



Raising the Walls

2009 Team Leader Info Packet
For a Pre-Fab Building Project

Overview:

This packet contains information for you as the team leader, as well as your team members to prepare to Raise the Walls for Juarez by prefabricating a house for a homeless family in the parking lot of your school, church, or business.

Missions Ministries is a humanitarian faith-based organization that partners with a small group of pastors in the colonias of Juarez, Mexico working together to assist in meeting the physical and spiritual needs of the poor in outskirts of that city. The local pastors with whom we work know the severity of needs within their congregations and can best prioritize those needs. Although the physical needs are immense, construction projects such as this provide a powerful witness as the community sees how the Lord provides for those in need. We also provide donated food, medicine and clothing through the pastors.

Buildings:

The structures (usually a house or a church) are simple, well constructed, clean and airy. All are *eventually* erected in Juarez on concrete slabs and finished with insulation, electrical wiring, and drywall. At that time the exteriors are trimmed and painted and the roofs are fabricated and shingled. Large buildings (usually 24 x 48 feet) have vaulted ceilings. There are several windows and at least one lockable door. Every build includes a new outdoor baño (toilet) and a screen door.

Typical Pre-fab Project (2 days):

Prefabrication of buildings on church, school, or business parking lots include only the side walls, end walls and interior walls (if any). The project involves forming a total of 10 walls (including the 2 interior walls on houses) and includes the siding on the 8 exterior walls. The building can be erected in just a few hours. An average time of construction by the team is often from 8:00 a.m. until mid-day. Construction leader(s) from Missions Ministries will often arrive as early as 7:00 a.m. to prepare for the arrival of the team and to begin the limited amount of cutting required ahead of time. In addition, the Missions Ministries staff will have the materials delivered to the site one day prior to erection. The completed prefab structure will usually remain on the parking lot until the next morning. At that time ten or twelve of the construction team are asked to return in order to assist in pulling apart the sections of walls and stacking them on a truck for shipment to Juarez.

Skills and Needs:

No special construction skills are required or needed for these prefabrication projects. The buildings are well constructed no matter what, our skilled construction leaders will see to that. The Missions Ministries leaders are happy to help anyone in pounding nails. It is a family-friendly event.

Tools:

Personal: Each person needs to bring a suitable hammer. A 16 oz. framing hammer is best, but for some a standard finish hammer is acceptable. Also bring a nail apron, a carpenter pencil, dust mask, safety goggles and ear plugs. It would be a good idea to bring water to the site for the team's use.

Team Size:

Team size will vary depending on the particular group. There could be teams from a dozen or so to a hundred! However, in the event your group size exceeds 30 active participants we ask that you build two houses. This is requested on all of our projects to avoid everyone bumping into each other *and because the need is so great.*

Team Composition:

We welcome children 6 years and older to join their families on these projects. However, to adhere to safety issues and for the enjoyment of the team as a whole we strongly discourage children 5 years and younger.

Team Roster:

We require that you fill out a team roster including e-mail addresses and ages of minors. Please send or fax us the list no later than one week prior to the day of your project. Please understand that e-mailing is the primary and often only form of communication we have with your group.

What to Bring:

Dress Code – We ask that you keep both *safety and modesty* in mind, wearing jeans, Capri pants or pedal pushers for the gals, or long shorts (keep in mind that you may be kneeling on hot asphalt). Short-sleeved t-shirts are appropriate choices for both men and women. Work shoes or boots are required (NO SANDALS). Also suggested: work shirts, gloves, hat, safety goggles, sunscreen. If desired: dusk mask, knee pads.

Construction Costs:

One – 12' x 36' three-room house
432 Square feet
Total cost: \$8300.00 plus shipping

Features of the completed house, on site in Juarez include:
Wood construction with exterior siding.
Concrete floor.
2" by 6" rafter roof with R-19 insulation and covered with rolled asphalt.

Insulation and drywall throughout.
Exterior is trimmed, caulked and given a two-tone paint job.
Complete electrical wiring throughout the house.
A screen door.
A new outhouse.
(Note that you can provide for interior painting at an additional cost of \$150.00).
Each member of the construction team will receive a picture of a completed house and a story of the receiving family.

Daily needs in Mexico:

Please remember that aside from the construction of a house for a family there are many other very important and necessary needs that have to be met on a daily basis in Juarez. Your team can help meet these needs by bringing donated items with them on the work day. It is suggested that you involve others to help who may not be involved in the construction project itself. This way they can be a part of the supply team. Bring old suitcases for packing supplies such as: Rice and beans, cereal, soups, snack bars, tortillas, energy bars and drinks. **Urgently needed items** include baby formula and diapers, over-the-counter medications (see our web site for current needs), hygiene and first aid supplies, blankets. Other items you might consider: two or three 6' x 9' rugs for the house, covered waste baskets (1 small for the toilet and 1 large for the kitchen), broom and dustpan, space heaters, fans, towels, curtains and rods for the windows (there are 6 windows, 24" wide and 36" high), plastic tubs for food and clothing, new underwear and socks, heavy-duty flashlight and batteries, small tool kit.

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