



Medical Service Trip



SUNY Upstate Medical School Itinerary

El Sauce, Nicaragua
May 27 – June 10, 2017

Enlace Project: What We Do

Enlace Project is a small non-profit that has been working in El Sauce since 2010, with connections dating back to 2006 with the community. Primarily focused on small business development and community development, it is our mission to engage with the community in addressing its needs as partners.

Additionally, Enlace Project runs a number of trips with partners in the United States to promote intercultural awareness and educate them on the realities of the developing world. The trips, ranging from conventional college coursework to service trips, emphasize cultural interaction and education aimed at understanding the historic influences of modern Nicaragua and its relationship to the rest of the world.

Medical Service Trip

A medical service trip can be an eye-opening experience for students who may have limited experience or exposure to medical systems beyond the United States.

Enlace Project's Medical Service Trip offers students a chance to see how valuable medical professionals are in a country where quality healthcare is not easily accessed, or always available. Working and observing medicine in the developing world will put students in touch with the humanity at the core of medicine and provide an appreciation for the humble service of others that they are undertaking.

We are proud to help connect the healthcare professionals of tomorrow to meaningful and inspirational global partners here in El Sauce.

Benefits of Partnering with us

Enlace Project's close work with the community allows program participants to gain a truly unique experience. Students live with local families, eating local food, and are introduced to the culture with activities like salsa dancing and tours of important sites in Nicaragua.

Our years of experience with tours and long standing local partnerships provide visitors a chance to not just see our community, but build meaningful connections during their time here.

Suggested Itinerary

Saturday, May 27th: Managua - Participants will arrive at the Augusto C. Sandino International Airport in Managua. Enlace Project staff will be waiting with transportation to the hotel. When all members are accounted for, the group will head to the hotel to check-in and leave their luggage, then gather again to go out to dinner for a traditional Nicaraguan meal.

Sunday, May 28th: Managua and El Sauce - Volunteers will eat breakfast at the hotel. Following breakfast, the group will tour historically and culturally relevant sites in Managua. After lunch, the group will stop at a supermarket to pick up any necessary items before leaving for El Sauce. It is about a three-hour drive from Managua. Upon arriving, volunteers will be driven to their host family houses (or to the hotel, if the group prefers; however this option is more expensive).

Monday, May 29th: Orientation and Tour of El Sauce – The group will be picked up from their host families in the morning for a tour around El Sauce led by the local tourism cooperative. Landmarks include the central church, the pilgrim house, the baseball stadium, and Plaza Sandino. Later in the morning and again in the afternoon volunteers will come to the office for orientation sessions on the work that they will be doing with the doctors.

Tuesday – Friday, May 30th – June 2nd: Work days - Students will travel to different communities in the morning each day with doctors and nurses. Translators will be provided by Enlace Project. During our trips to the communities students will need to pack and bring their lunch with them. Students should expect to be at their sites from 6am to 1pm.

Saturday – Sunday, June 3rd – 4th: Ocotal Visit – We will travel to the rural mountain community of Ocotal, located 10 miles from the city of El Sauce. While there, you will take a tour of an organic coffee farm, hike to the highest peak in the community, learn how to make handmade artisan baskets from the the women’s coop Fuente de Pino, make tortillas by hand, and horseback ride through the community. Students will stay with host families in Ocotal to learn more about life in the countryside of Nicaragua.

Monday – Thursday, June 5th – June 8th: Work days – We will continue work days at the rural health posts, public hospital, and home visits in El Sauce and the surrounding areas.

Friday – Saturday, June 9th – 10th: Leon Trip – We will go to the university city of Leon, the closest big city to El Sauce. From there we will travel to the nearby Pacific Ocean for a chance to relax on the beach. Students will also visit various museums and historical/cultural sites. On Saturday, there will also be the option to climb Cerro Negro, a volcano and sled down the volcanic ash—an opportunity offered by the hostel, NOT by Enlace Project. The cost is around \$35. We will then return to Managua to prepare for your departure back to the US.

Sunday: June 11th: Managua – Departure to the US

Estimated Costs

Trips Costs and General Information

Organization:	SUNY Upstate Medical
Type of Trip:	Medical Service
Contact Persons:	Simone Seward, Marnie Annese
Trip Dates:	15 days
All-inclusive Trip Price:	\$1,500 per person
Deposit date:	March 6 th , 2017
Final payment date:	April 21 th , 2017
Payment methods:	1. Check written out to “Enlace Project, Inc.” 2. Payment with credit card via PayPal (please add \$25) to cover PayPal fees

Your trip fees will include the following:

- All transportation in country, including to/from El Sauce, to Leon, to Ocotol, and airport transfers*
- Professional trip leadership with 24 hour access in case of emergency
- Work site interpreters
- 2 nights in Managua Hills Bed and Breakfast in Managua
- 1 nights in a Lazy Bones Hostel in Leon
- Host family stays in El Sauce and in Ocotol
- Meals at locally owned restaurants or with your host family
- Overnight excursion to Ocotol, including horseback riding, a nature hike, coffee farm tours, and other cultural activities.
- Various tour activities in Managua (Tour of the cathedral plaza and Tiscapa), El Sauce (city tour), and Leon (Ortiz Gurdian Art museum and Cathedral Roof tour)*

* When available or open, certain places close without advance notice.

NOT included in your trip fees are:

- Adventure tourism opportunities (zip-lining, volcano boarding, surf lessons, etc.)
- Travel insurance (recommended)
- Airfare to/from Nicaragua
- Snacks and souvenirs
- Medical expenses in case of illness or emergency (we do have a doctor in El Sauce, and contacts in Leon and Managua in case of an emergency)

Testimonials:

“The local doctors who accompanied us challenged us to think critically and discussed symptoms, diagnoses, and treatments as well as allowing us to do hands on assessments of the patients.

“It was an honor and enjoyable privilege to be a part of a team of six students from SUNY Upstate Medical University this past July [2013] to visit the quiet community of El Sauce.”

-Jo Speicher



“Enlace Project... gave me a better understanding on how to reach out—not only people in Nicaragua but other places in the world as well.

“The great thing about this experience was that we were able to reach out to those people in a great variety of ways. We did home visits, worked in the only hospital in El Sauce, and other small clinics in rural areas.”

-Adlin Noël

Our Team

Kellan Morgan, Founder and Director – Originally from New York, Kellan moved to Nicaragua in 2007 to start SUNY Geneseo’s Community Economic Development Program and their Nicaragua Service Learning Program. In 2010 he founded Enlace Project, to further economic and community development efforts in El Sauce and the surrounding areas. He has run over 50 study abroad and volunteer trips, and worked with over 400 volunteers and students.



Yacarely Mairena, Founder and board member – Originally from Managua, Yacarely worked in El Sauce from 2007 to 2012 where she specialized in coordinating volunteer opportunities, program development, and project management. In 2012, she moved to Managua to work for the US Peace Corps as a Project specialist and Peace Corps volunteer supervisor. Yacarely is currently on a Fulbright Scholarship at RIT, studying to complete her MBA.

Enrique Corrales, El Sauce Site Coordinator – A five-year veteran to our team, Enrique previously worked as our micro-loan program coordinator and a small business consulting coordinator, before becoming our El Sauce Site Coordinator in 2016. He has worked with over 20 groups, and is bilingual in English and Spanish. Enrique is also on the 4 Walls Project El Sauce Selection Committee.



Alejandro Solano – A part-time interpreter, Alejandro has worked with Enlace Project for more than one year assisting with trip coordination and interpreting.

Cesar Marin – A part-time interpreter, Cesar has worked for more than 2 years assisting in trips coordination and interpreting for Enlace Project and other tour companies.

Alejandra Pastora - A part-time interpreter, Alejandra has worked with Enlace Project for six-months assisting with trip coordination and interpreting.

Matthew McClure – Originally from New York, Matthew graduated from SUNY Geneseo in 2016, and began working for Enlace in December 2016 as an English teacher, PR coordinator, and assistant trip coordinator.

Dr. Sara Aroztegui – Our on-call doctor, Dra. Sara has worked with Enlace Project and our groups for over 8 years, providing consultations for students, faculty members, and volunteers for when they fall under the weather.