



PACH's

Community Vision Health Care 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.



4-week Program Overview:

Community Vision Health Care provides participants an opportunity to improve the health and well-being of underserved communities in Ecuador while acquiring new skills in public health management specific to ophthalmology and vision health care. 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 health care delivery, supply chains, and public health programming. During this four-week immersive program participants will engage with rural communities to gain a deeper understanding of the economic and geographic realities of accessing health care in developing countries. Participants will also gain a deeper understanding of the non-profit health care model by working at FIBUSPAM's outpatient surgical center and mobile medical clinics. Participants will enhance language learning skills and cultural competency, as well as gain a unique perspective on the social, environmental, public 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

This program is targeted towards medical and pre-med students, vision-care professionals, public health, health care management, and business students and professionals alike.

In preparation for this experience, participants will be provided materials to review as well as invitations to online webinars in which the programs 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 local health care providers, making a profound community impact while also gaining in-depth knowledge of public health management in developing countries.



Our new initiative, **Innovations in Community Vision Health Care** 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 healthcare management in a low-resources setting.*
- *Along with non-traditional classroom learning, participants will learn from hands-on field experience.*
- *PACH Fellow in Community Vision Health Care Management*

Contact Hours Towards Certification:

- Pre-program overview of vision health care in rural communities.
- Three online workshops (cultural profile of health care systems in Ecuador, continuums of care models in developing countries, community health and behavior change)
- Spanish Class hours (1:1 Teacher/Participant): **ELECTIVE**
- Health Care Management: Classes and Presentations
- Health Care Management: Fieldwork with Professional Field Leadership:
- Outreach: Campaign (Caravanas) in a variety of communities
- Surgical Observation

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



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 **Innovations in Community Vision Health Care** participants will have the opportunity to live with host families. All homestay families are trained by PACH and 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."

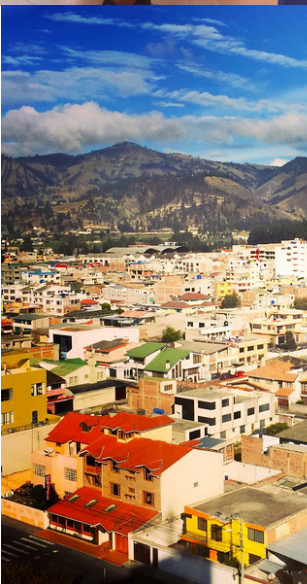


Cost:

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.

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE:

Program dates are July 1 – July 28, 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 (Community Vision Health Care workshop) and Visit to Baños de Agua Santa
- DAY 10** Free morning in Baños and travel back to Riobamba
- DAY 11** Community Vision Health Care Intensive Begins - Intro to FIBUSPAM Ophthalmology Program and Surgical Immersion
- DAY 12** Community Vision Health Care Intensive Day #2 - Visit Jatun Wasi
- DAY 13** Community Vision Health Care Intensive Day #3 - Preventative Health Projects and Sunglass distribution
- 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** Community Vision Health Care #4 - Group work and distance glasses focus
- DAY 18** Community Vision Health Care #5 - Group work and project development
- DAY 19** Community Vision Health Care #6 - Group work and project development
- DAY 20** Community Vision Health Care #7 - Group work and project presentation
- DAY 21** Visit Mt. Chimborazo
- DAY 22** Day tour - Nariz del Diablo
- DAY 23** Riobamba Wrap Up and Homestay despedida (Goodbye)
- DAY 24** Alausi travel day Reader Glasses Distribution Caravanas
- DAY 25** Reader Glasses Distribution Caravanas in communities around Alausi
- DAY 26** Reader Glasses Distribution Caravanas
- 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
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