

## Team Leader Information and Trip Details

### About the Trip Leaders

Team leaders: Carey White and Stewart Essey  
Currently lives in: Frederick, MD Waxhaw, NC  
Best email: [stuessey@gmail.com](mailto:stuessey@gmail.com)  
Trip name: The Arnold Foundation

### About the Trip

Location: Yerevan, Armenia  
Dates: July 30-August 6, 2017  
Cost: \$1,250/person  
Expected group size: 10  
Trip Number: 10053

Carey and Stu are pumped to return to Armenia this year. Armenia is the size of Maryland and out of 3 million people, 26,199 families are homeless. Since the spring of 2008, The Fuller Center for Housing Armenia has supported community development by assisting in building and renovating over 560 simple, affordable homes and advocating the right to a decent shelter as a matter of conscience and action.

Carey, who has been on mission trips to Guatemala, Nicaragua, Peru, Sri Lanka, and Ghana through the years, didn't know what to expect going to the first Christian nation in the world. When asked, he stated, "the hospitality was unmatched. No family has ever treated us with that much soul." Based on his interactions with the locals and impressions of the culture, Carey couldn't wait to plan the 2017 excursion.

Stu has also been on several mission trips around the world. Places include Guatemala, Haiti, Ghana, Peru, Nicaragua, and Armenia. Each time, he is amazed how The Fuller Center for Housing provides affordable housing for families in so many countries. He is often heard saying, "I'm a terrible builder, but I love the people."

On Monday and Tuesday, we will likely work on the concrete foundation or walls of a future home. On Wednesday, we will plan to visit some memorials, museums, or forts to educate everyone on the history and tradition of such a great country. It'll be back to work on Thursday and Friday. Saturday will be a day of rest and excitement, with participants choosing to hike a local mountain, fish at a local lake, or shop in the city. Finally, we will depart Yerevan early Sunday morning.

Physical capabilities and experience levels don't matter. Bottom line, being there means so much to the volunteers, family members, and Armenians. Whether you are mixing concrete, carrying blocks, tying rebar, interacting with members of the community, sweeping floors, or smiling, your presence is wanted and cherished.

If you want to be a part of this epic trip, feel free to complete an application and waiver through The Fuller Center for Housing or contact Stu at [stuessey@gmail.com](mailto:stuessey@gmail.com).



Stu is wearing a hat & backpack. Carey is wearing a green t-shirt

If case you were wondering why the trip is named “The Arnold Foundation,” please note the following details.

The Arnold Foundation is a non-profit corporation registered in the State of Maryland with a mission statement is “to make the world a better place by providing or improving education, economic, energy, and health conditions to those in need.” Members of The Arnold Foundation Board of Directors have been attending and leading mission trips for several years. This trip to Armenia will be the first one since The Arnold Foundation was formed and received its non-profit status. Trip leader Stu is one of the founders of The Arnold Foundation and serves on its Board of Directors.

The picture is of a group of participants on a project to install a water system in a Guatemalan village in 2011.