



Amigos de las Américas is an international, non-profit organization with over 40 years experience in sending students to Latin America for summer community health projects. This summer, we will send 640 volunteers to 8 different countries working closely with local sponsoring agencies, such as the Ministry of Health or Plan International.

On an AMIGOS summer, you will work with international grass-roots organizations in teams with 1-2 other volunteers in Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, or Uruguay. Volunteers are assigned to a particular community for 5-8 weeks where they live with local host families and have an immense amount of creative flexibility with community projects, while planning, implementing, and evaluating everything in Spanish. Typical projects include:



- Construction of latrines and school improvement projects
- Community gardens
- Teaching school children and families within schools and clinics the importance of hygiene, environment, and nutrition
- Community-Based Initiative Projects that come from suggestions made by community members in a process involving AMIGOS Volunteers

This year's program fee is \$3995, which includes international airfare from Houston or Miami, all project related expenses and materials, and in-country lodging, transportation, and meals. It also includes supplemental international medical insurance, training materials and staff, and a 24 hour On-Call Emergency system. Because AMIGOS is a non-profit organization, all donations made toward your trip are tax deductible. Most Volunteers raise the full amount if they start early, and we will provide ways to fundraise that make the program costs easily obtainable. Need-based financial assistance is also available. College credit and community service hours may also be earned during an AMIGOS summer.



To become a Volunteer, you need to submit an application by **March 31<sup>st</sup>**, complete a regional or gateway training, and be a motivated worker willing to socially integrate into Latin American society. All application materials are available on our website. Once your application, Volunteer Assignment Preference Form (VAPF), and \$500 deposit have been received, we will schedule a phone interview and assign you to your project. This is a rolling admissions process, so the sooner applications are in the better, if you have a specific project in mind.



For further information, see the Volunteer pages of our website at <http://www.amigoslink.org/volunteer/correspondentvolunteer>.

Please feel free to email or call us directly with any questions. If you would like to receive an information packet in the mail, email us your home address. We look forward to working with you toward an amazing summer.

Sincerely,  
Matt Osgood and Angelita Rodrigues  
Amigos de las Américas  
Correspondent Volunteer Administrators  
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