

Casa de Misericordia

Casa de Misericordia (House of Mercy) is an orphanage located outside Piedras Negras, Mexico. It is home to 35 children, ages 5 to 18.



Brought to the orphanage by a government agency, the children typically have parents who have fallen victim to the effects of drugs and alcohol, are in prison or are deceased. Some have suffered

from physical or sexual abuse or have been rescued from the streets. Many of the children will be returned to their families when circumstances allow. Some will be adopted, while others will live at the orphanage until they are ready to go out on their own.

The orphanage was founded by Pastor Miguel de Leon and he continues to serve as the director. When asked, Pastor Miguel will tell you that the most significant contribution that can be made to this ministry is one of presence—it is important for the children to see that others care for them.



The Location

Piedras Negras is a cosmopolitan city 145,000 in the state of Coahuila. Unfortunately, it has experienced some of the drug-related violence that plagues other border cities. Although no teams visiting recently witnessed any violence, obviously teams must be prudent. The same amount of caution is necessary as in any unfamiliar city. Every effort to insure out safety will be made, including chaperones.

We shall stay and eat on the grounds of the orphanage. The accommodations are safe, clean, and air-conditioned. We shall dine like royalty!

The average high temperature in February is 79; the average low is 52.



To learn more about Casa de Misericordia and Templo Aleluya, visit our conference website, westohioumc.org, then

- Click
1. *Mission & Outreach*;
 2. *Global Opportunities*; and finally
 3. *Mexico*.

For More Information

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West Ohio Conference

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Mission Trip to Piedras Negras, Mexico

February 11-15, 2016



EXPERIENCE

SPIRIT

JOY

SERVICE

WORSHIP

COMMUNITY

Registration

The team is limited to 12 members. Spots will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Complete and return to

John Keeny
 King Avenue UMC
 299 King Avenue
 Columbus, OH 43201
 (614) 424-6050, ext. 102

Include a check for \$450 per person payable to King Avenue UMC. Please write "Mexico-February" on the memo line.

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Church _____

Do you speak Spanish? _____

Do you have a passport? _____

Which of these tasks are you willing to perform?

(check all that apply)

- Driver
- Devotional Leader
- Navigator
- Prayer Leader
- Treasurer
- Construction Leader
- Photographer
- Translator
- Plan and/or lead activities for the children

Our Partners in Piedras Negras, Mexico

The Trip

Piedras Negras is located just across the border from Eagle Pass, Texas, which is a three-hour drive from San Antonio. The team will depart from the Columbus airport early on Thursday, February 11. Our time at the orphanage will be spent on light construction-related projects and playing with the children. On Sunday we will participate in a variety of worship services. We will depart early on Monday, February 15, and arrive in Columbus late that evening.

The trip is suitable for children, age 13 and older, when accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

Each participant must have a valid passport.

The cost of the trip is about \$850 per person. This will include airfare, construction project costs, ground transportation, lodging and meals while in Mexico. It does not include any checked-baggage fees charged by the airline, souvenirs, meals on travel days or trip cancellation insurance. Much of



this fee is non-refundable. You will reserve your spot on the team (which are filled on a first-come, first-serve basis) by submitting a check payable to King Avenue UMC for the amount of \$450 per person by December 7, 2015. The balance will be due by January 4, 2016.

Templo Aleluya

The team will visit a nearby church, Templo Aleluya, which is headed by Pastor Hector Aguirre. This church serves some of the poorest families of Mexico who live in a colonia along the railroad tracks.



Each day the church provides breakfast for over 60 children, the only meal of the day for some, as well as worship, religious education, and tutoring. It also operates a carpentry shop and is developing hydroponic farming. Further it conducts jewelry and sewing classes.

