



BLUE

MISSIONS GROUP

GoAbroad.com

TOP VOLUNTEER
ABROAD PROGRAM

2018

GoAbroad.com

TOP VOLUNTEER
ABROAD PROGRAM

2017



Somerset Academy

JULY 28 – AUGUST 4, 2019

SANITATION PROJECT



OUR MISSION

To connect communities to clean water and improved sanitation while cultivating a generation of global citizens through service driven travel.



ABOUT BLUE MISSIONS

2010

FOUNDED

1,941

VOLUNTEERS

23

EMPLOYEES
(6 USA + 17 DR)

435,632

SERVICE HOURS
COMPLETED



- BLUE stands for **Building Love, Uniting Everyone**
- We have an office in Miami, FL & one in Santiago, DR
- We primarily work in the Cibao area of the DR
- We have completed 100 water and sanitation projects in the Dominican Republic, Nicaragua, & Colombia.

WORLD WATER & SANITATION CRISIS

663 MILLION



1 IN EVERY 10

PEOPLE WORLDWIDE
**LACK ACCESS
TO SAFE DRINKING WATER**

2.4 BILLION



1 IN EVERY 3

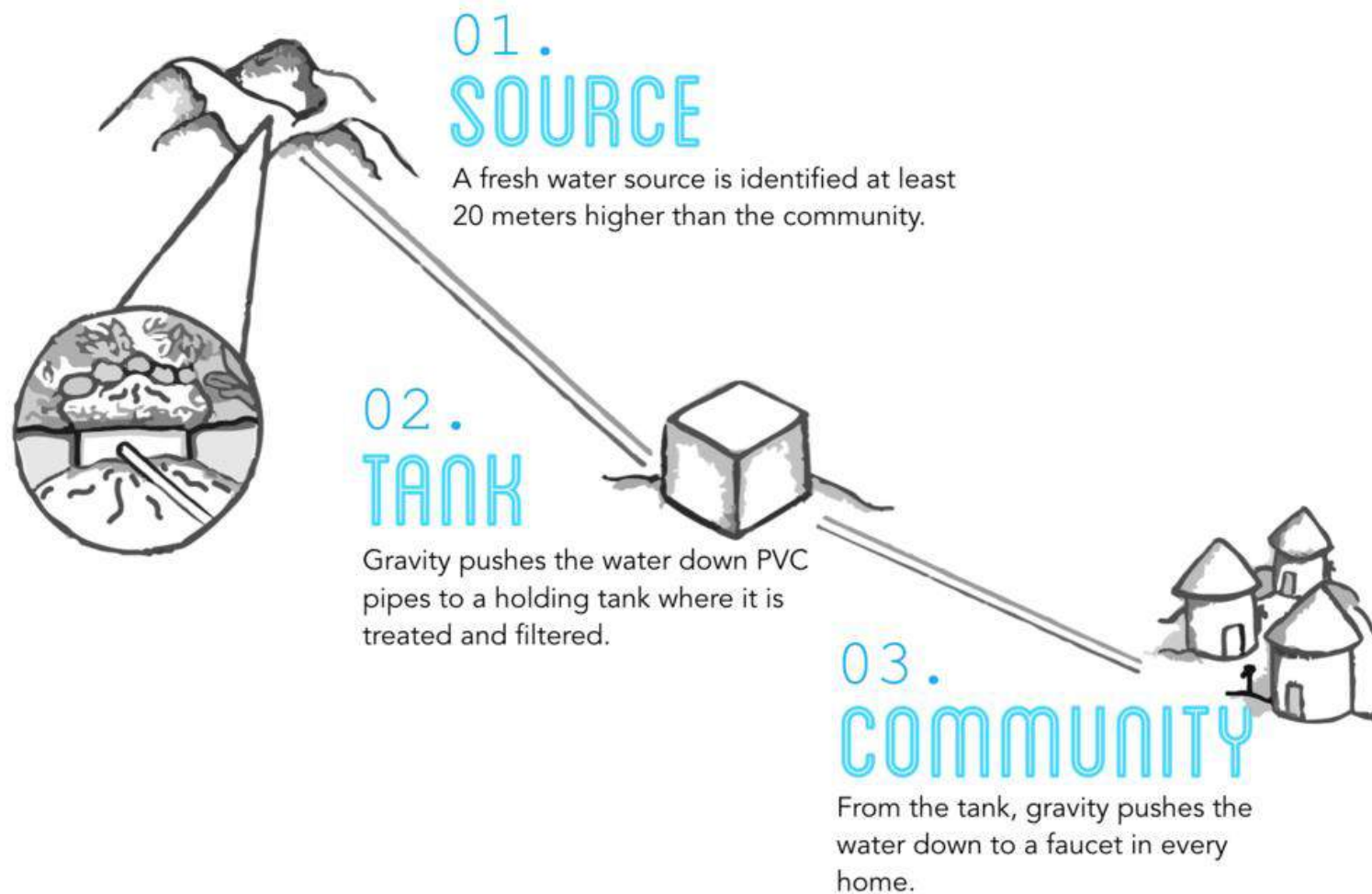
PEOPLE WORLDWIDE
**LACK ACCESS
TO A PRIVATE TOILET**

WATER PROJECTS

During a water project, BLUE Missions works with local leaders, families, and volunteers to construct a gravity-driven or pump-driven aqueduct and connect each home with a faucet.

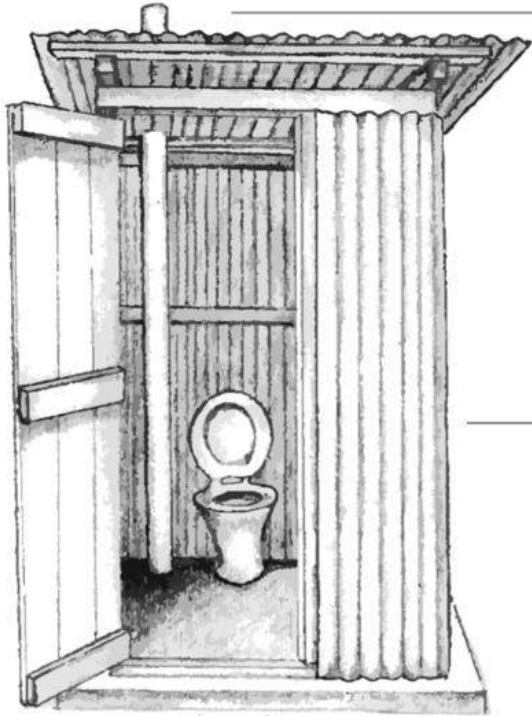
22,460

people connected with clean
water.



SANITATION PROJECTS

During a sanitation project, volunteers work with benefitting families to construct VIP latrines.



01. VENTILATION

A ventilation pipe allows harmful fumes to be pushed out from the pit to outside the structure.

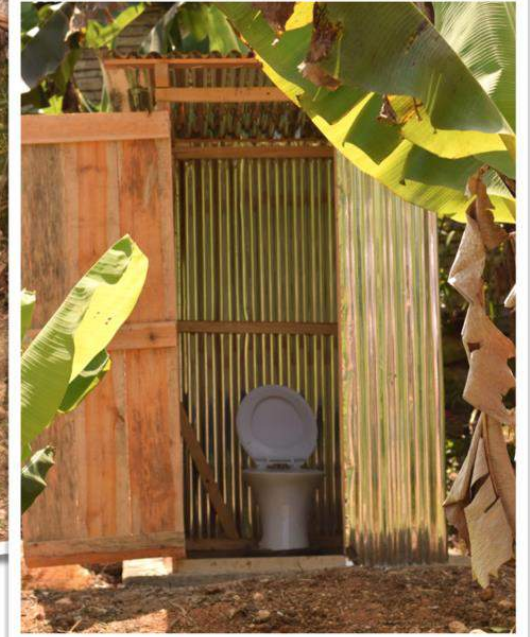
02. TOILET

Toilets are installed over a small opening in the base of the concrete floor. These toilets are easy to keep clean.

03. PIT

Latrine structures are built over a 10 ft deep pit. It takes around a decade for the pit to reach its capacity.

before



after

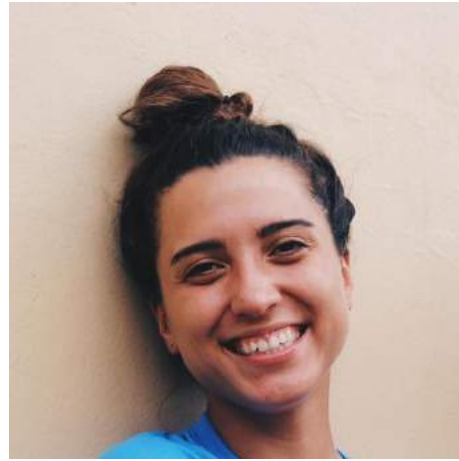
4,425

people connected with improved
sanitation.

MEET THE US TEAM



DANNY RODRIGUEZ
CEO



NICOLE AGUIRRE
PROGRAM DIRECTOR



RICHARD SIXTO
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



LESLIE RAMOS
CREATIVE DIRECTOR



JOSSE CARBALLO
DIGITAL MARKETING



MARIANA PIEDRAHITA
BLUE FELLOW



CRISTINA BLASCO
DEVELOPMENT INTERN

MEET THE DR TEAM



MARINO ESTEVEZ
PROGRAM DIRECTOR



JOSE MARINEZ
ENGINEER



GISELE PEREZ
DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR



JOAQUIN MARTE
PROJECT MANAGER



RAFAEL VILLA MARIA
WATER DISTRIBUTION



JESUS MARIA REYES
COMMUNITY COORDINATOR



APOLINAR VILLA CASTILLO
CHOFFEUR



MARLENY CEBALLO
OFFICE UPKEEPER



ZOLANGE CASADO
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT



JONATHAN PAULINO
SKILLED LABORER



WILSON DE LA CRUZ
SKILLED LABORER



BENITO BONILLA
SKILLED LABORER



VICTORIANO MARTE
SKILLED LABORER



JUAN MARTINEZ
SKILLED LABORER



JEAN CARLOS MARTINEZ
SKILLED LABORER



YUNIOI MARTE
SKILLED LABORER



ELFI MANUEL PAEZ
CHOFFEUR



TRIP SCHEDULE

DAY TO DAY

DAY 1 Travel to the community and set up living quarters. Brief town meeting and then orientation.

DAY 2 Full day of work.

DAY 3 Full day of work.

DAY 4 Activity day! Kid's day in the morning. Lunch. Women's day in the afternoon.

DAY 5 Full day of work.

DAY 6 Half day of work. Afternoon outdoor activity with the community if weather permits.

DAY 7 Half day of work. Pack up in the afternoon. Spend time with the community. Dinner with the community to wish them farewell.

DAY 8 Pack up for return and depart from community.

WHAT IS THE WORK LIKE?



WHERE DOES THE GROUP SLEEP?

School classrooms, the local church or community center are cleared out for us to setup camp with cots & mosquito nets.

BLUE communities are vetted and prepped for our volunteers long before they arrive in the campo.

Our camp is always secure with BLUE lock and key and is under 24 hour watch by security.



WHAT ARE THE MEALS LIKE?

We eat authentic Dominican meals consisting of rice, beans, and local fruits and vegetables – eggplant, plantains, yuca, arepas, casabe, avocados, tomatoes, potatoes, etc. The majority of our protein comes from beans, eggs and sometimes chicken.

Our meals are mostly vegetarian and gluten free.

If you have an allergy or special diet, please include it in your application so that we can be aware and prepare you special meals*.

*We can provide our menu upon request. For individuals with certain diets or allergies, they may need to supplement some of our meals.

Water:

All of the water that we consume during our time in the Dominican Republic is bottled. We provide an unlimited amount of 5 gallon bottles of water for your use. Volunteers use this water to drink and brush their teeth.



KID'S DAY

HYGIENE EDUCATION. DANCE. MAGIC SHOW. SING. COLOR. FIELD DAY.



WOMEN'S DAY

EMPOWERMENT WORKSHOP & HYGIENE EDUCATION



FREE TIME

HIKE. EXPLORE. IMMERSE. BOND. PLAY. CREATE.



SAFETY

- We spend 6-18 months preparing communities, organizing and training water committees, scouting and engineering the project and performing safety assessments.
- The community must meet all of our requirements and go through all trainings before the project is approved and a group of volunteers arrives in the community to begin construction of the project.
- Volunteers are never alone, they are always accompanied by BLUE Missions staff and leaders from the time they arrive in the Dominican Republic to when they enter the airport to return home.
- Volunteers do not need to have any experience working in construction or with any of the tools we will be using.
- There will be a training for volunteers on how to work with all the tools provided by our organization.
- There are several rules in place to ensure that volunteers do not get injured while handling any materials or tools.
- Volunteers are also required to adhere to the work dress code to avoid injury.



LEADERS & CHAPERONES

- There are 2-5 BLUE US leaders on all trips (6:1 ratio). Trip leaders are US staff, fellows, and long term summer interns.
 - Interns are college and post grad aged students who have participated on 1-10 BLUE trips in the past and have shown interest in spending 4-8 weeks in the DR with us leading trips.
 - All interns & staff members go through a training seminar and first-aid certification course.
- Chaperones
 - There is 1-2 permanent chaperones on all high school trips. The chaperone is responsible for flying with the group from Miami to the Dominican Republic and back. The chaperone is with the group 24/7.
 - In the event that a chaperone cancels last minute, one of our staff members will fly with the group.
- There will be 2-3 DR staff members on every trip as well. They will lead the construction of the project for the community and our group.



TRANSPORTATION

- When groups arrive in the Dominican Republic, they will be greeted outside of the airport by our BLUE staff member and drivers.
- They will be transported by our BLUE Missions 28-passenger bus to the community. In some cases where the BLUE bus is not available, we have a partnership with an established local transportation company that we have been working with since 2012.
- The communities we work in are located anywhere from 1 to 3 hours away from Santiago de los Caballeros. All communities are accessible through paved roads or well-maintained dirt roads by our bus and trucks.
- There is also a BLUE truck and driver in every community or neighboring community in case of an emergency.



COMMUNICATION

FAR FROM CITY. POOR SIGNAL.

HOW WILL I TALK TO MY CHILD ON THE TRIP?

- Many of the communities we work in have very limited cell reception. Most leaders and all staff members have a cellphone with an international plan. There will also be a Dominican cellphone on every trip.
- Participants are more than welcome to use a staff's phone to call home. In the event that the community has zero signal, a staff member/leader will take the group to the nearest location that has signal once a day.
- Parents/Guardians will be provided with phone numbers and emails to all of our trip leaders and staff on the ground. You can call these numbers at any time.
- Participant cellphones will not be allowed to be used outside of sleeping quarters. Participants can use their phones to call home whenever they'd like as long as it is within the camp and not while at work or during an activity.
- Cellphones can't be used as cameras or iPods in the community.
- You will receive at least 4 email updates through out the trip from our staff.

There is no wifi but
you will find an
incredible connection!



Somerset Academy

JULY 28 – AUGUST 4, 2019

SANITATION PROJECT

TRIP COST

\$1250 + \$250 Community Contribution Fee

WHAT'S INCLUDED?



TRANSPORTATION

All group transportation is organized through our private bus



AIRFARE

Miami to Santo Domingo



FOOD

Light breakfast, full lunch and dinner every day in the community.



LEADERS

Experienced trip leaders to guide the group 24/7.



ACCOMMODATIONS

Groups stay in a local home, school or church. Cots provided.



TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel Insurance provided by iNext



THE MISSION

Sanitation

Work on the construction of 13 to 18 Ventilated Improved Pit Latrines in a rural community. Cut wood, mix cement, and hammer in nails to build latrine structures alongside locals and our staff.

TRIP SEASON

MAY - AUG

8

DAYS

COST

\$1,250 + \$250 COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION



Community Contribution Fee

A way for volunteers to help fund the water and sanitation projects they will be constructing during their service trip.

APPLY FOR A 2019 SERVICE TRIP



VISIT OUR WEBSITE:

www.bluemissions.org/somerset

Somerset Academy Service Trip Dominican Republic

JULY 28 - AUGUST 4, 2019

CLICK HERE TO BEGIN
YOUR APPLICATION

APPLY TODAY

MISSION:

Sanitation

Work on the construction of 13 to 18 Ventilated Improved Pit Latrines in a rural community. Cut wood, mix cement, and hammer in nails to build latrine structures to connect families with sanitation.



SERVING

Public Health



SYSTEM

VIP Latrine



TOOLS

Hammer

Bold Level: 10

APPLY FOR A 2019 SERVICE TRIP

Step



START YOUR APPLICATION!

Login to my account

Login

Register

Create Account

Create an account below by completing the required fields. **Red circles** note mandatory fields.

All passwords **MUST** be at least 6 characters and contain no special characters (i.e. !@#\$\$%^&*)

Browser Requirements: This system will work with all major browsers. IE11, Google Chrome, Firefox, and Safari.

Participant First Name

NICOLE



Participant Last Name

AGUIRRE



Participant Email:

NICOLE@BLUEMISSIONS.ORG



Create Password:

.....



Confirm Password:

.....



☐ Keep me logged in

SIGN ME UP!

MAKE SURE TO WRITE
DOWN YOUR LOGIN
EMAIL & PASSWORD SO
YOU CAN ACCESS YOUR
APPLICATION AT A LATER
TIME

APPLY FOR A 2019 SERVICE TRIP



**SELECT YOUR
TRIP & PAY THE DEPOSIT
TO SECURE YOUR SPOT**



Any Questions?

Feel free to contact us at
anytime via email or phone!

info@bluemissions.org | nicole@bluemissions.org
(888) 702-2583

CHECK OUT OUR FAQ PAGE ON OUR WEBSITE!
www.BLUEmissions.org/FAQ