

Ecuador | September 2025

Date: September 15-21, 2025

Where: Quito & surrounding areas

Cost: \$2,500

Mission Partner: Extreme Response :: extremeresponse.org

Focus of the Trip:

Extreme Response has been working with the Recyclers in Quito, Ecuador since 1998. They began working with recyclers who lived and worked in an extreme situation in the “Zambiza” Trash Dump. The people searched through the garbage for food, reusable items for their homes, and recyclable material to earn some money. In 2007 the Recyclers were removed from the Zambiza Dump which was changed to a Recycling Transfer Station. The Recyclers were given the opportunity to work (under a government agency) to recycle and earn some income. Over the years Extreme Response has had a variety of programs focused on meeting the ever changing needs of the transfer station and street recyclers in the area. Today ER has ministry programs for Adults that involve discipleship, mentorship, life skills & livelihood training, and vocational training.

The primary focus of our trip will be to care for and minister to Zac & Abby Carnill and their ministry team. The Carnill's left West Rome in 2019 to serve in Ecuador full time with Extreme Response. In addition to caring for the ER team, we will also spend time at the Extreme Response Dream Center (DC) which focuses on education and long term discipleship and mentoring for elementary through high school students. The main goal of the Dream Center is to share the Gospel and develop disciples, while providing education and life skills that will aid them in breaking the cycle of generational poverty and abuse.

Basic Details:

- Travel documents needed
 - Passport
- Air Travel
 - Flight
 - Delta Airlines :: Flight Times TBD
 - Flights will be booked once the team is established
- Travel Insurance
 - Travel insurance is included in the price of your trip
 - You will be provided with a travel insurance card prior to our departure date
 - Insurance covers major medical and emergency evacuation
- Lodging // Food // Water // Transportation
 - We will be staying at the Extreme Response mission home in Quito
 - All lodging is bunk style and has A/C and bathrooms
 - Food & Water will be provided by ER and is safe for consumption
 - All transportation will be provided by ER

Financial Commitment:

- Cost Breakdown
 - Airfare: \$1,200
 - On the Ground: \$1,200
 - Admin & Supplies: \$100
- Financial Deadlines
 - Deposit: \$350 :: May 11, 2025
 - 2nd Payment: \$500 :: June 15, 2025
 - 3rd Payment: \$500 :: July 20, 2025
 - Final Payment: \$1,150 :: September 1, 2025

Team Meetings:

- Information & Planning Meeting :: May 4, 2025
- 2nd Planning Meeting :: TBA
- Final Preparation Meeting :: TBA

How to register:

- Register and pay your deposit @ www.westrome.org
- You may also pay your deposit...
 - Via cash or check
 - Make checks payable to West Rome Baptist Church
 - You may bring your payments to the welcome center on Sun. mornings & Wed. nights
 - You may bring payments to the church office between 8:30a-5p, Mon. – Thurs.
 - You may mail your payment to...
 - West Rome Baptist Church :: 914 Shorter Ave :: Rome, GA 30165

Contact Information:

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Topher Stockton at your convenience.

- Topher: tstockton@westrome.org // 678-451-7154

Keys to Raising Support :: The Team Building Approach

Building a Support Team

Each individual team member will be responsible for developing his or her own support team. The support team consists of:

- Prayer Supporters
- Encouragers
- Financial Contributors

The concept is to develop a team, not just to raise funds. The most important need you will have is for people to pray for you, before and during your trip.

The Team

The idea of the team is to involve as many people in the mission experience as possible.

The team is a...

- ministry through you to the team (TEAM = goers + prayer support + senders)
- means by which others can share in the blessings of the mission (Phil. 4:17)
- Biblical approach (II Cor. 8:4)
- means by which others become missions-minded Christians through giving

You should seek people that you want on your team, not those who you think will give money. Remember, if the prayer support is in place, everything else will fall into place.

Raising Funds

If you cannot pay for the entire cost of your trip, the most effective proven method to raise individual funds is to write a letter for distribution to friends, co-workers and church members. Professional fund-raisers for large organizations will tell you that people will give to people they know. Potential contributors are happy to have the opportunity to invest in someone they know personally or an endeavor they care about. God's Word promises us that He will supply our every need.

Prepare the Team List

- Usually 25 or more
- Not all West Rome Baptist Church members (recommend at least 50% outside our church)
- Friends, relatives, co-workers, Christian contacts, non-Christians that God may open a door to witness to through this process

Write the Letter

You are asking people to support your ministry through West Rome Baptist Church. If you are asking for financial contributions, you are asking them to help with the cost that you will incur by conducting the ministry (transportation, meals while on the field, in-country housing, airfare, travel insurance, etc.) A common testimony for team members is that while they were initially put off by the idea of sending support letters, the experience turned out to be a highlight of the trip.

Tracking Support Received

We (the church) will keep detailed records of all contributions given to each member of the mission team, but we also recommend that you keep your own records to help track your progress and for follow-up.

The following guidelines will help you keep track of the support you receive:

- Create an Excel spreadsheet or journal to record the financial contributions you receive
 - Record the Amount (\$\$) given and the date it was given
 - Record the method of payment – Example: cash or check (if check, record the check #)
 - Record the name and address of the person who gave the support
- Turn in money to the church as you receive it.
 - It gives the missions staff the opportunity to help you keep record of the contributions you receive.
 - It will help to insure that money does not get lost

Support Letters

The following guidelines will help you in writing your support letter:

Types of letters you can send:

- A letter asking for prayer support only (*if you are paying your own way*)
- A letter asking for prayer and financial support
- A letter asking for project support (*if you are paying your own way*)

Drafting your letter:

- While sample letters that you find on the internet can be very helpful in drafting your support letter, be careful that you do not fall prey to the temptation to copy the letter you find and just change a few details. Your team wants to hear from your heart, not someone else's. We encourage you to use sample letters to help you with format or creative ideas but the content needs to come from you.
- **We recommend including some or all of the following information in your letter:**
 - ***Make it personal***
 - Tell about where you are going and how God has called you to go
 - Include why you want to be involved in the trip (*reasons that you feel the most strongly about*)
 - Information regarding the culture, economics, and politics of the country you are going to
 - Description of what the team will be doing – the main focus of the trip
 - ***Provide the important details***
 - The cost of the trip (\$)
 - The amount (\$) you are sacrificially giving towards the total cost of the trip
 - You may want to recommend a giving amount (*\$25, \$50, \$100, etc...*) for financial supporters.
 - ***Invite them to get involved***
 - How you would like the reader to be involved (*prayer, financial, both*)
 - All checks must be payable to West Rome Baptist Church
 - Mail the check to you (*the team member*)
 - The date you need the money
 - ***Keep the letter brief – we recommend one page***
 - ***Mail your support letters as early as you can*** – if you wait you might not get the support you need

Other Ways to Raise Financial Support

- Start a GoFundMe page :: learn more @ gofundme.com
- Host a yard sale
- Share about your trip via your social media network
- Design and sell T-shirts

Follow-Up

Following up with each member of your support team is a very important part of raising support. The support team you build wants to know that you are thankful for their support financially and through prayer. Second, they want to hear about your trip and how God changed you through it.

Here are a few things we recommend to help you follow-up with your support team:

- Send a thank you note to every person on your support team thanking them for their support financially or in prayer.
- When you return from your trip – send a letter to every person on your support team.
 - Tell them about your trip
 - Tell them how God changed your life
 - Thank them for their support
 - Maybe even include a few photos from your trip