



# **Panama Signature**

June 21, 2026 — June 27, 2026

Starting at: \$3,500



### **OVERVIEW**

### The Need

Healthcare in Panama is provided through a system that includes both the government and a private sector. Panama's public healthcare system is run by the Ministry of Health (MINSA) and the Social Security Fund (Caja de Seguro Social, or CSS). Public hospitals are available to everyone, but are primarily for the lowest economic classes. Public clinics, called polyclinicas, are also available. Public healthcare is funded through taxes and social security. There is an unequal distribution of healthcare services and resources, especially in rural communities. The public health care system faces a lack of funding, which creates bed and resource shortages. Public healthcare facilities often have long waiting times, especially in more remote areas.

People who live in rural areas are often unable to access health facilities. As a result, many native Panamanians struggle to live a high-quality and healthy life. Please join International Medical Relief on our medical mission to Panama. This



year, we will return to assist the indigenous communities and people living in small villages throughout the country. By continuing our impactful efforts throughout the region to assist the communities, you and the rest of your IMR team will strengthen IMR's long-term commitment and impact in Panama.

#### **Our Work**

International Medical Relief began partnering with Panama in 2013. International Medical Relief welcomes volunteers from all specialties and fields, including family medicine, dentistry, dermatology, pediatrics, internal medicine, podiatry, geriatrics, ophthalmology, obstetrics and gynecology, and more. Non-medical volunteers are also encouraged to join, as there are vital roles for everyone. Family members are welcome to participate, and all groups, including students, are invited to be part of this rewarding experience. Founded on the belief that everyone deserves a platform for service, IMR invites you to take your seat at the table!

IMR plans to continue our preventative efforts by providing medical relief and to continue the efforts to provide sustainable health services to the community. IMR will continue to provide community health training, medical treatments, medical supplies and equipment, and clinic operations. IMR strives to provide life-changing medical care to people who do not have reliable access to treatment and help increase the community's education and knowledge on their own health to improve the overall health of the most vulnerable and underserved communities in Panama.

With diligent planning and preparation, IMR is dedicated to ensuring that specific goals are met on our missions, each in correlation to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 3, 6, and 17. IMR works to elevate vulnerable populations through shoulder-to-shoulder care with our local partners, creating workforce density, and a cadre of future healthcare and public health leaders in association to UNSDG 3: Good Health & Wellbeing.

Our medical mission teams also work toward UNSDG 6: Clean Water & Sanitation by supporting and strengthening the participation of local communities in improving their water quality, and installing water filtration systems that supply communities with clean drinking water and providing education on hydration and hygiene.

In correlation with UNSDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals, our organization works in collaboration and at the request of local hosts where we are under their direct influence and affluence. IMR never goes into a country without a formal invitation where there is a great community need for medical or dental care, and health education.

Check out more resources: https://internationalmedicalrelief.org/resources/

# **This Mission**



Each clinic day will take place in a different village, where community members will be eager to welcome you and receive much-needed treatment and health education. According to the World Health Organization, diseases like diarrhea, cholera, and pneumonia are prevalent in Panama, and poverty, along with a lack of clean drinking water, makes daily life especially challenging. During the clinic, you will assist entire families across multiple generations, providing care for conditions such as rashes, burns, open wounds, tinea, impetigo, cutaneous leishmaniasis, and staph infections.

In addition to providing treatment, you and your team will educate locals on maintaining their health and caring for their families. The clinic's services will cover a wide range of healthcare needs, including medical, dental, ophthalmic, dermatology, geriatrics, obstetrics, gynecology, public health, internal medicine, and more. Women's healthcare will also be a major focus, where we will offer general care for women and infants, as well as promote prenatal care awareness.

The team will have another highly rewarding day with the chance to visit the world-famous Panama Canal. You'll also have the option to participate in various excursions, including sport fishing, an aerial tram tour of the rainforest, a visit to the Embera Indigenous Village, the Gatun Lake Expedition, a riverboat tour, or a night safari, with possible sightings of monkeys, caiman, capybara, and two-toed sloths. You can also enjoy kayaking on the Panama Canal or simply relax at the resort.

# **Lodging/Transportation**

On this Signature trip, IMR provides 4-star accommodations with upgraded amenities. You will be staying in comfort while experiencing Panama's vibrant culture. IMR arranges all transportation to and from the clinic sites for the global brigade, ensuring smooth and convenient travel throughout your stay.

# **Highlights**

The highlight of this mission is the opportunity to serve patients who, without you and your team, would not have access to healthcare or health education. Most of your patients will come from Indigenous families and working communities, and they will be eager to receive your care and kindness. While the most rewarding part of this trip will be providing care to the people of Panama, you'll also treasure the many other memories you create throughout the week. As a token of appreciation for your dedication to humanitarian aid, IMR has arranged a guided tour of the Panama Canal and the Miraflores Lock Visitors Center for your team. You'll also have the chance to explore some of Panama's most pristine landscapes, including breathtaking waterfalls across the countryside.





### **ITINERARY**

This itinerary is subject to change without notice.

Please note: You will be notified about the group flight option prior to the Early Bird deadline. Domestic flight arrangements should not be made until after the group flight is booked.

If you choose to fly independently, transportation between your arrival airport and your IMR accommodation is not included. If you wish to arrange transportation, you can contact flights@worldwidenavigators.com.

If you have any questions regarding flights, please contact flights@worldwidenavigators.com.
Thank you.

#### **Sunday, June 21, 2026**

Arrivals & Orientation

Get ready to see where the city meets the jungle! Please plan to arrive at Tocumen International Airport in Panama City, Panama by 12:00pm to transfer to your accommodations in the Cerro Patacon region of the city. After checking in, you will gather for a delicious team dinner, followed by orientation by your team



leader. We will go over clinic protocols, patient care guidelines, safety and security, how we work together as a team, schedules, and much more.

## Monday, June 22, 2026

Clinic

You and your team will provide training for local healthcare providers to continue IMR's long-term, sustainable education efforts. Education is as important as medical and dental care for our patients. Each clinic includes basic health education according to the specialties and skills of the IMR volunteers, as well as the needs of the local people. When communities become empowered to take health and wellness issues into their own hands, they become self-sufficient. IMR provides learning opportunities for the local communities through classes and hands-on learning to sustain their well-being beyond our visit.

## Tuesday, June 23, 2026

Clinic

You will be working at a site located in the heart of a community that works and resides at a garbage dump – one of the largest in the Americas. The people here have little access to care and will be eager to meet you.

## Wednesday, June 24, 2026

Free Day

Spend your free day exploring Panama City's rich culture and history. Wander the charming streets of Casco Viejo, admire colonial architecture, and browse local artisan shops. Visit the Museum of History of Panama to learn about the nation's past, or take a half-day trip to the Embera Drua Village along the Chagres River to experience indigenous traditions and enjoy a traditional meal. If you're visiting during the Métele Mente 2026 fair, join in the festivities celebrating local culture. Whether sightseeing or engaging with locals, the city offers a memorable day for everyone.

#### Thursday, June 25 2026

Clinic

You will continue serving communities in the surrounding area. You'll serve patients that can't access medical and dental care for a variety of reasons and the smiles you get from your patients will keep you in fine spirits.

# Friday, June 26, 2026

Clinic

Your last day in clinic will be bittersweet as you reflect upon your patients



throughout the week and the impact you hope you made on their lives.

# Saturday, June 27, 2026

Departures

Today, you will enjoy a final breakfast with your team before setting out for your departure home and onward journey. If you have arranged for IMR transportation, you will arrive at the airport with plenty of time to check in. If you are transferring on your own, taxis and Ubers are abundant.





### **EXTENSIONS**

Since you are already venturing across the globe, have you considered extending your stay by a few days to see a nearby destination? Many of our previous volunteers have chosen to extend their time in Panama in order to experience more of what this amazing country has to offer!

With time to partake in world-class fishing, kayak through the Panama Canal, take a tram tour of the rainforest or enjoy the Gatun Lake Expedition, this trip extension gives our volunteers an experience of a lifetime. Other highly recommended activities include hiking to Panama's only volcano, viewing the famous Quetzal at the Parque Nacional Volcan Baru, and searching for the Geoffroy's tamarin monkey.

To see what opportunities are available to you, please visit the website of our partner, Worldwide Navigators for more information. You can also contact them directly at (970) 541-8827 or travel@worldwidenavigators.com.





# **FLIGHTS AND PRICES**

# **Minimum Donation**

# Your generous donation helps to save and change lives every day

Your generous donation of **\$3700** will go toward the ongoing global relief to care for the underserved and vulnerable people of this community. As a member of this medical mission team, you will elevate the long-term impact of sustainable, capacity-building efforts that improve the health, wellness, and quality of life of those most in need. A small portion of your donation includes:

- Clinic supplies and medications for patients
- Clinic participation
- Transportation, accommodations, and meals as outlined in the itinerary

# **Donation Payment Deadlines**

\$3500 due by March 23, 2026

\$3700 due by May 24, 2026



# **Early Bird Savings Opportunity**

To be eligible, upload all your required documents and forms, and make a minimum of 50% of your donation payment by .

### **FLEXIBLE FLIGHT OPTIONS**

#### **Volunteer with Airfare**

You may choose to book a flight with us for an additional fee. Details on the available flight routing and US departure city will be announced on . Airport transportation to and from the team's accommodations are also included with this option. Depending on your departure city, you may still need to purchase another flight in addition to this one. After this flight has been booked, you may contact our travel agent, Worldwide Navigators, for assistance booking any necessary additional flights.

## **Benefits of Flying at a Group Rate**

- Travel with other members of your team on select routing
- Fly on a group ticket at a guaranteed rate
- Transport to and from the airport included

#### **Volunteer without Airfare**

Many team members choose to book their flight(s) to and from the mission location independent of IMR. This is a great option if would like to extend your stay in the area to tour and explore, or if the routing from you home airport is more feasible for you. If you choose to fly independently, please note that your transportation in between the airport and the team's accommodations will not be provided. This will need to be arranged separately. Our partner for travel, Worldwide Navigators, would be happy to assist you in coordinating flights and/or transportation. You can contact them at <a href="mailto:travel@worldwidenavigators.com">travel@worldwidenavigators.com</a>.

### **Benefits of Flying Independently**

- Extend your stay and customize your dates of travel
- Choose your departure location
- Customize your class of service



### **Featured Enhancements**

Airfare & Airport Transfer: Starting at \$50+ each

way plus airfare that is subject to availability at the time of booking.

Single Supplement: \$100 per night Airport Transfers (for independent flyers): \$50 each way

Malpractice Insurance: \$129.50 to \$279.50

Continuing Education (CE/CME) Credits: \$350
Personalized Scrubs (2 sets): \$50
IMR T-Shirt: \$15

Partner Program: Starting at \$25 per month

#### Your Donation to IMR for Your Mission Cost Includes:

All group costs from the time you arrive at the team meeting point in country until you separate from the team or when the team arrives at the departure airport, including:

- Transportation
- Lodging
- Costs associated with the clinic
- Food
- Tips for services provided to the IMR team
- All logistics, including translation services and security as needed

# **Additional Costs That You Are Responsible For:**

All group costs from the time you arrive at the team meeting point in country until you separate from the team or when the team arrives at the departure airport, including:

• International and Domestic flights to the country. You have the option to

<sup>\*\*</sup> To purchase any of the above Featured Enhancements for your mission please contact our office at office@imrus.org or call at (970) 635-0110



# fly independently, or on a group flight with IMR

- Passport fees, visa fees, and transit fees, including baggage or overnight accommodations/meals while in transit
- Required or recommended insurance
- Vaccinations and medications common for travel
- Spending money for souvenirs and personal purchases
- Required or desired mission supplies, personal equipment, or small gifts for the special people you meet
- Any lodging, meals, and transportation outside of the scheduled team mission, payable at the time of service to the local vendor
- COVID-related fees such as testing, vaccinations, and quarantines as required by incountry arrival/departure or USA arrival/departure