

Ecuador Medical Mission Trip  
Machachi, Ecuador  
June 10-18, 2022

Our foreign mission trip for 2022 will take us to the SIFAT site at Machachi, Ecuador. This is a site where we have served before. It is about one hour south of Quito in a lush dairy farming area. It is a very poor community and will have significant needs. We will provide physicals and prescriptions for approximately 500 patients. We will carry medicines to address the most common problems and vitamin deficiencies. We will also provide fluoride treatments for their teeth and eyeglasses as needed.

We will be traveling on Delta Airlines again this year, flying out of Birmingham. We will leave on Friday, June 10 and return overnight on Saturday, June 18, arriving Sunday morning. Our travel schedule is as follows:

Delta #2791 July 10 lv Birmingham 11:49 am  
Delta #633 July 10 lv Atlanta 3:51 pm, ar Quito 8:10 pm

Delta #632 July 18, lv Quito 11:30 pm, ar Atlanta 5:45 am (June 19)  
Delta # July 19 lv Atlanta 8:10 am, ar Birmingham 8:00 am

Those team members leaving from Guntersville will travel to the Birmingham airport by church bus. Everyone will be allowed one bag with a maximum weight of 50 lbs. You will be assigned a second container of medicines, supplies or glasses.

We will be staying at the Hotel Rio Amazonas. Unfortunately, the Hotel Tambo Real, where we have stayed for years, will not reopen in time for our trip. All SIFAT teams stay at the same hotel. **If you have special dietary needs, please let us know.**

The cost for the trip is approximately \$2,750. This covers airfare, SIFAT's fee (which includes hotel and meals), and everything else except shopping money and our tourist day activity. Ecuador uses US currency as its standard so there is no need to exchange money when entering or leaving the country.

Our tourist day activity on our first Saturday this year will be a return to the zip line. The cost for the Zip Line is \$60. It includes 5 lines and a fantastic lunch. On Sunday, June 12, we will take our customary trip to the middle of the world. Here you will visit the equator and learn a little of the earlier history of Ecuador. If you're really gifted, you can balance an egg on a nail as you stand on the equator. This is a half day trip and we expect to stop for lunch at Crepes and Waffles again. We will stop at the Super Maxi on the way back to buy clinic and VBS supplies.

A ***non-refundable deposit*** of \$200.00 is required by January 19. Please make all checks payable to Guntersville First United Methodist Church and mail them to us at 2300

Kirkland Circle; Guntersville, AL 35976. One fourth of the balance will be due by February 1. An additional one fourth will be due by March 1. The third installment will be due by March 31. The final installment will be due April 15.

All of the required forms are available on the church web site, [gfumc.net](http://gfumc.net). All paperwork must be received by March 1. This includes the Missioner's Profile form, Death Notification form, Health form, Photo Release, and a copy of your passport. A background check form will be required also for persons 18 and older. ***Please verify that your passport will not expire for at least six months beyond our return date of June 18.***

***Three new items have been added to the paperwork list. A copy of your driver's license or photo ID, and a copy of your insurance card (front and back) are required. These have to do with the providing of medical services outside the United States and will be due with the other paperwork items. A copy of your COVID-19 vaccination card is also required.***

There is a group of immunizations recommended for travel to Ecuador. These include MMR, Tetanus (if more than 10 years since last injection), Typhoid, Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B. If you need help finding a source to get these immunizations, please let us know. These should be started as soon as possible since Hepatitis A and B require multiple injections over a period of time.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to call us. Our number at home is (256) 582-7661; Jim's cell is (256) 572-3026; Barbara's cell is (256) 571-5334. We look forward to your joining us and becoming part of our opportunity to serve the children of Ecuador.

*Jim & Barbara Harris*