## About the Trip LeaderAbout the Trip

Team leader name: Abie Alexander Location: Armenia

Currently lives in: Greenbelt, Maryland Dates: May 20-June 02, 2018

Occupation: Nonprofit Finance Cost: \$1,700

Best phone: +1 (301) 335-5632 Expected group size: 8
Best email: abie.alexander@outlook.com Trip Number: 10068

## Hello!

Thank you for your interest in joining a Global Builder team of Fuller Housing to Armenia.

The Fuller Center for Housing, Americus, Georgia, is a a non-profit, ecumenical Christian housing ministry dedicated to eliminating poverty housing worldwide. <a href="https://fullercenter.org/about/">https://fullercenter.org/about/</a>

**Global Builder** teams are groups of volunteers who travel to countries overseas and actively participate in efforts to improve the housing conditions of the poor and disadvantaged in those locations. On this trip we will be partnering with the Fuller Center for Housing Armenia (FCHA).

https://fullercenter.org/global-builders/

Armenia is an ancient nation with a history that dates back to the very beginning of civilization. The capital Yerevan was founded in 782 BC. That is 2,799 years ago! Armenia was also the first nation to embrace Christianity. As can be expected, there will be plenty of culture and history to sample on this trip, in addition to the breathtaking scenery which includes the towering Mount Ararat (of Noah fame) and the high-altitude Lake Sevan. For those who have never been to Armenia, the country is geographically situated at the meeting point of Europe and Asia and combines the best of both worlds

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Armenia

The purpose of the trip is to participate actively in a construction/renovation effort organized by the local unit, FCHA. Each volunteer will be free to choose the level that matches his/her skills and physical abilities. This can range from plastering, painting, carrying materials, and mixing concrete, to general cleaning and other work. No team member need have any concerns about the work load exceeding their ability or their skills. What is more important than the work itself, is the time spent with the family for whom the house is being constructed and their neighbors. The site staff of FCHA will provide the necessary instructions and training for specific tasks.

The team size is consciously targeted at only around 8 to provide a smaller group for easier bonding and to make the effort more meaningful.

**The work schedule** (Monday to Friday) for the two weeks will start with departure from the Yerevan hotel (our base) to the work-site by 9:00 am (09:00). Lunch will be at the work-site around noon. Work will continue in the afternoon with a tea/coffee break midway. We will conclude the day's work by 4:30 pm (16:30) when the team will return to the hotel in Yerevan.

**After work** activities are an integral part of the trip. Work day evenings would include local sightseeing and sampling the delectable cuisine of Armenia at a wide variety of chosen restaurants. The weekend in between will be devoted to travel out of town for sightseeing. The tentative sights include Khor Virap, Zvartnots, Geghard, and, of course, Sevan.

**The cost** of the trip (excluding airfare) is \$1,700 per person. This cost covers all in-country costs, including airport transfers, hotel accommodation, full board, and daily transportation to and from the work-site. Also, included in the price, at no extra cost, are the out-of-town sightseeing trips.

Check-in: after 12 noon on May 20 Check-out: before noon on June 02



**About myself**: I have been on two previous Fuller trips to Armenia and have traveled there several other times on business and personal trips. Though not of Armenian origin myself, I love Armenia deeply. Professionally I am a nonprofit finance and grants specialist. I live in Greenbelt, Maryland.

For any further information, please feel free to contact me at <u>abie.alexander@outlook.com</u> or +1 (301) 335-5632.

Thank you for considering this trip to Armenia!

abie.