

Transform your life
while helping and learning
from others...

Join our 2020
SERVICE LEARNING TRIP TO EL SALVADOR!
JULY 19TH-29TH!

An intergenerational trip for youth 14* years and older plus
active, young-at-heart adults



Sponsored by Palo Alto Friends Meeting (Quakers)

Complete information about the El Salvador Projects can be downloaded from

<http://www.pafmelsalvadorprojects.org/>

For additional trip information contact Nate Secrest (secrestnm@guilford.edu)

Sarah Ludwig (sarah.k.ludwig@gmail.com)

Or Robert Broz (rpbroz@gmail.com)

*Youth traveling with a parent can be younger than age 14.

| | | |
|------------------------|--|---|
| Trip activities | July 19th-29th (10 nights) *Arrive in El Salvador on July 19th *Return to US on July 29th | Build connections with communities in El Salvador through 10 days of immersive experiences. Play games and hear personal stories from both El Salvadoran youth and elders. Experience a rural homestay, hike to waterfalls, take Spanish lessons. Engage in service work, tailored to best fit your skills in a way that meets the communities need. Learn about the history of the Salvadoran Civil War and the current state of El Salvador. Process your experiences through intentional small-group reflections. Visit rural areas, the capital San Salvador, the mountains, and finally the beach. |
|------------------------|--|---|

For the deepest experience and most personal growth, we strongly encourage you to practice your language skills before coming on the trip and to educate yourself on the history of El Salvador!

The trip includes:

- all in country meals, entrance fees, and transportation (not including airfare to or from El Salvador)
- experiencing daily life in a developing country
- visits to rural communities to work and meet with youth and community leaders
- a tour of each area where we stay and work
- learning about Salvadoran history and culture, as well as the effects of United States involvement in Central America, and the political climate of today
- some sightseeing and some play
- daily reflections called Vespers/worship sharing
- facilitation of activities by 3-5 bilingual adult chaperones/guides/translators from the U.S. and El Salvador

Trip Costs: \$880, plus \$600 - \$750 for round-trip airfare.

Scholarships: If possible, contact your monthly meeting and ask for assistance. Otherwise, please complete the scholarship application included in this packet on page 20 and email to Nate and Sarah. Scholarships will be awarded on a first-come first-serve basis.

Donations to the trip scholarship fund are greatly appreciated; contact Nate and Sarah.

Air Travel Arrangements: Please book your own travel arrangements to arrive in-country before noon on July 19th. Those under 18 should coordinate their travel with trip coordinators Nate and Sarah

Trip coordinators: Nate Secrest secrestnm@guilford.edu, Sausalito, California; Sarah Ludwig sarah.k.ludwig@gmail.com, Sausalito, California; and Robert Broz rpbroz@gmail.com, Suchitoto, El Salvador.

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Dear Participants and Parents:

We are excited to continue the opportunity to go on an intergenerational service-learning trip to El Salvador sponsored by Palo Alto Friends Meeting. Participants on our earlier trips say that it was life-changing to experience the combination of traveling in a developing country, meeting the wonderful Salvadoran people, doing service, and sharing the experience within a caring community of like-minded people!

We encourage you to read through this information and make your decision early, as we will only be able to accommodate 16 participants on this trip. We keep our groups deliberately small to build intimacy and bonding, to do worship-sharing, and also so that we can fit our entire group and their luggage into the minibuses and make sure there is space for everyone when we spend the night in private homes and local hostels.

Our trips offer a wonderful opportunity to see what it is like to live in a developing country and to learn of the role that the US has in that country's history. We will focus on visiting the communities which have projects supported by Palo Alto Friends Meeting, under the oversight of Robert Broz and the El Salvador Committee since 1989. We will meet and speak with community leaders, visit schools, learn of the peace process in El Salvador, and do some volunteer work in each community. There will also be cultural experiences and opportunities for sightseeing. To see some snippets from our 2017 trip, visit our blog <http://elsalvadorservicelearningtrips.blogspot.com/2017/>

The packet contains several pages of useful information plus registration forms to complete. Please go through them carefully and let Nate Secrest, Sarah Ludwig, or Robert Broz know if you have any questions. Total cost for the 2020 trip is \$880 plus airfare. The \$880 includes all meals, accommodations, ground transportation, entry fees, language class and service project costs which will be \$150 for which you can receive a tax deductible receipt if desired.

For more information read on!

Accommodations:

During our stay we will be staying primarily in a hostel in Suchitoto, this would be either Centro de Arte Para La Paz or the Plataforma Global. There are bunk beds at the hostel, accommodating 2-4 people in a room with shared bathrooms. The hostels have running water and showers, but the water is generally cool/cold. During our trip we will also have a minimum of 3 nights of home-stays in the communities. We will be distributed among host families, and will be sleeping on simple beds such as mattress pads on the floor or other rustic conditions. **Because we are participating in rural living, be forewarned that we will be going to bed early and getting up early each day, even while in Suchitoto.** This will be extremely important so that we can effectively participate in our work projects and interact with our local hosts. In the communities we can expect "outhouse" type facilities, with washing up at the outdoor "pila", or sink, and a quick body rinse in the bathing enclosure. None of our locations provide heated water for bathing. Believe us, you won't need it.

Meals and Transportation:

Meals will be very simple but food is plentiful, consisting mainly of plantains, eggs, cheese, beans, and Salvadoran style tortillas. We can accommodate vegetarians and some of the more common food allergies, but not vegan, food options on the trip. Dairy-free diets can be accommodated, but not other dietary needs. We do need to know about special diets in advance so please indicate on the application. People who don't enjoy fried plantains, may want to bring some packaged granola bars or snacks.

For all longer distances and on major highways we will be using modern mid size buses or vans. Both will offer A/C. Much of our local transportation will be by truck where we will be in the beds of pickup trucks or larger trucks. We do not use any local buses during the trip and we only use drivers we have worked with in the past.

Weather:

The weather in July is hot and sticky with daily rain showers in the afternoons, evenings and throughout the night. Another reason to get up early and beat the heat!

Laundry: There will be laundry services available while in Suchitoto which will be offered mid trip at the hostel. You can expect to do laundry once during the 10 day trip, so you'll want to reserve a set of clothing as your work clothes. If needed you can wash your own clothes or pay for additional loads in the hostels washing machine.

Adults:

Our U.S. coordinators are Nate Secrest and Sarah Ludwig. This will be their second time coordinating the trip. Nate, an environmental educator and Young Adult Friend from the Bay Area, has 10+ years working with youth and is well known within West Coast Quaker communities. Nate has traveled to El Salvador several times including three service-learning trips in the past. Sarah is also an environmental educator with 10+ years of experience teaching and leading trips for youth, in both urban and wilderness settings. In addition, she has medical training as a Wilderness First Responder.

Our in-country trip coordinator, Robert Broz, has lived in El Salvador for the past 25 years and has been the El Salvador projects in country director for the past 14 years. Our projects were initiated by released Friend, Carmen Broz in 1989. All of our accompanying adults are conversant in English and Spanish, work with all aspects of the program, and are prepared to assist with interpretation as necessary.

In El Salvador we also contact a local youth coordinator who is bilingual and with the group throughout the time in El Salvador.

Air Travel:

You should make your own air travel reservations to and from El Salvador insuring that you arrive no later than 12 noon on July 19th. Your return flight should be return travel for no earlier than 9am on July 29th. If you are under 16 years old please be in contact with Nate and Sarah so we can help coordinate adult chaperons for your flights.

Suchitoto is 1-1/2 to 2 hours from San Salvador, and there will be one airport pickup

on Sunday, 7/19. The travelers will be met by Robert Broz, Nate Secrest, Sarah Ludwig and our drivers. Participants must check in with the trip coordinators to ensure that their flight arrives in San Salvador within a window of time that allows a single pick-up (6:00 am-12:00 pm). Additional transportation is always available but at an additional cost(airport-Suchitoto \$65, Beach-Airport \$45)

Registration and Trip Payment:

Registration Opens officially on December 1st, 2019, but if you know now that you want to participate we will receive you application forms and deposits earlier. Registrations will be first-come first served and to be counted must include completed paperwork and your deposit.

Trip Fees: \$200 participation fee is due at the time of registration, this payment is a non-refundable deposit unless the trip is canceled by us prior to the March 31st deadline. The remainder will be due by June 1, 2020, and can be paid in one or two installments. The total of \$880 includes all of the trip expenses outside of the airfare and personal extras. If you feel able to contribute more than \$880 as a scholarship for other participants, please contact Nate and Sarah.

December 1st Registration Opens, Deposit Due with application forms

March 31st All forms and deposit due (\$200)

April 15th *Early bird special! (\$800 if all forms and with full payment)*

June 1st All Payments Due (remaining \$680)

Cancellation: If the trip is canceled by the trip organizers, your money will be refunded in full. If you should need to cancel, refunds (less the \$200 non-refundable deposit) will be dependent on our ability to find a replacement for you. No refunds will be granted after June 1. If you book your air travel independently, check with your airline as to their refund policies.

Spanish Class



Making Pupusas



Immunizations: The best thing to do is to refer to CDC's travel information for Mexico and Central America <http://wwwn.cdc.gov/travel/default.aspx> and also contact your health care provider for immunization specifics. Be sure to get your medical appointment a good 4-6 weeks in advance of the trip so that vaccines have a chance to take effect.

Passports: You can find the specifics for getting or renewing a passport and the application forms at: http://travel.state.gov/passport/get/get_840.html This site tells what forms you need, what kind of i.d., and what is needed for minors aged 14-17. You can also find the names of the post offices in your area which handle passport applications. You will want to begin the passport process right away.

See Also: <https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/country/el-salvador.html> for info on El Salvador...

Entry/Exit Requirements: To enter El Salvador, U.S. citizens must present a current U.S. passport and a one-entry tourist card, your passport must have a minimum of at least 60 days before expiration . The tourist card is obtained from immigration officials for a ten-dollar fee upon arrival in country (included in your trip payment.) Minors traveling without a parent will need a **notarized** statement stating that parents have given their permission for travel. (see permission to travel and medical form below).

Spending Money: All trip essentials will be covered in your payment, so no spending money is strictly necessary. However, there will be opportunities to use the internet, shop for snacks, local crafts, souvenirs, and laundry, and most people will want to bring \$30-50 for these. Bring more if you think you might want to buy a hammock. Street Hammock vendors can be haggled down to about \$25 per hammock or you might want to rent a surfboard on the last day at the beach (adults only at your own risk plz). Bring money in \$1 and \$5 clean and untorn bills.

Collecting trash while on a waterfall hike



Additional Travel Advice

In addition to early-to-bed and early-to-rise, we will need to change some of our other daily habits. Here are things we can practice to begin to make ourselves conscious of differences in daily routines:

Don't put tap water in your mouth. We'll drink only bottled water and use it also for brushing teeth. Sticking a toothbrush under the water faucet is such a habit that most people forget and do it automatically. So try practicing for several days before you go, using bottled water instead. Then attach your toothbrush to a spare water bottle with a rubber band for the trip.

Don't put toilet paper in the toilet. Throughout Latin America - from private homes to luxury hotels - you will find a small container next to the toilet. That's where you drop the used toilet paper. The plumbing simply isn't designed to accommodate paper, and it's pretty embarrassing in someone's home to be responsible for stopping up their toilet, so start being aware. Hold on to the paper a moment and think, "I won't drop it in the toilet." Nothing goes in the toilet except your gratitude for having one.

Know where your food and drink comes from. The safest place to eat is at the hostel or at a private home or restaurant, and the most risky food is from a street vendor. We'll drink only bottled water from a reliable source and eat mostly thoroughly cooked hot foods. We can eat fresh fruits that we wash and peel carefully, but no salads, no lettuce and tomato in the sandwich or taco, etc., so fill up on salads before you go.

According to the CDC, traveler's diarrhea is the most common risk, and the above precautions are the best way to prevent it. It is rarely serious and usually lasts no more than 3 or 4 days. Of course this can make a 10-day trip a miserable experience, so you want to be very careful. For more information, please check out the Center for Disease Control's website www.cdc.gov/travel/. We will be carrying pepto-bismal and other anti-diarrheal medicine as part of our first-aid supplies.

Take photocopies of your passport or other ID. If you rely on prescription medications or glasses, take along a copy of the prescription. Please also indicate on the medical release form what medications you are taking. Please bring copies of your passport ID. Once we get to El Salvador, we will leave our passports locked in Robert Broz' safe and carry our copies.

Bring a friendly, flexible attitude. We will be experiencing things that may be very different from what we are used to, and it will be helpful if we can be open to these new experiences. One of our best opportunities for service will be to be patient listeners and friendly communicators across language barriers.

And, some recommended preparation...

- Please take time to look at the **El Salvador Projects website** to get a feel for the projects and their history. There are lots of photos of the communities and of previous trips. <https://www.pafmelsalvadorprojects.org/>
You can also visit our Facebook page at:
<https://www.facebook.com/Palo-Alto-Friends-Meeting-El-Salvador-Projects>
Or for a feel of what the days of the trip might look like, read our blog from the 2017 trip - <http://elsalvadorservicelearningtrips.blogspot.com/2017/>
- A fascinating read is **Witness to War: An American Doctor in El Salvador**. Charles Clements went to El Salvador during the civil war and wrote a vivid account of his experiences. You will get a good feel for what went on (and the U. S. involvement) and can imagine how the shadow of those events still affects El Salvador today.
- A **pre-trip gathering** (possibly an overnight) will be organized for west coast participants. It will be a time to meet each other, get acquainted with some Salvadoran history, and for participants and parents to ask questions. The location and date will be determined. While not required, it is a great opportunity to get to know each other and get questions answered. In the past we have had a potluck dinner, followed by an evening meeting and viewing of a film showing the life of Oscar Romero. If you cannot attend this event it is **STRONGLY** recommended that you view **Romero** on your own.
- Our project director Robert Broz will program a Zoom conference open to all participants and parents who wish to participate. This will be scheduled after we have closed registration but prior to our trip.

Visiting the resting place of Oscar Romero



To Register:

please send completed forms (pp. 14-22) and checks to:*

*El Salvador Service Learning Trip
Nate Secrest and Sarah Ludwig
936 Rosenstock Road
Sausalito, CA 94965*

**Make checks payable to Palo Alto Friends Meeting,
with "El Salvador Trip" on the memo line.*

***Please note that the "permission to travel form", page 15,
needs to be notarized if the participant is under 18. This gives us
permission to take a minor child outside of the U.S. None of the other
forms need to be notarized, but please be sure they are signed (some
require your minor child's signature, and some require witnesses).***

Questions??? Contact....

Nate Secrest

(707) 703-4903 secrestnm@guilford.edu

Sarah Ludwig

(828) 222-3322 sarah.k.ludwig@gmail.com

Project Director in El Salvador

Robert Broz

(503) 2335-1770 +(503) 7860-9435 (WhatsApp) rpbroz@gmail.com



Packing List

Weather will be mostly hot and sticky, though there will be some cold nights. We will be packing lightly...just what we can carry in a **small suitcase and day pack**. Try and limit your suitcase to 20 pounds as you will be lifting it on and off the mini bus and carrying it short distances. *(Each participant may be asked to bring a second suitcase for books and other donations going to El Salvador)*. Pack light clothing, and no jeans as they are too hot and don't dry if you need to rinse them out. Doing service projects will definitely get you dirty and sweaty, so you will want to have some clothes that you reserve for "work clothes." **For girls, short shorts, tight tank tops, bare midriffs, etc. are likely to be considered provocative. Sleeveless tops are ok.**

Essential Equipment

sturdy closed-toed shoes
comfortable shoes or sandals with sturdy soles (flip-flops don't bear up well)
socks
casual pants, shorts (not very short) (1 for work, 2 for regular wear)
shirts (long and short sleeves) (1 or 2 for work, 3 for regular wear)
bandana
Light jacket (layers)
sleepwear and underwear
Optional: skirt or light dress (again not too short)
*sleep sack (you can make a sleep sack by sewing up a queen sheet or buy a sleep sack at a supply store such as REI)
*day pack (small backpack) *flashlight
*sunglasses *sunscreen
*hat/visor *insect repellent (with DEET)
canteen or unbreakable water bottle
hand lotion
2 towels/washcloths, soap/toiletries
Waterless hand sanitizer or anti-bacterial handiwipes
any prescription medications you may need **See Medical Authorization form**
spending money in small denominations (\$5 and \$1 bills)
Passport case or waist pack containing passport or other photo ID, medical authorization form, copy of Health Insurance Info. (ID), any other medical info.

Suggested

pocket dictionary Extra glasses/sunglasses
camera, batteries, charger flip flops for the shower
journal, pen/pencil playing cards, book to read
Over the counter pain relievers /arnica, etc.
Anti-diarrheal medication
Kleenex tissue (can also be used as toilet paper)
A couple of photos of yourself and family to share with host family
Please do NOT bring: cell phone (unless you'd like to use it as your camera), expensive camera, or expensive sunglasses.

Planning Calendar

December 1st, 2019 Registration Opens

- Send in application and completed forms pp. 14-22. These and your deposits will reserve your space. **All** forms and deposit (\$200) are needed by March 31, 2020, all payments by June 1st.
- Send in \$200 trip deposit by March 31st , 2020
- Contact Nate or Sarah about your flight plans
- Check your passport. If needed (will have less than 60 days at time of trip), apply for a new passport or renewal.
- Check with health care provider and find out immunization status and timeline for needed immunizations. Make appointments.
- Make appointment with notary and needed signatories

March 31, 2020 Deadline for All Forms and deposit(\$200)

April 15th, 2020 Deadline for Early Bird Special (\$800 and all forms)

June 1, 2020 Deadline for All Fees (\$680 remaining)

Please keep pages 1-13 of this brochure where you can refer to them as needed.

Pages 14-22 are the forms that are needed for your application.

Please complete all forms, with one exception: Page 15 is the medical release and travel permission form for minors (needs to be notarized) and page 16 is the adult medical release form.

**Application
El Salvador Service Learning Trip
July 2020**

Participant's name:

Address:

Home phone:

Cell phone:

email:

Forms signed and included:

___ Permission to travel, medical authorization

___ Agreement to trip conditions

___ Assumption of risk, release from liability

___ Participant agreement, release, assumption of risk

___ Background information

___ Photo release

Deposits included:

___ \$200

Airline information: (What airline are you taking? Times?)

NOTARIZED PERMISSION to TRAVEL And MEDICAL AUTHORIZATION

(Required for under 18; 18 and over complete adult form instead.)

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

My/our daughter/son _____ has permission to travel outside the U.S. during the month of July, 2020, in the company of Nathan Secrest, Sarah Ludwig, Robert Broz, or any other delegate of Palo Alto Friends Meeting.

I/We hereby designate the above named adults as temporary legal guardians for the duration of this travel, and **authorize any medical treatment** deemed necessary by them. I/We understand that efforts will be made to contact me/us prior to medical treatment. In the event that contact is not deemed feasible, I/we give permission for any of the above named adults to obtain medical treatment for my/our son/daughter.

Allergies to food, drugs, insect bites or other:

Diet restrictions or other special conditions: **NOTE: If there is confidential information you would like the coordinators to have, please attach a separate sheet.**

Medications participant will take on the trip: **All medications should be in original container with name and instructions clearly indicated.**

Health insurance carrier and ID number: _____

Date of last tetanus shot: _____

Emergency contacts:

Notarized Signatures:

Parent/Legal Guardian: _____ Date _____

Parent/Legal Guardian: _____ Date _____

Palo Alto Friends Meeting Teen El Salvador Service-Learning Trip

Medical Treatment Authorization - Adult Form

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I _____ plan to travel outside the U.S. during the month of July, 2020, in the company of Nathan Secrest, Sarah Ludwig, Robert Broz, and other delegates of the Palo Alto Friends Meeting.

I hereby authorize the above named adults, for the duration of this travel, to **authorize any medical treatment** deemed necessary by them in the event I am unable to make such decision for myself. I understand that efforts will be made to contact my designated emergency contact(s) listed below prior to medical treatment. In the event that contact is not deemed feasible, I give permission for any of the above named adults to obtain medical treatment on my behalf.

Allergies to food, drugs, insect bites or other: _____

Diet restrictions or other special conditions: _____

Medications participant will take on the trip: **All medications should be in original container with name and instructions clearly indicated.**

Health insurance carrier and ID number:

Date of last tetanus shot: _____

Emergency contacts

Signature of Participant _____ **Date** _____

Name (Please print) _____

Palo Alto Friends Meeting

EI SALVADOR SERVICE-LEARNING TRIP AGREEMENT TO TRIP CONDITIONS

Please sign and return one copy and keep a copy for your records.

The cooperation and support of all participants will make our service-learning trip a successful and rewarding experience for everyone involved. It is important that we hold a common picture of some standards for our time together. Please discuss the following conditions with your family, consider them carefully and let us know if you have any hesitation or concern about agreeing to any of them.

Because this is a time apart from the ordinary routines of our lives, it is a special opportunity to connect with others. Cell Phones use should be kept to a minimum, so that we can enter fully into the group experience.

During the trip:

1. No one will buy, possess or use alcohol, other drugs or illegal substances, or be in the presence of those who are engaging in any prohibited or illegal activity. No one will buy possess or transport items that are illegal in either El Salvador or the U. S. (fireworks, switchblades, paraphernalia, etc.)
2. This is a non-smoking trip. For the purposes of this agreement any form of tobacco will be considered an illegal substance.
3. In the event of problems, every effort will be made to contact parents/guardians. Whether or not such contact is made, the coordinators' decisions will be honored. If the coordinators deem it advisable for a participant to return home early – either because of a medical condition or serious breach of this agreement – parents/guardians agree to **pay all costs**.
4. Any illness or injury must be reported promptly to a **coordinator**.
5. All participants will be cooperative and prompt in arriving at meeting places, work assignments and group activities and will remain with the group unless alternate arrangements have been specifically agreed on with **coordinators**.
6. Neither Palo Alto Friends Meeting, coordinators, nor parent organizers will be held liable for any injury or expense resulting from this trip.

I have read the trip conditions above and I agree to support them and abide by them.

| | |
|-------------|-------|
| _____ | _____ |
| Participant | Date |
| _____ | _____ |
| Parent | Date |
| _____ | _____ |
| Parent | Date |

Palo Alto Friends Meeting
El Salvador Service-Learning Project
ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE FROM LIABILITY AND AGREEMENT

Please sign and return one copy and keep a copy for your records.

1. I _____, acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in a Palo Alto Friends Meeting service project that includes volunteer activities related to but not limited to construction.
2. I AM AWARE THAT THIS TRIP MAY INVOLVE HAZARDOUS ACTIVITY. I AM VOLUNTARILY PARTICIPATING IN THE ACTIVITIES WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE DANGER INVOLVED AND WITH THE KNOWLEDGE THAT MEDICAL FACILITIES MAY NOT BE READILY AVAILABLE IN THE EVENT OF INJURY. I HEREBY AGREE TO ACCEPT ANY AND ALL RISKS OF INJURY OR DEATH.
3. As consideration for being permitted by Palo Alto Friends Meeting, Nathan Secrest, Sarah Ludwig, Robert Broz and organizers of this trip to participate in these activities, I hereby agree that I, my assignees, my heirs, distributees, guardians, and legal representatives will not make a claim against, sue, or attach the property of the trip coordinators or organizers, or the suppliers of any of the tools or equipment used in these activities, for injury or damage resulting from the negligence or other acts, howsoever caused, by any employee, agent, contractor of, or other participant in Palo Alto Friends Meeting El Salvador Service Learning trip activities. I hereby release Palo Alto Friends Meeting, Robert Broz, Nate Secrest, Sarah Ludwig, chaperons, and parent organizers and any affiliated organizations from all actions, claims, or demands that I, my assignees, my heirs, distributees, guardians, and legal representatives now have or may hereafter have for injury or damage resulting from my participation in any trip activities sponsored or organized by Palo Alto Friends Meeting, Robert Broz, Nathan Secrest, Sarah Ludwig, trip chaperons, or organizers.
4. I have carefully read this assumption of risk, release of liability and release agreement and I fully understand its contents. I am aware that this is a release of liability and a contract between myself and Palo Alto Friends Meeting, Robert Broz, Nate Secrest, Sarah Ludwig and any of their affiliated organizations. I am signing this document of my own free will.

Executed at _____, on _____

Participant's Signature _____ Print name _____

If under 18, both parents must sign:

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Declaration of witness: I certify that the person(s) who signed above acknowledged in my presence that he/she has read and fully understood the meaning and consequences of the foregoing assumption of risk, release of liability, and agreement, and signed it in my presence.

Signature of Witness _____ Date _____

Palo Alto Friends Meeting

PARTICIPANT AGREEMENT, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK

In consideration of the services of Palo Alto Friends Meeting, their agents, owners, officers, volunteers, participants, employees, and all other persons or entities acting in any capacity on their behalf (hereinafter collectively referred to as "PAFM"), I hereby agree to release, indemnify, and discharge PAFM, on behalf of myself, my children, my parents, my heirs, assigns, personal representatives, and estate as follows:

1. I acknowledge that my participation in construction work, hiking, and traveling in El Salvador entails known and unanticipated risks that could result in physical or emotional injury, paralysis, death, or damage to myself, to property, or to third parties. I understand that such risks simply cannot be eliminated without jeopardizing the essential qualities of the activity.

The risks include among other things: slipping and falling; falling objects; injuries from the use of tools, water hazards; exhaustion; exposure to temperature and weather extremes which could cause: hypothermia, hyperthermia, (heat related illnesses), heat exhaustion, sunburn, dehydration; and exposure to potentially dangerous wild animals, insect bites, and hazardous plant life; equipment failure; and improper lifting or carrying. Furthermore, PAFM employees and volunteers have difficult jobs to perform. They seek safety, but they are not infallible. They might be unaware of a participant's fitness or abilities. They might misjudge the weather, the elements, or the terrain. They may give inadequate warnings or instructions, and the equipment being used might malfunction.

2. I expressly agree and promise to accept and assume all of the risks existing in this activity. My participation in this activity is purely voluntary, and I elect to participate in spite of the risks.

3. I hereby voluntarily release, forever discharge, and agree to indemnify and hold harmless PAFM from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action, which are in any way connected with my participation in this activity or my use of PAFM's equipment or facilities, **including any such claims which allege negligent acts or omissions of PAFM.**

4. Should PAFM or anyone acting on their behalf, be required to incur attorney's fees and costs to enforce this agreement, I agree to indemnify and hold them harmless for all such fees and costs.

5. I certify that I have adequate insurance to cover any injury or damage I may cause or suffer while participating, or else I agree to bear the costs of such injury or damage myself. I further certify that I am willing to assume the risk of any medical or physical condition I may have.

6. In the event that I file a lawsuit against PAFM, I agree to do so solely in the state of California, and I further agree that the substantive law of that state apply in that action without regard to the conflict of law rules of that state. I agree that if any portion of this agreement is found to be void or unenforceable, the remaining portions shall remain in full force and effect.

By signing this document, I acknowledge that if anyone is hurt or property is damaged during my participation in this activity, I may be found by a court of law to have waived my right to maintain a lawsuit against PAFM on the basis of any claim from which I have released them herein.

I have had sufficient opportunity to read this entire document. I have read and understood it, and I agree to be bound by its terms.

Signature of Participant _____

Print Name: _____ Date _____

Address _____ Phone _____ Email _____

if under 18, both parents must sign:

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian _____ Date _____

Declaration of witness: I certify that the person(s) who signed above acknowledged in my presence that he/she has read and fully understood the meaning and consequences of the foregoing assumption of risk, release of liability, and agreement, and signed it in my presence.

Signature of Witness _____ Date _____

Background Information from Participants:

Because our trips are expanding to include participants that we haven't met before, we ask you to help us know you a little better. Please write a brief statement of why you are interested in participating in a service learning trip to El Salvador. You might mention any previous service or volunteer experiences you have had and/or whether you have traveled outside of the United States before.

What level of Spanish have you completed? _____

How would you rate your level of understanding and speaking? (Circle one)

Beginning Early Intermediate Intermediate Early Advanced Advanced

Who could we contact that could provide a character reference for you? This should be an adult (not a family member) in your Meeting, church, school, or community organization who knows you fairly well.

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Email: _____ Relationship: _____

SCHOLARSHIP REQUEST FORM

(optional)

We truly want this trip to be accessible to everyone! However, we also know the fees and airfare can be a barrier. We are doing our very best to provide need-based financial assistance to those who want to participate in the trip, but please realize that funding is limited. Please use this form to share with us some information about your financial situation and how we can best support you.

Please share this information with us *ASAP*; scholarships will be distributed on a first-come, first-serve basis, with preference given to first-time participants.

Total Trip Cost = \$880 + \$600-750 airfare = \$1480 - \$1630

Name:

I can contribute \$_____ towards the total trip cost

I have or will have \$_____ in other funding sources

Examples: YPCC, Monthly Meeting, Sponsors, Other sources

I request \$_____ from the trip scholarship fund

I would also appreciate support in:

Other things the coordinators should know:

PALO ALTO FRIENDS MEETING TEEN PROGRAM SERVICE TRIP

PHOTO RELEASE FORM

I HEREBY GIVE MY PERMISSION FOR PHOTOGRAPH(S) OF

(print name)

TO BE USED IN ARTICLES FOR PUBLICATION ABOUT OUR SERVICE TRIP OR FOR PUBLICIZING FUTURE SERVICE TRIPS BY NATE SECREST, SARAH LUDWIG, OR ROBERT BROZ. THIS RELEASE IS VALID UNTIL WITHDRAWN IN WRITING BY STUDENT OR PARENT/GUARDIAN.

SIGNATURE OF STUDENT _____

DATE _____

NAME OF PARENT/GUARDIAN _____

(Please print)

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/GUARDIAN

DATE _____