

Team Leader Information and Trip Details

About the Trip Leader

Team leader name: Sarah Bond-Yancey

Currently lives in: Bellingham, WA

Occupation: Consultant (nonprofit)

Best phone: Please email me to set up a call!

Best email: sbondyancey@gmail.com

About the Trip

Location: Agomeda, Ghana

Dates: Two Options: August 27-Sept. 3 (\$1,380)

August 27-Sept. 6 (\$1,840)

Expected group size: 12-14 volunteers

Trip Number: 35011

Hi! I'm Sarah. Thank you so much for your interest in joining me in Ghana!! I would absolutely love to connect with you and talk more about this incredible experience in such a beautiful country. Please read through this to learn more, and feel free to email me any time at sbondyancey@gmail.com to ask questions or set up a Q&A call!

A little about myself:



I have a BA in community-based planning and development from The Evergreen State College. I'm currently taking time off school (between my BA and my Masters) and working on my professional certification in Interest-Based Mediation, as well as my Kingian Nonviolence Conflict Resolution "Level 1 Trainer" certification.

Professionally, I do a few things. I'm an independent communications and design consultant for two nonprofits (the National Housing Conference & ULI Minnesota). I also work part time as the Impact & Inclusivity Planning Coordinator at On Earth Peace, where I do a lot of really specialized social justice geek stuff. Most recently, I revamped our place-based justice program and am currently putting together a Witness Travel delegation to Palestine this spring.

I have been on 7 international builds – 3 as a volunteer (Thailand 2013, North Carolina 2013, and New Zealand 2015), and 4 as a team leader (Indonesia 2014, Thailand 2016, Thailand 2016 and India 2017). I studied abroad in Taiwan in 2014 and New Zealand in 2015. I have also traveled extensively in Southeast and East Asia, the Pacific, and Mediterranean Europe, and am *really* excited about visiting the continent of Africa for the first time!!





Other fun Sarah facts:

- I used to play World of Warcraft professionally. (Seriously.)
- I also used to show dogs in AKC.
- My parents own an alpaca ranch (about 40 alpacas) in Olympia, Washington.
- I love art. When I travel, I'm constantly collecting fabrics and fibers and various other art supplies (such as dried flowers from the Indian flower market pictured on the left.)

Housing in Ghana:

Out of Fuller's Global Builders locations, Ghana has some of the greatest housing need. Due to resource limitations and worsening weather patterns in the region, many traditional mud houses which once provided shelter for extended families are crumbling and unable to be repaired.



In addition, there is also an excessive demand for housing in urban areas resulting in landlords **requiring between two and six years of rent advance**. Yes, you read that right. A great number of urban dwellers cannot afford the rent advance, and live in informal settlements ("slums") and/or in overcrowded houses which lack sanitary conditions.

How we'll help:



We will be building in Agomeda (spelled Agamedea on Google Maps), a small rural village about an hour northeast of Accra (Ghana's capital). It backs up to the immense and lush Volta region, with a beautiful hilly backdrop.

The Fuller Center is building a community on the outskirts of Accra, so that we are able to address both the needs of urban and rural residents. The first six houses and a water well with a storage tank are already completed, and more houses are underway.

By joining this build, you would help us grow this already wonderful and established community, and bring housing solutions to those in need much more quickly, through the influx of labor and funding that comes with an international Fuller team.

Rough schedule for the week:

Day 1 (August 27)

Sunday

- Arrive in Accra
- Airport pickup by country host
- Travel to accommodations
- First team dinner

Day 2-6 (August 28-September 1)

Monday-Friday

- Breakfast at our hotel
- Work at the build site
- Lunch on site
- Time after building and before dinner to clean up
- Dinner with your team



Day 7-8 (September 2-3)

Saturday & Sunday

- Visit Cape Coast Castle and museum (a former hub of the Trans-Atlantic slave trade; pictured left)
- Beach time at Cape Coast
- Craft Village visits and several shopping options
- Plenty of time for R&R, free time, etc.
- Those joining for the shorter trip option would depart September 3

Day 9 (September 4)

Monday

- Build
- Same schedule as previous week

Day 10 (September 5)

Tuesday

- Build
- House dedication & goodbye ceremony

Day 11 (September 6)

Wednesday

- Departure day
- Drop-off at Accra airport
- Return home or continue your travels in western Africa!