verses on the screen as well as promoting the LHM-Guatemala web site and their activities. The VBS program would reach hundreds of children ages 4 to 15 and their families from Christ the Savior Lutheran School in the mornings and for 80 children living around the Lutheran Community Center in the afternoon.

### Project Location

The project will take place in the city of Puerto Barrios which is located in Izabal on the Atlantic coast of the country. More than half of Guatemalans are descendants of indigenous Mayan peoples. Westernized Mayans and mestizos (mixed European and indigenous ancestry) are known as Ladinos. Most of Guatemala's population is rural, though urbanization is accelerating. The predominant religion is Roman Catholicism, into which many indigenous Guatemalans have incorporated traditional forms of worship. Protestantism and traditional Mayan religions are practiced by an estimated 40% and 1% of the population, respectively. According to the World Bank, Guatemala has one of the most unequal income distributions in the hemisphere. The wealthiest 20% of the population consumes 51% of Guatemala's GDP. As a result, about 51% of the population lives on less than \$2 a day and 15% on less than \$1 a day. Guatemala's social development indicators, such as infant mortality, chronic child malnutrition, and illiteracy, are among the worst in the hemisphere.

LHM International Volunteer Trips provide the opportunity to learn through authentic cross-cultural experiences and have the opportunity to share the love of Jesus. If you are interested in touching lives, please call Chris Myers at 314-317-4268 or 1-800-944-3450, ext. 4268; or by email [christine.myers@lhm.org](mailto:christine.myers@lhm.org).