**

**Lesotho**

**March 30- April 7, 2019**

**Habitat for Humanity St. Vrain Valley trip to Lesotho**

Habitat for Humanity International is a global nonprofit Christian housing organization that seeks to put God’s love into action by bringing people together to build homes, communities and hope. Since 1976, Habitat has served more than 6.8 million people by welcoming people of all races, religions and nationalities to construct, rehabilitate or preserve homes; by advocating for fair and just housing policies; and by providing training and access to resources to help families improve their shelter conditions.

**Goals and Vision for Habitat for Humanity of the St. Vrain Valley Global Village Trips**

**Our purpose is to demonstrate Faith in Action by supporting the work that God has already begun in Lesotho**

As a Christian organization “we are driven by the desire to give tangible expression to the love of God through the work of eliminating poverty housing.” (HFHI Website). We are committed to issues that affect not just our local neighbors but those who live in extreme poverty and substandard housing throughout the world. The opportunity to serve in Lesotho is an outward expression of our faith and hope in Jesus Christ. We will accomplish this purpose by:

**1) Support Habitat Lesotho in their work**

We will be going as support to what the local affiliate in Lesotho is already doing. We are not coming in to fix processes, instruct or teach “better” or more efficient practices but to work alongside our partners who have been and will continue to do great work in the process of eliminating substandard housing.

**2) Energizing our local affiliate**

We will increase affiliate participation from those interested in supporting international development and help those in our community to see the need and work in our own community, and expand the vision of those currently involved with our affiliate as to our international impact.

**3) Building relationships with those we have supported financially**

Tithe supports international affiliates by financial means, but our relationship and our global story will only increase in authenticity with relationships built by working side by side. Through meaningful relationships built on the trips we will increase our ability to describe the need and promote the work of Habitat in Lesotho.

**Itinerary (Draft)**

**Day 1and 2 Saturday and Sunday- Arrival and Orientation days**

* Depart the US
* Greeted at the airport in Johannesburg by Habitat Lesotho staff member Transfer to Lodging
* Orientation (meet partner family, understand construction and starting point)
* Dinner, Rest and settle, Team meeting
* Visit Area office of Habitat for Humanity International in Pretoria

**Day 3 Monday- Travel Day**

* Travel from Johannesburg, South Africa to Lesotho (approximately a 5-hour drive)

**Day 4-8 Work days (Tuesday- Friday)**

* Breakfast served before traveling to worksite
* Work from 8am-4pm with lunch on site or at the Hotel
* Free time after work to clean up, Dinner and time for team activities

**Day 8 Farewell and Cultural Activities**

* Breakfast served before traveling to worksite
* Farewell event (closing/dedication with partner family)
* Cultural Activity
* Dinner and Time for team activities

**Day 9: Saturday – Cultural Activities in Lesotho**

**Day 10: Sunday – Travel Day from Lesotho to Johannesburg**

**Day 11: Monday – travel home**

**Special events throughout the week**

Potential cultural experiences with host program staff might include:

* traditional dance, traditional food
* City Tour, shopping handcraft, sightseeing
* Visit the homeowner existing home
* Orientation and Farewell ceremony

**The GV trip cost includes: $1500.00 estimate dependent on size of team**

* Donation to the Habitat HFHI Program
* Meals (Excluding traveling to and from Johannesburg and home country)
* Accommodations
* In-country Transport, including airport pick up and drop off
* Medical emergency evacuation insurance
* Team coordination assistance from HFHI and hosting program and orientation materials
* Some local cultural activities included

**Additional Costs $1,200-2,000 estimate**

* Airfare: Estimate $1500 (Airfare Trip Cancellation Insurance at own discretion and cost)
* Personal Money on the trip
* Meals while in-transit
* Passport
* Vaccinations if needed

**Pre Departure Commitments**

* $250 deposit due by October 1
* Attend 6 training meetings
* Attend the Team build day on the Longmont
* Participate in an awareness event
* Turn in all paperwork in a timely manner
* Obtain a US Passport that is valid till at least September 2019

***GLobal Village Interest Form***

**What: Habitat for Humanity of the St. Vrain Valley will be traveling to Maseru, Lesotho to assist Habitat Lesotho in their work.**

**When: March 30-April 7, 2019 (estimate)**

**Deadlines: Please return the interest form by October 1, 2018 with a non-refundable $250 deposit**

**Name:**

**Phone: Email:**

**Address:**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Signature:**

🞎 I am interested in fundraising opportunities to help in covering the cost of the trip.

Mail forms to PO Box 333 Longmont, CO 80502-0333 or return to the office at 303 Atwood St. Longmont

**For more information please contact: Julie Gallegos at 303.682.2485 ext103 (office) or email jgallegos@stvrainhabitat.org**

**Application Questions (use a separate paper)**

1. **What do you know about Habitat’s Mission and what Habitat does? Why is it important to you?**
2. **What do you know about how, when or why Habitat was founded?**
3. **What other community activities/church activities/volunteer activities or other civic activities are you currently engaged in? Are you willing to share about your experience in Lesotho and about Habitat with those organizations?**
4. **What would you most like to get out of this experience?**
5. **Can you commit to meeting monthly for the next 6 months (starting in October), attend a build day at the St. Vrain construction site, and participate in an awareness event before departure and reflection meetings while on the trip. Yes/No Concerns?**
6. **Any concerns you have you would like answered?**