

Team Leader Information and Trip Details

About the Trip Leader

Team leader name: John Roe

Currently lives in: Mississauga, Ontario, CANADA

Occupation: Retired

Best phone: 905-828-4436

Best email: johnroe@rogers.com

About the Trip

Location: Agomeda

Dates: April 8-15, 2018

Cost: \$1,340.00

Expected group size: 10-12

Trip Number: 35013

Hi, I'm John. I would like to invite you join me in Ghana in April as we work together to eliminate poverty housing

I am looking for a team of hard working, easy-going, fun-loving, go-with-the-flow people who want to make a difference in a deserving family's life.

Please feel free to contact me at johnroe@rogers.com if you would like to learn more about this trip or apply now using our on-line application.

A little about myself:



I began my working career In England as a journalist before emigrating to Canada in 1966. After a further two years as a reporter I attended McMaster University in Hamilton for my BA and Carleton University (Ottawa) for a Master of Social Work degree. I then worked for the Ontario Government for 25 years in various capacities before taking early “retirement”. This has enabled me to travel extensively, most recently in September 2017 to what is considered the world’s last frontier(!) – Papua New Guinea. That’s me in a dug-out canoe on the Sepik River!

From this you will gather that I consider “retirement” a hateful word – preferring to view it rather as the freedom to choose how to spend my time. For the last 12 years I have

participated in, and been privileged to lead, *Habitat for Humanity Canada Global Village* build teams around the world -- 23 as Team Leader. Those destinations have included such diverse locations as Kyrgyzstan, The Philippines, Mongolia, Cambodia, Macedonia, and Armenia. I especially love Africa having built in Tanzania, Zambia, Ethiopia and Malawi. I have also visited Kenya, Zimbabwe, Botswana and South Africa but this will be the first time that I will have the opportunity to lead a build team in West Africa.

The housing need in Ghana

About 40% of the population lives below the poverty line in houses that are overcrowded. In many rural communities in Ghana, mud houses, with roofs of split bamboo or palm leaves thatch, crumble during the rainy season. Poor drainage systems combined with torrential rains destroy their mud foundations causing walls to collapse, sometimes injuring those inside.

In urban areas – where landlords charge as much as 2-6 years rent in advance – a large number of people live in slums and overcrowded houses which lack sanitary conditions.

How we can help

The Fuller Center is building a community in Agomeda, a small village northeast of Accra, Ghana's capital. The first half-dozen houses and a water-well with a storage tank are already completed and more houses are underway.

By working alongside partner families and local skilled tradesmen you will be afforded an uncommon opportunity to appreciate what daily life is like in what used to be known as the Gold Coast – the Gateway to Africa. You will find that you will gain more than you give. No previous construction experience is necessary -- just an open mind, a willingness to help and a readiness to share a good laugh. Most importantly through your labor and funding life for one more family will be much improved.

Tentative schedule for the week

Day 1 (April 8)

Sunday

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

Day 2-6 (April 9-13)

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 (April 14)

Saturday

·R & R – visit Cape Coast Castle and museum (a former hub of the trans-Atlantic slave trade); visit craft villages; beach time at Cape Coast

Day 8 (April 15)

Sunday

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