



Dental/Medical Service Trip

Global Village Ministries (GVM) is a non-profit organization registered in the US, and we would like to invite you to join us on our October 2020 trip to Kenya (Sept 30-Oct13) GVM provides three opportunities for Service Trips in Feb, July and October - each is unique and offers you different options. The clinics are provided in areas that don't have much medical or dental care available, or the people in the area cannot afford it. Most of the clinics are done at schools with some being under the trees.

GVM's care is given freely to those who come and are in need. We promote long term projects in the areas we visit – including building projects, and currently we have several ongoing education projects. Our focus is not on how many patients are treated or the number of teeth extracted, but instead on building relationships and reflecting our Maker.

The last few days of each trip are always spent in the Maasai Mara National Reserve, which is probably the most famous and most visited Reserves in Kenya. It offers breathtaking views, an extraordinary density of animals including "the Big Five" (lions, leopard, elephant, buffalo, rhinoceros) and many varieties of plains game. An impressive feature is the annual migration of wildebeests, (over 1.5 million of them migrate), zebras and gazelles from the plains of the Serengeti that cross the Tanzanian border and rivers to reach the Mara's grasslands from late June through early October, tracked by predators: lion, leopard, cheetah, and hyena, and circled by vultures as their journey unfolds. Their dramatic river crossings are a reality for tourists visiting in early July-August. Apart from the seasonal migration, game viewing is excellent year-round. Game includes elephant, black rhino, buffalo, plains zebra, hartebeest and big cats. The rivers are home to hippo and crocodiles. Birds abound with 452 species of birds of which 53 of which are raptors.

While in the Maasai Mara we spend our final weekend of the trip camping at The Olmalaika Trust Campsite on Kirok Hill. Hot showers and toilets are available, although there is no electricity in the campsite though. Because of the location, wild animals can frequent the camp both day and night. It is not uncommon to hear hyenas laughing and lions roaring or grunting during the night. Then the last night is always spent in a lodge where you are treated to a little less than 24 hours of relaxation!

Kenya is a warm and inviting country – the people are amazing! When you leave, your heart will always hold a part of Kenya in it. You will have made a difference and your life will be changed

If at any time you have questions, please feel free to contact me.

Kim DeWitt

President / Director of Global Village Ministries

Director/Co-Founder of The Olmalaika Trust

Email – letmeshine4him@yahoo.com

Stephanie DeWitt

Vice President/Secretary

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8712 N Ridge Ave

Berrien Springs MI 49103

Website: www.globalvillageministries.org / www.THEOLMALAIKAHOME.org

Financial details / Passport Info / Flights / Application Info

*Everyone must have a passport – be sure it does NOT expire 6 months from the last day of travel

*\$1850 for trip covers items such as lodging, transport, food, park fees, medicines, general supplies and more. Please note that this is non-refundable

NOT INCLUDED:

*Visa Cost – approx. US\$53 – must be obtained PRIOR to traveling to Kenya.

*Flight(s)

*Taxi pickups/drop offs if you arrive or depart at a different time than majority of the team

*Travel/Emergency Insurance (We encourage Flying Doctors Society Emergency Flight Services – we can assist you with information on how to obtain it)

*Drinks (juice, soda, bottled water) while at hotels

*Tips/Gratuities

Tickets: When looking for the best flights and prices be sure you are arriving in Nairobi (NBO) on Oct 1st. Most fly on Delta/KLM and arrive between 8-10pm. If you land close to that time you would just need to wait till the rest arrive or we can set up a taxi to pick you up which would cost around \$30. If you decide to fly in a day earlier or out a day later because flights are cheaper, we can set up for pick-up or drop-off via a taxi and help you make overnight arrangements.

NOTE: Before you purchase your ticket please contact us so we can double check to make sure times and dates will work.

Application ~

*\$100 per application is required when you send in your application and it is included as part of the total cost.

*Mail or scan us a copy of your passport and once you have your evisa please send us a copy of it.

*** If you are a physician, either medical or dental, you need to mail or scan a copy of:**

A. Copy of passport

B. Passport Picture

C. Certified copies of academics and certificates

D. Evidence of passing councils pre- registration examination/peer review certificate

E. Certificate/License to Practice

F. Certificate of Good Conduct - Police Report

G. Resume / CV

These all need to be in English. Please get them to us as soon as possible.

(NOTE: Kenya requires us to obtain a license for you to provide care while there and requires the above information)

****“Permission to Treat”** forms for those 17 years of age or younger traveling without parents will need to be signed, notarized and the original copy needs to be mailed to us.

The following amounts of money for your trip are due by the dates below or sooner and are non-re-fundable

\$100 is due when application is turned in

\$400 due April 15, 2020

\$350 due May 15, 2020

\$350 due June 15, 2020

\$350 due July 15, 2020

\$300 due Aug 15, 2020

*If you are staying for the optional trip, those funds need to be in by Aug 15, 2020.

HOW DO I MAKE PAYMENTS?

You have options –

FIRST OPTION

A.) Pay via check written to Global Village Ministries. (8712 N Ridge Ave, Berrien Springs MI 49103)

B.) Please write on the memo line the following depending on what month you are coming: *Oct Mission Trip Fund*

SECOND OPTION – use this option only if you have no other as PayPal takes a % of what you pay.

A.) Pay via credit on our website via the pay pal link -

THIRD OPTION

A.) Do a bank transfer or international wire. (involves extra bank fees)

October 2020 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE

Oct 1 - Arrive in Nairobi, (NBO) Kenya

* *Lodging: CORAT Guesthouse*

Oct 2 – Visit Nairobi National Park

Lodging: CORAT Guesthouse

Oct 3 – **Clinic**

Lodging: CORAT Guesthouse

Oct 4 – Sheldricks Wildlife Trust/ Travel to Narok

Lodging: Season, Narok

Oct 5 – **Clinic**

Lodging: Seasons, Narok

Oct 6 – **Clinic**

Lodging: Seasons, Narok

Oct 7 – **Clinic**

Lodging: Seasons Hotel

Oct 8 – **Clinic**

Lodging: Seasons, Narok

Oct 9 – **Clinic** in Sekenani /Game Drive Maasai Mara

Lodging: Campsite

Oct 10 – Game Drive/Picnic in the Maasai Mara

Lodging: Campsite

Oct 11 – Visit THE OLMALAIKA HOME and R&R

Lodging: Sarova Mara Game Camp

Oct 12 - Travel back to Nairobi and fly out

An optional trip to the coast following the mission trip is available. If you are interested, please contact Kim. It would be an additional \$950 and would affect the dates for your flight out of Kenya. (You will need to purchase a one-way ticket from Mombasa to Nairobi on Kenya Airways for the evening of the 17th - the \$950 does not include that ticket. Consult Kim before purchasing it. Depending on when you buy it, it could cost anywhere from \$140 or more) Your international flight would need to be late night Oct 17, 2020

Oct 13 – Early morning departure for Sarova Salt Lick Game Lodge in Taita Hills

*Optional night game drive (additional cost)

Oct 14– Early morning departure to the coast /R&R on the coast

Oct 15– Enjoy lots of R&R on the beach, swimming pool and in the Indian Ocean

*Optional dinner at “THE CAVE” (additional cost)

Oct 16 – Day out on a dhow snorkeling

Oct 17 – Leave after lunch for the airport & fly out from Mombasa to Nairobi and then check in for your flight home.

PACKING LIST FOR SERVICE TRIP

Please keep in mind you do not HAVE to bring all of this – some are necessary, but many are optional.

Clothing

Shorts
Swimsuit
Scrubs
Jeans/Long pants
T-Shirts/Shirts
Sleeveless shirts
Turtle neck/warm shirt
Pj's
Socks
Hat/Cap
Underwear/Bra
Light weight jacket/hoodie
Flip flops
Tennis shoes

Bathroom Needs

Deodorant
Lotion
Sun tan lotion
Chapstick
Tooth paste
Tooth brush
Shampoo/Conditioner
Finger nail clipper
Tweezers
Soap
Razor
Hand Sanitizer/Hand wipes
Towel
Wash cloth
Hair bands
Comb/Brush
Insect Repellent
Mirror
Personal hygiene supplies
Optional meds – Tylenol, Charcoal, Pepto
Any prescription medicines you might be taking

Bedding (NOT OPTIONAL)

Sleeping bag
Pillow
Twin Sheet (optional)
Extra pillow case (optional)

Personal Items

Sun glasses
Camera
Charger
Converter/adaptor (it is 220 there)
Extra batteries
Alarm clock
Watch
Flash light (extra batteries)
Pen
GVM Journal
eVisa
Passport and Copy of passport
International Immunization Record if you have one
E-ticket
Binoculars
Water bottle
Worship material if you are doing worship for the group
Spending money (bills newer than 2012)

Misc

Snack food for trip (optional)
You will be asked to bring some of these items:
Peanut Butter
Paper bowls/plates/cups
Paper lunch bags
Sandwich bags

*Scrubs are what most people wear whether we are in clinic or not – they are easy to pack and light weight. You can wear a t-shirt with the scrub bottoms.

Information regarding Kenya:

Weather: The temperature can range from the 50's at night to high low 80's during the day. Rain is possible, but most likely it will be sunny with very little humidity. The cool breeze masks the effects of the hot sun, so please bring sunscreen and apply liberally every day.

BRING SOMETHING WARM – it can/will be chilly!!

Thieves: Stealing is common in Kenya. Be careful with your valuables.
GVM/African Springs Safaris Ltd cannot be held responsible for them.

Camera – Be sure you bring lots of memory cards, and extra batteries. Remember there will be places we stay without electricity so you will not be able to re-charge it on a daily basis

Our Policy on “Giving Items”

We ask that you not bring items to give away unless they are items/donations for THE OLMALAIKA HOME. So please no candy, no clothing or other item to give away at clinics or in general. We realize this might seem like a very hard policy to understand – but it is important to understand that the communities we work with are not in need of our “western” ways and things for the most part.

Please take the time to read the excerpt below written by Heather Ruiz as she shares about “giving” – we hope it will help you understand Global Village Ministries’ goals and desires as we work in communities in Kenya

“Cheikh Mohammed, do your friends give you gifts?” I started, breaking off a piece of village bread.

“Of course, it’s a friendly thing to do.” He adjusted his posture on the scratchy woven carpet.

“Now if I’m coming from America to give you gifts, am I your friend?”

His face darkened, and he chewed a great deal before he spoke. “Heather, a donation is a very dangerous thing to give away. Your American world is filled with so many items and material goods, that you might not understand the gravity of handing something for free to someone who has never been handed anything. Do you know what this village means? Generations of desert wanderers, learning and toiling for their bread and meat and homes. We are proud of this; we are empowered, by this. Now, give a village man a handout? You’ve just weakened him. You’ve increased his dependency; diminished his sense of self-esteem. One of the most widely accepted notions is that Westerners are the solution to African problems. This requires portraying us as helpless and endlessly re-circulating images only of abandonment and violence, or innocence and primitivism.”

“But poverty and hunger still exist, and our morality moves us to feed and clothe,” I broke into his silence.

“You asked me if my friends give me gifts,” he said. “Make sure that you are my friend. Make certain you understand me, first. Learn my strengths, my heart, my efforts. Once we are established in brotherhood, then yes, send me a present, one that won’t hurt me to open.”

“You see, Heather,” he set his meat down to look closely at me, “We are not weak. We are not underdeveloped. If you believe we must be helped, look more closely. We are content in our hearts, affectionate to each other, and attentive to our souls. Perhaps the greater need is for us to be helping you.”

Your heart will be pulled in many directions while you are with us in Kenya. There will be things you will not understand, but we hope that you will feel comfortable enough to come to us and ask questions and that you will have a desire to understand the ways of Kenya and when you leave to go back home our prayer is that you will have a new understanding and appreciation for something that might be very different than what you are accustomed to. We don’t just want to provide an experience we want to provide a long-term difference for both you and those in Kenya.

We also want to caution you with the pictures you might want to take. Remember that we want to protect everyone's privacy - put yourself in their shoes.... How would you feel if someone you never had met before (or just met) was constantly taking pictures of you, your children, your home etc.? I am sure you would be very uncomfortable and possibly offended. It is easy to be so amazed by everything - your intentions are good, and you want to share with those back at home, but it is so important to remember that we are working with people just like you and me, with feelings like you and me and how they perceive each of us is extremely important. **Of course, you can take pictures....** all we are requesting is that you ask people before you take them.

Just remember the most important thing you can give in Kenya is your heart and that requires no toys, no candy, no handouts, and no pictures. It's something you just give freely, and you will be amazed at how much you will get in return.

Janet Engle is a practicing Pediatrician in Colorado and one of our main physicians on the trips to Kenya as well as a board member. We have been blessed to have her join us each July in Kenya for the past several years. We feel it is important to share with each of you her experience and we hope it will give you a better understanding of how our program works.

“Over the past few years I have had the privilege of joining Kim DeWitt and Global Village Ministries on a medical service trip to Kenya. The impact that these trips have had on my family and my practice as a physician have been life changing. I wanted to put together a letter to explain some of the thoughts and philosophies that have come out of these trips. I also want to encourage you to take the time to grow and expand your own knowledge of the world that God has created and the work that He has provided for us.” Global Village Ministries is an organization that provides medical mission trips to remote areas of Kenya. Although the trips are short term, their mission revolves around education and sustained impact rather than simply treating illness and leaving the area. Medical personnel often think about providing medication and seeing as many patients as possible in a short time. We would like everyone to think about ways to have a bigger impact than this. The basic tenant of medicine is to First Do No Harm. This is especially important when we are talking about relatively healthy populations. Although we want to treat illness and the people like to receive medication, we do not want to give drugs that can cause harm. Medications that can cause immunosuppression and medications that can do this in high doses are dangerous as the strong immune system is necessary to live in the conditions in which the Maasai dwell. On this same line, they are antibiotic naive and do not require high doses of medications to treat infection. The last thing we want is to cause antibiotic resistance in communities. Topical medications, ear drops, and eye drops work very well to fight infections here. The desire to see many people to have a true impact during a short-term mission often makes individual patient encounters very superficial. Please take the time to touch every patient, even if you know immediately what is wrong. An exam of everyone that takes the time to walk to clinic is absolutely the most important part. This not only ensures that we do not miss illness, but also lets them know that we care about the whole person. Back pain is likely from a life of hard work but occasionally is a more serious issue. Please touch them and let them know you care. Interactions with families are more important than numbers. While there, we cannot solve every problem. Please take care of things that make a difference. Clean and dress wounds treat ear infections and skin infections. Things like a chronic limp or birth defect that is not life threatening we can take the time to explain in order to assure families that they are doing the right thing and that this is not something they caused - but often we cannot make it go away. Simple things matter. Moisturizing eye drops, wound care, iron supplementation for anemia, and vitamin C for wound healing can make a big difference. Please take the time to explain how a medication is to be used and the reason that it is needed. If nothing is needed, explain how wonderful it is that they are so healthy! Sometimes we have no medication to give because the problem is too serious, or on the other hand, they may not need medication. In this instance take the time to explain things and again let them know you care. "Giving" something is not always the best care, but we can always give of ourselves. Please also use the rest of the team. Sometimes we ask people to do things out of their comfort zone. Everyone should be working together to give the best care. Never hesitate to ask others on the team for advice. Nurses should feel free to get help on any and every patient and the physicians should expect and welcome it. Teamwork is key! I know that you will have an amazing time on this trip! I hope that it will have the same impact on you that it has had on me.”

Janet Engle, MD Eagle, CO

Frequently asked questions:

Your folder will be mailed out to you a couple of weeks before you leave and will contain:

- *Hotel Info
- *Entry letters to Kenya for customs
- *GVM letter for tax deductions
- *ZAWADI – Journal
- *Schedule/Room Assignments and more

What is GVM's website? What is the Olmalaika Homes website?

www.globalvillageministries.org www.THEOLMALAIKAHOME.org

What about safety in Kenya?

Here are our feelings and thoughts about it ~

Kim has lived in Kenya for over 18 years - as a child for 12 years and as an adult for 10+ years. Over time things have changed in many ways in the country, and her feelings for Kenya, the people and the incredible wildlife have only grown stronger with each year. It breaks her heart to see what the terrorism has done to Kenya and how the media has often been misleading in their presenting of it. One can never deny that Kenya has its problems - yes there are armed robberies, yes there are terrorist attacks, yes there is sickness, yes there are terrible road accidents, yes there is HIV, yes there are home invasions, yes there is drug dealing, yes there is corruption, yes there are murders, and YES we (Kenya) are just the same as the rest of the world.

Do you have those things where you live? Of course - every single one of those things are also in the US and other countries around the world....and remember that the US even had Ebola and Kenya NEVER did. You can get shot in the just going to the mall, sending your children to school can be dangerous and even going to church. NO place or country is immune to violence

It can be very scary going to a new country that you really know nothing about. Your families are nervous and some are really not wanting you to go because of the picture the media puts out there. That is all totally understandable. You hear about different things from the news going on and it can seem like all of Kenya is being attacked or full of terrorists, but it is not. Yes, there are pockets of areas which would probably be known as "hotspots" and those are not areas that tourists visit or hang out in.

Our group will land at the Nairobi airport which is on the outskirts of town and we will go from the airport to the guesthouses where we will stay for the first night - which are about 15 miles from downtown. From there we will never go back into Nairobi (other than when we take the same route we came and take people back to the airport) and on Friday we head into Maasailand. There is probably no place in Kenya safer then where we will be.

What you have to ask yourself is if a bomb went off in Detroit would you not go out of your house in Lansing? Would you not travel anywhere in Michigan anymore? My guess is life would go on just as usual for you..... so it is in Kenya - Kenya is not a city, it is an entire country and is over twice the size of the entire state of Nevada.

With all that being said.... we want to make it clear that we, nor anyone of you can promise complete safety ANY WHERE in the world. As much as we wish we could promise you safety in Kenya we can't. We cannot promise we will not have an accident; we cannot promise that no one will get sick - the only thing we can promise is that we take every safety precaution possible.

We do encourage you to register with your embassy (online) in this country - this is just a normal procedure. Use globalvillageministriesKE@gmail.com and phone (0713 010092) when registering instead of yours that way it is easy for them to contact us here in Kenya .

What immunizations do I need? Where should I go to get them?

There are no immunizations required by the Kenyan government if you are coming from the US. If you opt to have immunizations and visit a physician or medical facility to find out what immunization you should take, you will probably be overwhelmed by all the shots/pills they will encourage you to have/take. We always tell everyone they need to pick and choose what they are comfortable with. Some don't get any immunizations, while others get every immunization that was ever invented☺! GVM encourages you to have Hepatitis A, B, Typhoid & up-to-date Tetanus. You can get these immunizations at your local health department without any MD involved. It's usually the cheapest place to get the shots. For the Malaria meds an MD should be involved to make the appropriate recommendations as to what kind and how long a person should take it. Anti-malaria medicine is somewhat like the flu shot – it does not keep you from getting all the types of malaria but does protect you from many. Some opt to take anti-malaria meds and others don't, it is all up to you.

What will I do for drinking water? Do I need a water bottle?

GVM has a water bottle they will send you, but you can bring your own. We will have large 20-liter containers of drinking water that we carry with us for refills. The water we provide is good drinking water. We do our best to keep from purchasing regular throw away water bottles in order to keep our environment and wildlife safe. When we are at hotels you will need to purchase your own drinks (water, soda, juice) **Keep in mind that PLASTIC BAGS ARE ILLEGAL IN KENYA and beginning June 2020 there is a ban on Single Use Plastics in all Conservation areas.**

How much spending money do I need & can I use my credit card to shop? Can I use US\$ or other currency at the stores? You will want to have extra money along to purchase trinkets and curios at the little places we stop at to shop, plus when at hotels/lodges soft drinks, cold bottled waters, juice etc do not come with the lunch or dinner so you will need to pay for you own, plus tips. If you are coming from the US you will want to bring bills that are 2012 or newer to exchange into Kenyan Shillings. You can use credit cards at hotels and some shopping places, but for the most part you will need to exchange your dollars/currency into Kenyan shillings (KSH). This will need to be done at the airport BEFORE exiting.

What type of food do you serve?

When we are not staying at hotels we do all our own cooking and serve vegetarian food. We encourage each of you to be a vegetarian while on the trip – but it is up to you. Many eat the meat that is served at the hotels. If you are a strict vegan or have allergies, please let Kim know ahead of time. We have our own cooks who travel with us that we have worked with for many years. Breakfasts are: pancakes, muffins, coffee cake, scrambled eggs, potatoes, a variety of fresh fruit, granola, cornflakes, oatmeal, fruit juice, and hot drinks (of course not all those things at one breakfast). Lunches are usually sack lunches as we are on the road or at clinics and you make it yourself in the morning – sandwiches (peanut butter, jelly, tomato, lettuce, onion), potato chips, apples, candy bar, juice, carrot sticks etc. Then for dinner we have things like spaghetti, salad, vegetables, mashed potatoes/gravy, haystacks (like a Mexican salad), burritos, samosas, curry, rice etc. We don't get many complaints about the food – and most of the meat eaters seem happy with it too! ☺ Feel free to bring some snack type foods you like – hide' em in your suitcase... and if you just don't like what is being served.....then you always know where your own personal stash is!

Do I need to bring my own toilet paper? Hand sanitizer?

We supply toilet paper and always have it available on the truck should we need to stop somewhere. However, you might want to bring hand sanitizer and or wipes for your hands

Is there a way for our family and friends in the US to know where we are and what we are doing?

Yes, there is, we would encourage them to visit our blog on our website. We try to keep it updated as much as possible and keep facebook updated with pictures etc.

How do I get a visa for Kenya? Where do I get the form from?

You will need to do it online. Be sure to give yourself plenty of time for it to be processed and obtained. Here is the link <https://account.ecitizen.go.ke/visitor-registration> You will first need to create an account

You will want to make a folder on your computer and upload a passport size picture, your ticket and a copy of your passport. That way it is all handy to access when needed and helps with the time out issue.

Upload the picture (that would be like a typical passport picture) You can use your own picture.

On the next page you will see **GET SERVICE NOW** - click that

Click **SUBMIT APPLICATION**

Click **KENYAN VISA**

Click **APPLY FOR A SINGLE-ENTRY VISA**

Click **APPLY NOW**

Reason for travel - **TOURISM**

Be sure to put correct dates - **REMEMBER IT IS 2020**

Address while visiting -

**SEASONS HOTEL, Narok, SAROVA MARA GAME LODGE,
CORAT GUESTHOUSE, The Olmalaika Trust Camp**

Telephone number – **0713010092 (if they need a ph number for in Kenya this one)**

Email – **globalvillageministriesKE@gmail.com (if they need one for Kenya use this one)**

Select Point of Entry - **JOMO KENYATTA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, NAIROBI (JKIA)**

Upload additional documents - scan your **FLIGHT INFORMATION/TICKET**

Once you enter your cc information and submit it might time out - if so just refresh it and it should take you back to the completed and most likely approved visa.

Should I bring my computer?

Keep in mind everything you bring is one more thing that you have to worry about and keep safe! There are some who have their computers with them but remember there is very limited email and electricity is not always available. The roads can be rough and dusty, and things can be broken or stolen easily. When we are at lodges/hotels there is often internet available for a cost. Please remember that GVM/African Springs Safaris Ltd and/or The Olmalaika Trust cannot be responsible for any loss or damage.

What happens if my luggage does not arrive with me?

This does occasionally happen, so it is best not to have them check your carry on through, just in case your luggage does not arrive with you. It is always wise to pack some basics items in your carry on. We do have extra sleeping bags we can let you borrow just in case. During July we travel to such remote areas that we often cannot get your luggage delivered to us till the end of the trip... so plan wisely just in case all you end up with is your carry on.

Can I have an upgraded room?

It would cost more and upgrades are only available for the last night of the service trip – you could need to cover the additional upgrade cost and if your upgrade requires another person to be in a single then you would need to cover the cost for the upgrade, plus the extra cost for the single of the other person vs a twin

How much luggage can I bring?

You are allowed two check through suitcases on the airplane at no extra cost (**one of your checked through suitcases might need to be used by GVM for supplies**) plus you are allowed a carry on and purse type bag or backpack. Please double check with the airline you are traveling on to confirm how many you can check through and the weight allowance. Currently if you are traveling on Delta each person can bring one carry-on and two trunks or suitcases measuring 62” total linear dimensions and weighing 50 lbs each (or 23 kilos).(Some of you might be able to get mission rates on Delta which will mean you can bring 3 suitcases at no extra charge.

When packing your personal things please pack as lightly as possible. We need everyone to help bring supplies. Once you get to Kenya you will re-pack your personal supplies and you will only be able to take your carry on with the exception of your sleeping bag, towel and pillow. Once we start traveling in Kenya we will have all the food, medicines, kitchen items etc we need plus tents, tables, stools, mattresses so we don't have a lot of space for personal things. **You will only be able to take your carry on and one small bag that you could keep on your lap. Your sleeping bag, pillow etc will be put in a reusable bag enabling us to pack it in smaller areas.** The two suitcases you brought will be stored for you until you fly out. Your carry on will not be accessible while we are driving, so you will want to have a smaller backpack with you for your water bottle, money, binoculars, camera etc. Please DO NOT BRING camp chairs, mattress etc.

What if I would like to stay a little longer in Kenya or visit a neighboring country and do a safari?

We of course have the optional safari that we would love for you to stay and be a part of, but if that is not of interest to you, or you need to shorten the length of time, please let Kim know and she can help you make arrangements. Kim and Kamunge have their own safari company called African Springs Safaris Ltd. www.africanspringssafaris.com and the Olmalaiika Home benefits each time you book via them.

What if there is an emergency? Can someone contact us?

Kim has her Kenyan cell phone with her almost all the time, with the exception of it needing to be charged as times. If there is an emergency your families in the US can call her at: **011 254 713 010 092.**

Do I need to bring money for tips on the Service trip?

We strongly encourage tips. The exchange rate is approximately 98/- KSH to 1 US\$ Typical tips are as follows: 100/- to the porter that carries your luggage to your room when we are staying at hotels or lodges. We also collect a tip for the drivers on the last day of the trip and encourage people to give \$20 per person per driver. They do a lot of driving and setting up for us~ they are really a huge part of the success of the trip. We usually have two drivers. Those going on the optional trips are encouraged to tip for that trip in addition to the service trip.

Is there laundry service?

No, but if you want to wash your own clothes by hand – of course you can do that anytime and hang them on a tree or bush to dry ☺ If it is a nice sunny day, they will dry fast. If you are on the July trip it could be overcast and cooler so it might take a little longer to dry. When you are at most hotels there is laundry service – but for a cost. When you turn it into the hotel staff to have it washed, be sure you check on when it will get back to you, so we don't leave without it.

Will I have a roommate?

Yes, everyone has a roommate, and at times you might be three or four in a room. If you are on one of our trips where we use our own tents, they only sleep two. If you have a specific person you want to room with, please let us know, otherwise we will do our best to match people up. You might want to bring ear plugs just in case your roommate or the tent next to you contains a snorer or two ☺ Please be considerate of your roommate(s) remember some rise early and others stay up late....

Will I be traveling alone? How will I connect with the rest of the group?

Before you book your flights please let us know what you are looking at just in case you have missed something, or the dates/times might not work well. GVM is more than willing to help you get your flight, but we cannot do that without the funds being in to cover it first. Most from the US fly out on Delta/KLM (KLM is a Dutch Airlines) and so if you book via Delta you will connect with the majority of others either in one of the cities in the US or in Amsterdam. All Delta/KLM flights go through Amsterdam and there is only one flight out from there into Nairobi so you will be able to connect and fly into Kenya with most everyone if you are on that flight. If you are flying any other airlines or route, and are not arriving around the same time at the KLM flight does in Nairobi, then we will set up a taxi service to pick you up and bring you out to the guesthouse. You will need to pay the taxi driver yourself, plus tips. The cost is around \$40 per taxi – not per person

What happens if I change my mind about coming on the trip after I have paid for it?

Funds sent in cannot be reimbursed. If you opt to change your plans 31 days before the service trip or sooner (this applies to the optional trips funds as well) we can hold what has not already been used for you to use on either of the two up-coming trips. After that it will be used for whatever needs GVM might have. If you change your plans 30 days or less before the service trip your money for BOTH the service trip & optional trip will not be able to be saved for any future trip, and what has not already been paid for will be used for projects or as needed in Kenya.

I would like to do fundraising. How can others donate on my behalf?

Please share the following options with them.

FIRST OPTION

*Pay via check written to Global Village Ministries. (8712 N Ridge Ave, Berrien Springs MI 49103)

*Please write on the memo line the following depending on what month you are coming:

Feb Service Trip Fund, July Service Trip Fund, October Service Trip Fund

SECOND OPTION

*Pay via credit on our website via the pay pal link

*Pay pal takes out 2.2% & US .30 cents to each keep this in mind when using pay pal

Is the optional trip tax-deductible? No

Can I bring extra things to give away?

We would love it if you could bring supplies for the OLMALAIKA HOME and we will be sending out an email with items that we could really use at the home. Other than those supplies we do not encourage “give away” items as want to be respectful of the culture and way of life in Kenya and not encourage our western ways. Please DO NOT bring candy or other types of sweets to give away.

What is it like riding on the overland truck?

There are 26 seats on the truck. Five of the seats face backwards. The windows are large, and a lot of sun comes in when riding – one has to be aware of sunburn even while in the truck. There are long drives and very bumpy roads. Dust is often plentiful, and the best memories are made when we have to get out and push the truck out of the mud. The good thing on the truck is that you can stand up and move around. The trip is a bumpy one at times.

How can I help make a long-term difference? Sponsorship and Donation Opportunities

Most donations are tax-deductible and no matter how large or small – they enable lives to be changed. When you give to Global Village Ministries your donations go to cover the following projects. If you would like to give toward a specific project or need, mark it on your donation and we will do our best to be sure it goes for that.

THE OLMALAIKA HOME - provides a safe home for the young girls who have endured female genital mutilation and/or child marriage. The monthly budget for the home is \$3000 which includes: stipends for 14 staff, food, upkeep of the home and general needs & supplies. The home depends totally on donations. There are have 27 girls in elementary school and 1 boy, 10 girls in high school and 2 boy, 1 girl in college, 1 girl and 1 boy in University.

The Ol Malaika Dental Office ~ provides free dental care to all in the area and is staffed by volunteers from around the world. There is always a need for medications, supplies and equipment.

Girls Education Fund - provides education for young girls who have endured female genital mutilation and/or child marriage or were at high risk of it. A full year's sponsorship costs \$100 per month, per girl and it covers tuition, room and board if they are secondary school, uniforms, books, school supplies, medical needs, personal needs, transport and personal clothing.

Nairobi Street Boys Fund - provides education, uniforms, books, and occasional food baskets for three young boys who live in the slums around Nairobi.

Medicines/Dental Fund – if there are extra funds or funds that come in that are specified for this, they are used to purchase much needed medicines, medical/dental equipment and supplies for the clinics that we provide in remote and needy areas of Kenya. Includes parasite medicines.

Special Projects - at times we set up special projects for possible field trips for the students, OLMALAIKA HOME improvement projects.

Administration Fund - without people to coordinate and run all the programs above and organize the service trips none of this would happen. We have a HUGE need in the administrative fund. Please please consider helping. Without administration there would be no trips, no home, no girls.

Thank you so much for taking an interest in our work in Kenya and we look forward to sharing this opportunity with you.