



Young Orthodox Christian American Mission Adventures (YOOCAMA)

With the Blessings of Metropolitan Maximus of Pittsburgh, YOOCAMA's mission is to serve people living in poverty throughout America and provide our Orthodox Christian youth opportunities to share the love of Jesus Christ through good works and learn more about the Orthodox Christian Faith and deepen their love for our Savior Jesus Christ.

What We Do

Since 2008, YOOCAMA has traveled to Native American Indian Reservations to provide social support services to people living in poverty. Over the last three years we have traveled to the Navajo Reservation in Gallup, New Mexico, and the Blackfeet Reservation in Browning, Montana. Each year over 100 missionaries travel to these two reservations ready and able to assist families in need of our help.

Here are some examples of the work YOOCAMA has done over the past three years:

Construction Work

- Recreational Facility Construction
- Home Improvement Construction
- House Painting
- Wheel Chair Ramps for the Elderly and Home Bound

Social Supportive Services

- Visiting with and distributing food to the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities in their homes, nursing homes, and assisted living centers
- Serving Lunches to School Aged Children
- Cleaning out school buildings and public library

Medical Services

- Dental, Surgical, Oncology, Cardiac and General Practitioner Services
- Medical Screenings

Frequently Asked Questions

Who, what, when, where and WHY?

- Who: All Saint Barbara Jr/Sr Goyans who have earned the required number of points may participate. Jr. Goyans under 13 years of age **MUST** be accompanied by a parent (no exceptions).
- What: A mission trip with YOCAMA – Young Orthodox Christian American Mission Adventures!
- When: Tentative dates (waiting for confirmation from YOCAMA): July 10th-17th
- Where: Rural New Mexico on a Native American Indian Reservation
- Why: **To share the love of God through good works and to deepen our own relationship with Jesus Christ!**

What is the cost of the trip?

The exact cost of the trip is still to be determined. The mission trip itself will cost approximately \$700-800 not including airfare & transfers. Fundraisers will be held throughout the year to help subsidize the cost, but we encourage Goyans to work on raising funds individually as well.

What can I expect my teenage son or daughter to be doing as a missionary in New Mexico?

At this time, teens will be doing home repairs, painting, delivering food and visiting with the elderly. Interactions with the Native American children will be done through serving lunches and providing medical screenings. Goyans will have opportunities to learn about the Native American culture, the poverty and the effects of long term discrimination. The teens are the missionaries. YOCAMA has college aged staff members who assist with the group activities. There are always responsible adults present.

Can parents go on the trip? What can parents expect to do?

Parents may participate as missionaries as well, but it is important to allow your Goyan to participate fully as part of their Goya group. Parents are chaperones, helpers, cooks, and sometimes drivers (if they choose to be). YOCAMA is always looking for people who are familiar with painting and construction.

What does a typical mission day look like?

- Wake up – 6:30 am
- Morning Prayers & Breakfast
- Mission Work
- Lunch on Work Site
- Return to Camp/Dormitory Site for Dinner, Down Time, Group Activities and then Bed.

What about free time or down time? What do the teens do when they aren't working?

Since Yocama is an Orthodox Christian Missionary group, the Divine Liturgy will be celebrated. Prayer is a natural part of the daily routine. There will be at least one or two days when Goyans will take in the natural beauty that surrounds them. They will hike the National or State Parks. In the evening, the teens can expect to have opportunity to participate in volleyball or basketball games. All missionaries are encouraged to participate. No one is left out. Teens are not permitted to leave the group. Teens are always escorted by chaperones when they leave their dormitory/camp site.

Who can I contact if I have any questions about YOCAMA?

You can contact: **Ann Salvator, Director**
(330) 405-3141 | email: annsalvator@yahoo.com

Please complete & return.

Returning this form is not a commitment to participate, just an indication of interest.

Name: _____ Email: _____

_____ No, thanks. My Goyan will not be participating in the mission trip this year.

_____ YES! My Goyan(s) is(are) interested in the mission trip to New Mexico. Please send us email updates.

_____ I am (We are) interested in chaperoning on the mission trip to New Mexico.