

# CHE NETWORK SHORT-TERM MISSION TASK FORCE NSTMC PRE-CONFERENCE

## THE DISCUSSION:

Short-term missions (STM) has exploded. Unfortunately, numerous people have been injured in the explosion, and many of those victims are the very people we intended to help. Good intentions have provided too many unfinished projects, unworkable programs, and unfulfilled promises. In the name of community development, the initiative of the local people has been replaced with an expectation for handouts. Millions of dollars have been given as a solution to poverty, and yet Haiti is evidence that poverty cannot be donated away. We have confused the development of people with the development of real estate, programs, and services.

STM can serve as a powerful force in the development of communities around the world, including in the USA. STM, embracing a learning-servant attitude, can partner with a community to promote lasting change. Over a period of years, the community learns how to do their own problem identification, prioritizing, solving, and evaluation. All the while, STM stresses the assets of the community, praises the community's accomplishments, and builds the community capacity for even grander achievements. After many mutual efforts, the community and the STM members come to trust and respect each other. Partners turn into friends.

How is this to be accomplished? We believe change is already starting to take place in STM. Our intent at this pre-conference is to consider the most effective, godly, and wise ways to accelerate the change. How can we make Jesus' Great Command and Great Commission turn into flesh through STM? Won't you come join this search, discussion, and commitment? Your input, and output, is important.

## CONFERENCE HOST:

This Pre Conference is hosted by the Short Term Mission Task Force of the Global CHE Network, representing more than 400 organizations in 105 countries ([www.chenetwork.org](http://www.chenetwork.org)).

CHE (Community Health Evangelism) is a Christ-centered educational program that equips communities to identify issues and mobilize resources to achieve positive, sustainable change. Lives and communities are transformed as people come to Christ and work together to address local needs. CHE is a Christ-centered educational program that equips communities to identify issues and mobilize resources to achieve positive, sustainable change. Lives and communities are transformed as people come to Christ and work together to address local needs.