



WEBSITE

# WHAT MATTERS

## MINISTRIES AND MISSIONS



[www.WhatMattersMM.org](http://www.WhatMattersMM.org)

*Team Manual*



# Casa Angelina

TURNING ORPHANS INTO ROYALTY



*Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.*

James 1:27 NIV

## Welcome

Casa Angelina was founded in 2003 by Ivan and Kimberly Tait. Today they, along with the directors of What Matters Ministries and Missions, continually strive to make it a place where hope and love transform.

The vision of Casa Angelina is found in James 1:27—to rescue orphans and to care for the widow. Casa Angelina is a higher education orphanage where we educate the children in three ways: scholastically, socially, and spiritually. On the property, you will find homes, caretakers, and children living in a family environment. We also have a school, church, aquaponics system, soccer field, and medical clinic on site.

The Executive Directors of What Matters Ministries and Missions are:

Ivan and Kimberly Tait

Andrew and Bethany Frazer

Craig and Kindra Rains

JOIN US IN GUATEMALA FOR A WEEK YOU'LL NEVER FORGET





## Our teams usually consist of:

- Volunteers and Church Groups (ages 10 and up)
- Medical Teams
- Skilled Laborers and Tradespeople

## Getting to Know Guatemala

**WEATHER:** Highs are around 75 degrees; lows around 52 degrees. There is a high chance of showers during the rainy season (May-October).

**TIME:** Central Standard Time

**CURRENCY:** 1 US dollar = 7.75 quetzales

**ALTITUDE:** Casa Angelina sits in the mountains outside Chimaltenango at over 7,000 ft. elevation. Some people experience shortness of breath, feel dizzy due to lower oxygen concentration, and get sunburns much quicker. It is best to take it a little slower the first day and keep yourself hydrated.

**DRESS:** Please plan to dress for spring outdoor work: jeans/shorts, work boots or closed-toe shoes, light rain jacket or poncho, work gloves, and a hat. Sweaters are sometimes needed.

**AT CASA ANGELINA:** Water, tea, and coffee are freely available during your workday. Our gift shop also sells shirts, packaged coffee, and snacks. The shop accepts both dollars and quetzales. Should there be any need for medical attention during your trip, our on-site Mercy Clinic will be open each day.



## Planning Your Trip to Casa Angelina

### ☐ 4-6 MONTHS OUT: DATES

Select which team trip you would like to attend (see list of dates on page 2). Contact our US office to notify us of your interest.

### ☐ 3 MONTHS OUT: FLIGHTS, TEAM LIST, AND SKILL SET

Book your team members' flights into Guatemala City (GUA). Teams should arrive on the Saturday (or Friday if necessary) before the workweek and leave on the Saturday following the workweek between the hours of 10am - 5pm.

After your flights have been booked, please email your itinerary to our Team Coordinator. Also include a list of team members and their skill sets (carpentry, landscaping, electrical work, etc.). Please inform us of the ages of any children under 18.

### ☐ 2-3 MONTHS OUT: HOTEL

Notify our Team Coordinator of which hotel you would like to stay at (see page 5). Include a detailed rooming list: the type of room (single, double, triple, etc.), how many of each you will need, and the names of the individuals staying in each room. We will make your reservation for you to ensure the special rate. Note: A credit card may be required in order to hold the rooms.

### ☐ 4 WEEKS OUT: TEAM FEES

Team administration fees (\$250/person) are due to our US office. This fee covers airport pick-up/drop-off, transportation to/from Casa Angelina every day, lunches during the workweek, and essential toiletries and cleaning supplies needed for the team week. Please mail or call in your team payment or submit online at <http://whatmattersmm.org/go>.

### ☐ 4 WEEKS OUT: RELEASE FORMS

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** Team members *MUST* SUBMIT THEM ONLINE at <http://whatmattersmm.org/go> or in the footer of our website. Signing the Waiver Form is a prerequisite for coming to Casa Angelina.

☐ 1-2 WEEKS OUT: Our Team Coordinator will email a general list of the projects your team will be working on while at Casa Angelina. This email will also include current needs at the orphanage (e.g., supplies, clothes) in case your team is interested in bringing down donations.



# Hotel Options

All teams stay in the beautiful city of Antigua about 1 hour drive from Casa Angelina.

Please remember to confirm your trip at least 2 MONTHS before coming so that our office can make your hotel reservations.

## Hotel Casa de las Fuentes

[www.hotelcasadelasfuentes.com](http://www.hotelcasadelasfuentes.com)

SINGLES: \$60 US per room/night

DOUBLES: \$67 US per room/night  
(cost can be split between 2 people)

TRIPLES: \$80 US per room/night  
(cost can be split between 3 people)

QUADRUPLES: \$94 US per room/night  
(cost can be split between 4 people)

\*Breakfast and/or dinner can be provided at an additional \$8.50/person/meal.



## Hotel Soleil Antigua

[www.hotelessoleilguatemala.com](http://www.hotelessoleilguatemala.com)

SINGLES: \$85.40 US per night

\*All rates include breakfast.

DOUBLES: \$91.50 US per room/night  
(cost can be split between 2 people)

TRIPLES: \$122 US per room/night  
(cost can be split between 3 people)





# Team Schedule

## Friday/Saturday: Arrival

Team flies into Guatemala City and is met by Casa Angelina staff. Team is taken to their hotel in Antigua, approximately a 1-2 hour drive depending on traffic.

## Sunday: Free Day

Sightseeing and shopping in Antigua (as desired and organized by your team)

## Monday: Orientation Day

8:45am Bus will be at the hotel and ready to leave by 9:00am

10:00am Welcome, orientation, rules, and tour at Casa Angelina

1:00pm Lunch provided at the orphanage

2:00pm Visit the widows in the village

4:00pm Playtime with our children.

5:00pm Bus will leave Casa Angelina to take the team back to the hotel

## Tuesday - Friday: Work Days

7:45am Bus will be at the hotel and ready to leave by 8:00am

9:00am Daily devotion and instructions

10:00am Work begins

1:00pm Lunch provided at the orphanage

2:00pm Work resumes

4:00pm Playtime with our children.

5:00pm Bus will leave Casa Angelina to take the team back to the hotel

## Saturday: Departure

Bus will pick up the team depending on departure flight time and take the team to the airport. If your team has an early-morning flight on Saturday, contact the Team Coordinator about arranging a Friday night hotel stay in Guatemala City.

# Travel Tips

- Notify your bank and/or credit card company of your trip abroad. If bringing US dollars, make sure they are crisp bills without any rips.
- Pack any prescription medications in your carry-on luggage to ensure their arrival in Guatemala.
- Bring snacks (e.g., granola bars) and first aid items (e.g., ibuprofen, diarrhea medicine, muscle ache remedy).
- Use bottled water for drinking and brushing your teeth.
- Eat well-cooked foods and fruits/vegetables that can be peeled. Please do not eat street food.
- Leave all costly jewelry or personal items at home. While in the marketplaces, keep your wallet or purse secure.
- We suggest you keep your passport in your hotel safe and carry a photocopy of it with you while in Guatemala.

# Our Widow Project



# Build a Widow's Home

If you are interested in sponsoring and building a home for a widow, please communicate with our team coordinator at least 8 weeks prior to your trip. We'll purchase the supplies and have the foundation poured and walls raised by the time your team arrives so that you can finish the house and present it to the widow! Building the home cost USD\$9,000 which also includes furniture, dishes, and bedding for the home!



# Release Form

Scan QR code to fill out the Release Form online.



Each team member must submit a release form at least 3 weeks before the trip. Children under the age of 18 must have a parent or legal guardian sign as well. We prefer team members fill out the release forms online at <http://whatmattersmm.org/go>, but you may also send copies via email or mail.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RISK OR INJURY POSSIBILITY

As a participant or volunteer of What Matters Ministries and Missions (WMMM), or Casa Angelina in Guatemala, I recognize the risk and acknowledge that there are certain risks of physical injury - including death, damages, property damage, or loss - which I may sustain as a result of participating in any and all activities connected with the program, or the use of the facilities or equipment.

## WAIVER OF CLAIM FOR INJURY CLAUSE

I agree to waive and relinquish all claims that I may have for injuries or damages as a result of participating in the program or using the facilities or equipment against What Matters Ministries and Missions (WMMM), Casa Angelina in Guatemala, Ivan & Kimberly Tait and its officers, agents, servants, employees, other volunteers, and affiliates.

## RELEASE FROM LIABILITY CLAUSE

I do hereby release and discharge What Matters Ministries and Missions (WMMM), Casa Angelina in Guatemala, Ivan & Kimberly Tait and anyone in the organization and its officers, agents, servants, employees, volunteers and affiliates from any and all claims for injuries, including death, damages, property damage, or loss which may have or may in future accrue to me in account of participating in or volunteering for the nonprofit organization.

## INDEMNITY AND DEFENSE CLAUSE

I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless and pay defense costs and defend What Matters Ministries and Missions (WMMM), Casa Angelina in Guatemala, Ivan & Kimberly Tait and its agents, servants, employees, other volunteers, and affiliates, from any and all claims resulting from injuries- including death, damages, property damage, or loss- sustained by me and arising out of, connected with, or in any way associated with the activities of the program or the use of facilities or equipment.

## TEAM MEMBER HEALTH REQUIREMENTS

We kindly ask all team members to meet the following health standards in order to serve at Casa Angelina:

- Be able to move and walk independently of others. Casa Angelina is situated on a mountainside at 7,000 feet. The terrain and altitude can be difficult for travelers.
- Have no major surgeries in close proximity to your planned trip.
- Notify the Casa Angelina directors of all allergies on orientation day (especially food or bee sting allergies).
- If you are on medication, please bring enough to last the entire trip.

☐ I have read and fully understand the What Matters Ministries and Missions Liability Waiver as stated above. I agree with each of its clauses and conditions.

☐ I acknowledge that I have read the Health Standards and meet the necessary requirements. I release Casa Angelina, What Matters Ministries and Missions, Ivan Tait, and staff from being liable for any accident, injury, sickness, or theft of personal property during my stay.

Team Member Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18 years) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Team Member Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Church/Organization \_\_\_\_\_ Team Leader \_\_\_\_\_



# Casa Angelina

TURNING ORPHANS INTO ROYALTY



14°37'43.34"N 90°53'44.33"W

*Interested in a Trip?*

CONTACT OUR TEAM COORDINATOR  
trips@whatmattersmm.org What Matters Ministries & Missions  
Office: (719) 495-9494 PO Box 62820  
Colorado Springs, CO 80962

