

South Africa Service Trip --- June 16-July 7, 2008

Project Goals

The purpose of the project is to provide a rich educational experience for the 600 middle school and 80 preschool children of Kurland Village, South Africa. This community of some 4,500 persons is a marginalized, historically disadvantaged and poverty stricken rural township comprised of Coloured Afrikaans and Black Xhosa speaking persons. Many students do not attend school at all and those who do only receive a few hours of basic instruction in reading, writing, and math. The program will offer supplemental reading and writing, dramatic/dance and studio arts, athletics, life skills (drugs, sex, and AIDS), and computer/library instruction. It is the goal of the program to increase school attendance by 75%, motivating approximately half of the 8th grade graduating class to attend local high schools. By increasing knowledge and confidence through the skills of a creative curriculum, students can escape from life ending variables that dominate their village, such as heavy drug and alcohol addiction and a 40% AIDS rate.

Tentative Schedule

I. Flight Information

Depart June 16 (5:20 p.m.): Washington Dulles to Port Elizabeth, South Africa via South African Airways, change planes in Johannesburg.
(arrival June 17)

Return July 6: Port Elizabeth to Johannesburg, South Africa to Dulles.
(arrival July 7 at 6:00 a.m.)

II. Housing and Activities Information

June 17-June 30

- Stay at Khoiania Farm near The Crags, South Africa
- Volunteer teach and coach in Kurland Village
- Weekend trips to Nature's Valley, Tsitsikamma National Park, whale watching, Kynsna, and Buffalo Hills Game Farm

June 30

- Head to Jeffrey's Bay to surf with whales
- Spend one night at Island Vibes Hotel

July 1-July 6

- Go to Amakhala Game Reserve and Conservation Centre (Near Patterson)
- Stay in platform tents on the reserve
- Game walks and drives, canoeing, and community service on the reserve
- Day trip to Addo National Park to visit more lions and elephants
- Head to Grahamstowne to see some of the International Arts Festival
- Hike Maitland Beach & dunes & visit Kenton on Sea and Karoo desert region