

**Rotary District 6820 Service Trip to Mexico**  
**January 19-26, 2019**

Trip Dates: January 19-26, 2019 (Saturday - Saturday)  
Where: Guadalajara, Mexico  
Host Club: Rotary Club Tlaquepaque Industrial / District 4140 Lead Host  
Rotarians: Enrique Garcia Vidrio and Merylu Alvarez Tachiquin

Dear Rotarians:

District Governor Pam Smith is planning a Service Trip to Guadalajara, Mexico.

The trip is open to **anyone** who is service minded and would like to help. However, if you are not personally able to go there are ways that you can still help. For instance, there is a catholic elementary school in Gulfport that would like their students to help partner with us on one of our projects. There are so many needs that we are not going to have the time or resources to accomplish all. If you would like to donate, 100% of your donation would go to help someone in need. We will have some that want to go but cannot afford too - you can help sponsor someone. If you would like to help, let me know and I will find a way for you to make a difference and be the inspiration in someone's life.

For the past two years, District 6820 has participated in the John & Judy Germ Children's Cancer Center Global Grants at the Hospital de Civil Guadalajara. In August, Lucy Anne and I traveled to Guadalajara toured the hospital, met with the hospital director and the pediatric staff. In January, we will also tour the hospital and you will get to experience firsthand the great work being done here. I have been working the last several months with a local Rotarian Enrique Vidrio planning our trip in January. In August, we met Enrique and his wife Merylu, they are our local host & trip contacts. They are both very nice, really organized and have traveled the US enough to know our culture and how we like to operate. This will be our first District sponsored Service Trip and I can tell you just from our visit in August there is plenty of needed work to be done. One of the needs that was expressed by Enrique is Fireman training and equipment. If you know of a Fireman or EMT that would like to go, we need them. If you know a doctor, nurse or physical therapist, there is clinic for the poor that is run by a local Rotarian that needs our help. However, we mostly need people who are willing to work and help. What we have selected for projects for this trip that we feel are best suited for our first trip.

There is the potential here to develop a long-term relationship with the Rotarians of District 4140 not only working there but also developing a Friendship Exchange. I know that Enrique

and Merylu plan on visiting Mississippi sometime after our trip in January. We found everyone to be extremely nice and hospitable. Lucy and I felt safe everywhere we traveled, and the people were extremely grateful for our interest. We attend a Rotary meeting with Enrique and at the meeting after I spoke about our plans for January. There were eight Rotarians, right there, that spoke up and offered to host some of our group in their home to help cut down on our cost.

Attached is our proposed schedule and estimated cost for the trip. After looking at the attached information if you are interested in finding out more information or if you are ready to sign up for the trip, please let me know.

I can assure you that if you go or help support the trip it will be life changing for you and for the people you help. This will be putting "Service Above Self" while "Making A Difference" and "Being the Inspiration" to those that you are serving.

Sincerely,

*Bill*

**Bill Walker**

Rotary District 6820

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**Rotary Service Project  
Proposed Schedule January 19-26,  
2019**

**Saturday, January 19 –**

- Leave Jackson / arrive in Guadalajara / Check in hotel
- Walk around / view downtown Tlaquepaque before group dinner

**Sunday, January 20-**

- Sightseeing – Travel to Tequila, Mexico then to the Guachimontones Pyramids
- Optional Folk Cultural entertainment on stage starts at 9:30pm in downtown Tlaquepaque

**Monday, January 21**

- Leave hotel 9:00 am to Tour Hospital Civil
- Lunch in downtown Guadalajara at Rotary member's restaurant
- Children's Cancer Shelter / Nariz Roja – deliver sheets & towels, interact with families & various other repair work
- Arrive back at hotel by 5:00pm - Free Time / Dinner on your own

**Tuesday, January 22**

- Leave hotel 9:00am to work at Casa Hogar de la Caridad
- Lunch packed from hotel - eat at the center
- Return to hotel between 4-5pm
- Attend evening social with our Host Club the Rotary Club Tlaquepaque Industrial

**Wednesday, January 23**

- Leave Hotel at 9:00am
- Firemen/EMT's go to Tlaquepaque Fire Station to help with training
- Work at Casa de la Caridad or begin work at Elementary School
- Lunch packed from hotel - eat on site
- Arrive back at hotel by 5:00pm - Free Time / Dinner on your own

**Thursday, January 24**

- Leave hotel at 9:00am
- Work at Local Elementary School all day- replacing desk tops, plumbing repairs & painting
- Lunch packed from hotel - eat at the school
- Return to hotel around 5:00pm/ dinner on your own

**Friday, January 25**

- Tour new potential projects for next year □ Afternoon downtime relaxing/ shopping, etc.
- Final Group Dinner before heading to Mississippi

**Saturday, January 26 – return to Mississippi**

**The proposed schedule is for planning purposes only. The schedule, projects, tours, etc. could change between now and January 2019. Any change is to make the trip the absolute Best!! This is going to be a life changing trip for everyone involved!**