



PACH's Innovations

in Andean Sustainable Communities Certificate Program



Partners for Andean Community Health (PACH) has a mission to provide resources and enduring solutions, along with global partners, to improve Andean community health. PACH strives to improve access to healthcare and community services for the people of the Andes. Our innovative approach ensures effective continuums of care in high-impact program areas. We focus

on healthcare accessibility and affordability for vulnerable communities in Ecuador by empowering our local partners and leveraging the expertise, motivation, and resources of international volunteers. We promote a culture of well-being, disease prevention, and cultural diversity. We are a 501c3 not for profit charitable organization.

In collaboration with our in-country clinical partner, FIBSUPAM, PACH offers a variety of immersion programs which support our mission and provide a valuable cultural and educational experience to participants.





Program Overview:

Innovations in Andean Sustainable Communities provides participants an opportunity to expand their current entrepreneurial development paradigm through experiential learning. The diverse cultural and economic context of Ecuador (with focus on the province of Chimborazo) will challenge participants to think creatively as they explore innovative alternatives to addressing social and environmental issues. During site visits with non-profits, NGOs (non-government organizations) and social businesses, participants will be introduced to rural sustainable development efforts. With a focus on the tenets of social entrepreneurship (People. Planet. Profit), participants will enhance language learning skills and cultural competency, as well as gain a unique perspective on the social, environmental, health, and entrepreneurial situations of a developing country. These experiences and skills are highly valued in today's professional environment. In addition, participants will:



Gain insight into the opportunities, inherent risks and limitations in the developing world



Observe, learn and live in a diverse cultural setting



Have ample opportunities to significantly increase Spanish and Kichua language proficiency



Experience homestay living with local families as a rich cultural exchange



Have the opportunity to collaborate with development and relief organizations

In preparation for this experience, participants will be provided materials to review as well as invitations to online webinars in which the program details will be clearly defined and understood so that all participants will be able to make the most of their unique experiences.

During the program, participants will learn through case studies, group discussions, journaling, experiential education and local exchanges. Participants will interact with NGO's, governmental entities, and indigenous entrepreneurs, making a profound community

impact while also gaining in-depth knowledge of rural economic development in Ecuador.

Around the world, businesses, educational institutions, and medical service providers are prioritizing corporate social responsibility (CSR). Organizations are discovering that focusing on the **triple bottom** line of People, Planet, and Profit is leading to encouraging results for all stakeholders involved. Participants in our Immersion Program can contribute to this movement by gaining vital experience to enter the workforce already aligned with the social missions of influential organizations.

Our new initiative, **Andean Sustainable Communities** offers participants several things that other study abroad options do not:

- *Participants are able to immerse themselves in a “developing world” culture.*
- *They will be gaining an extensive knowledge of the field of social entrepreneurship, a field that is growing exponentially in popularity.*
- *Along with non-traditional classroom settings, participants will learn from hands-on field experience.*
- *Participants will earn a non-degree certificate as a “PACH Fellow in Andean Sustainable Communities” along with a complete description of their service in Ecuador.*



Contact Hours Towards Certification:

PLEASE REFER TO
THE DETAILED DAILY
SCHEDULE ATTACHED
TO THE PROGRAM
OUTLINE

- **Pre-program overview of culturally congruent community development models**
- **Three online workshops (cultural profile, community development models and organizational behavior in hybrid businesses)**
- **Spanish Class hours (1:1 Teacher/Participant): ELECTIVE**
- **Social Entrepreneurship Classes and Presentations:**
- **Social Entrepreneurship Fieldwork with Professional Field Leadership:**
- **Outreach: Campaign (Caravanas) in a variety of communities**
- **Agri-Tourism/Eco-tourism**



Homestays:



Exceptions:

Although we greatly encourage that participants stay with one family per participant, accommodations can be made so that every participant feels comfortable in their surroundings.

Cultural immersion is all about having contact with the local population and practicing Spanish with native speakers as much as possible. To that end, all of our participants will have the opportunity to live with host families. All homestay families are trained by FIBUSPAM. As such, these families understand the needs of the participants. The homestay is an essential step in helping participants gain an understanding of how local people live and work. It is also an invaluable way to improve on conversational Spanish. The vast majority of participants form great friendships during this process and decide to stay with host families when not designated by the program. Many participants speak to this experience as one of their most valuable aspects of the program.

Living in a home stay with a host family has many linguistic and cultural advantages:

- *Participants will have close contact with native Spanish speakers, which will give them plenty of opportunities to practice Spanish in realistic everyday situations with people who are patient with and willing to help participants learning Spanish*
- *Participants will be able to participate in their host family's daily lives, gaining unique insights that cannot be taught in a classroom.*
- *Participants will not only learn about but will be able to experience firsthand the customs and culture of Ecuador*
- *Eating with the host family will provide participants with delicious, nutritious, and safely cooked daily meals.*

Overall, our families are happy to help you practice your Spanish, and to give you tips and advice to make your experience a uniquely memorable one, and will do their best to provide you with a pleasant "home away from home."



Cost:

With the **\$3250** cost per participant. All in country expenses are covered including lodging, meals, program and activity fees, supplies and materials. All materials to be used in the classroom setting as well as in the field are prepared and paid for by PACH, all transportation and meals are covered by PACH, and a daily stipend is given to the participant when necessary. PACH does not cover airfare to and from Quito, Ecuador, personal insurance, entertainment costs outside of pre-planned activities, and tips for drivers and guides as necessary, participants are expected to assume this expense.

Schedule:

Program dates are June 1 - 29, 2019



- DAY 1** Arrival to Quito and settle in Hotel
- DAY 2** Quito Day - Orientation and Tour of Quito
- DAY 3** Travel to Riobamba - Visit Cotopaxi - Visit FIBUSPAM clinic
- DAY 4** Volunteer Campaign (Caravana #1)
- DAY 5** Volunteer Campaign (Caravana #2)
- DAY 6** Volunteer Campaign (Caravana #3)
- DAY 7** Volunteer Campaign (Caravana #4)
- DAY 8** Volunteer Campaign (Caravana #5)
- DAY 9** Specialty Day (Social Entrepreneurship Workshop) and Visit to Baños de Agua Santa thermal spas
- DAY 10** Free morning in Baños de Agua Santa thermal spas and travel back to Riobamba
- DAY 11** Sustainable Communities Intensive Begins - Intro to Social Entrepreneurship
- DAY 12** Sustainable Communities Intensive Day #2 - Visit Jatun Wasi
- DAY 13** Sustainable Communities Intensive Day #3 - Visit Jatun Wasi day #2
- DAY 14** Visit Guayaquil/Coastal Ecuador Day #1 (Eco and Agri-tourism)
- DAY 15** Visit Guayaquil/Coastal Ecuador Day #2 (Eco and Agri-tourism)
- DAY 16** Return to Riobamba and begin Homestays
- DAY 17** Sustainable Communities #4 - Group work and field studies
- DAY 18** Sustainable Communities Day #5 - Group work and field studies
- DAY 19** Sustainable Communities Day #6 - Group work and project development
- DAY 20** Sustainable Communities Day #7 - Group work and project presentation
- DAY 21** Visit Mt. Chimborazo
- DAY 22** Day tour - Nariz del Diablo - Alausí
- DAY 23** Homestay Despedida (Goodbye) and travel to Alausi
- DAY 24** Alausi reading glasses distribution and research
- DAY 25** Alausi reading glasses distribution and research day #2
- DAY 26** Alausi reading glasses distribution and research day #3
- DAY 27** Travel to Quito - Stop by Riobamba for Goodbye Celebration
- DAY 28** Departure from Quito

For more information or to register for this program, email Zac Smith at Zac@partnersforandeancommunityhealth.org