



Trip Itinerary Puerto Rico : January 19th – January 23rd, 2019

Saturday, January 19th:

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM Group arrives into Luis Muñoz Marín International Airport (SJU) in San Juan or meets at airport baggage claim between 12:00 PM and 2:30 PM. Depending upon the size of the group, there will be a bus to drive the group to Mariana (approximately 1 hour) or Rusty will rent a vehicle large enough to transport the entire group and their bags. Sandwiches, drinks and snacks will be available to the group.

3:00 - 4:00 PM - Group arrives to the Community Center in Mariana, a former school named Juan de Dios Lopez, unpacks and gets settled into their respective dorm rooms.

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM - Group meets Francisco Nieves, the Volunteer Coordinator for ARECMA (Recreational, Educational and Communal Association of Mariana) our partner organization on the ground in Puerto Rico and gets a tour of the Community Center, meets the cooks and all staff who they will see/meet and or be working with during the week. They will also receive an overview of all the activities that are currently occurring at the Center.

5:00 - 6:00 PM - Free time, group getting to know each other.

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM - Dinner

7:00 - 8:30 PM - Formal welcome by Luis and or Christine, Co-Presidents of ARECMA. Presentation will include who ARECMA is, the goals of the organization, how Crossing Thresholds and ARECMA began and are working together and presentation of the itinerary for the week, including an explanation of the morning work project options and meeting schedules.

8:30 - 9:30 PM - General socializing followed by people retiring back to the dorm rooms.



Sunday, January 20th - Tuesday, January 22nd (3 days)

7:00 AM - Coffee available

8:00 AM - Breakfast

9:00 - 12:30 – AM work projects:

1. Clean, prep and paint a classroom or exterior wall at the Community Center.
2. Work on an agricultural project at La Loma, the Community Park and feeding center.
3. Work in the Community Center Library: building shelves, assembling furniture, sorting books.
4. Help a local senior citizen with storm related damage to fix up their home or somehow assist them in restoring/rebuilding from storm related damage.

1:00 PM - Lunch

1:30 - 2:30 PM - Siesta

2:30 - 3:30 PM - Guest Speakers Series.

1. Community Leaders of ARECMA talk about their organization, their history before the storm, after the storm and hopes for the future.
2. Faculty member from the University of Puerto Rico at Humacao will talk about her work with local college students majoring in Social Work and the work they have been doing in the community since the storm. Students will be present for Q&A session.
3. The Principal of the local elementary school and the teacher hired to run the after-school program by Crossing Thresholds will explain the current program, their goals, challenges and future needs.
4. A local historian to go over the history of Puerto Rico, past, present and future.

4:00 PM - Field trips (may be combined with one of the above activities):

1. Visit to the local elementary school to see the After-School program in action.
2. Tour of other local points of interest focusing on the progress of storm re-construction.
3. A ferry ride over to the island of Vieques, guided walking tour of downtown.*

**This will be an all afternoon trip that will occur on Monday.*

5:30 PM - Free time

6:00 PM - Dinner

7:30 PM - Evening program with Crossing Thresholds focused reflections and/or visiting groups own reflections and activities.

9:00 PM - Retire back to the dorm rooms



Wednesday: January 23rd:

7:00 AM - Coffee available

8:00 AM - Breakfast

9:00 AM - Final meeting and good byes. Community Leaders, Luis and or Christine present to say good bye, thank volunteers for coming and encouraging them to continue to their support of the projects that are occurring at the Community Center and local school.

10:00 AM - Pack, load into bus/vans and depart for the airport. Some volunteers may arrange for private transportation to Palmas del Mar (local resort) or other resorts at the east end of the island.

11:30 AM - Arrive SJU & check-in or extend your stay in PR and transfer to your next destination in or around San Juan.

1:00 PM – 3:00 PM Depart to home airport.

Trip Fee: \$995/person, which include all local transfers, food, lodging and fees.

Airfare to San Juan, Puerto Rico (SJU) is not included.

Crossing Thresholds Application and Agreement Forms required.