## 2024

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(An international program in partnership with the YMCA of Honolulu, Cebu YMCA and the Hiroshima YMCA)

### GENERAL INFORMATION & APPLICATION

[Application due by November 30, 2023]
YMCA of Honolulu – Cebu YMCA – Hiroshima YMCA
Philippines Service Work Camp
March 16-24, 2024

OBJECTIVES

• We will aim to improve the quality of life for children and those in need in the Philippines by using our hands and hearts.

• By working and playing side by side with local residents, we have a unique opportunity to connect with residents in a way that a typical tourist would not be able to.

• We can show humility, gentleness, and concern as a counter to the negative image many Americans have created around the world.

• We do not go to Asia because they need manual laborers from Hawaii, but because we will have the opportunity to grow, gain new perspectives, cultivate friendships, and have some fun.
Qualifications for participation in the Philippines Service Work Camp program

The YMCA of Honolulu is looking for applicants who:

1. Are active students of the Atherton YMCA or active staff of the YMCA of Honolulu.

2. Get along with their peers.

3. Are open-minded and good listeners.

4. Are physically capable of handling the project schedule and activities.

5. Are courteous and polite.

6. Exhibit high standards of character, ethics and morality to best represent our country and organization.

7. Are not afraid to try new things.

8. Will attend all training sessions.
   There will be a program orientation and 2-3 pre-trip preparation meetings.

9. Will be representatives of whom the YMCA of Honolulu can be proud.

10. Can follow directions from program leadership.
GENERAL INFORMATION

The Philippines Service Work Trip is an intensive 7 to 12-day community service-learning program designed to introduce students to diverse communities and an array of important social issues. Students conduct projects in partnership with various organizations across the Philippines.

The YMCA is proud to offer spots to 8 deserving cause-driven students for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity. Additional attendance may be possible. Previous service projects include restoring and improving a school and health and birthing clinics.

Highlights include:

- Working side-by-side with college students from Hiroshima and local people in the Philippines
- Interacting with and mentoring children
- Repairing and painting the roof and facility
- Day of sightseeing in Cebu, Philippines

We also make sure that we include some fun and sightseeing on the agenda. Atherton YMCA hopes that this experience leads all of its participants along an exciting new path of service to others and the larger community. Thank you for your interest in our Philippines Work Trip, and we hope you can join us! Limited spots available.

The estimated cost per participant is projected to be $1600-$1800, which includes airfare, ground transportation, hotel stays, and most meals and training. A $500 non-refundable deposit will be due on December 15, 2023.

The YMCA of Honolulu does provide some subsidizes for this program, about $600-$800 depending on the number of university students participating. Also, subsidizes are based on if participants assist in the Atherton YMCA Annual Campaign, which raises money for such programs. Staff are not eligible for these types of subsidizes. Fund raising activities are being planned to help defray costs.

The following are some of the responsibilities the selected participants will assume:

1. Attendance at all training sessions.
2. Participation in group fund-raising activities.
3. Participation in Atherton YMCA Annual Campaign.

If you have any questions, please contact your YMCA Branch Staff person or the Director in Charge.

Atherton     *Troy Tomita     956-0992
Camp Erdman   Mish Hood      637-4615
Kaimuki      Ananda Ferreria 737-5544
Kalhi        Kyle Ishizaka   848-2494
Nuuanu       Jen Townsend    541-5261
Miliiani     Troy Tomita     625-1040
Windward     Leigh Ann Landreth 261-0808
Leeward      Jen Townsend    671-6495

*Director in Charge of program for the YMCA of Honolulu.

For Applicant’s information
TRAVEL INFORMATION

PASSPORT AND VISAS:
Different countries have different requirements but generally you need to have an expiration date with at least six (6) months remaining on your passport beyond your return date to the USA. The Philippines and many other countries do not require a visa for US citizens. Most others offer a “visa on arrival service” at their main airports. Please check entrance requirements online or with trip leaders. If you have a foreign passport, make sure to check your requirements.

BEFORE THE TRIP:
There is a lot you can do before we depart to protect your health.
1. Talk with your healthcare provider.
2. Make sure your normal shots and Hepatitis A and Covid-19 vaccinations are up to date. Your healthcare provider may want you to have a Hepatitis B shot also. Most areas are not risky but malaria medicine and Japanese encephalitis shots should be discussed with your healthcare provider.
3. Start the trip well rested. Pack several days early so you are not up late packing the night before departure.
4. Increase your level of fitness. If you have a sedentary life style, start taking long walks and/or light exercise.
5. Avoid sick people before the trip.
6. If you get new shoes, break them in before the trip.

LIVING CONDITIONS:
This is a “camping out” type project.
• We will sleep on cots in classrooms with toilet facilities.
• Bathing will be with buckets of water.

For Applicant’s information
YMCA of Honolulu – Cebu YMCA – Hiroshima YMCA
Philippines Service Work Camp

General Itinerary
March 16–24, 2024

Mar 16 Saturday  Depart Honolulu for Cebu, Philippines

17 Sunday  Arrive in Cebu
  • Met by hosts for transport to Cebu YMCA

18 Monday  Transport to project site
  • Welcome dinner

19 Tuesday  Program at work site

20 Wednesday  Program at work site

21 Thursday  Program at work site and Farewell Dinner

22 Friday  Program at work site/transfer to resort in Oslob

23 Saturday  Swim with whale sharks in Oslob*, relax/sightsee
  PM return to Cebu

24 Sunday  Depart Cebu for Honolulu
  Arrive in Honolulu

*The night in Oslob and whale shark experience will have an additional expense, which
is unknown at this time (This is a sample of the possible activity)

Optional Add-On Sightseeing Experience
March 24 – 27, 2024
• Optional sightseeing experience. The sightseeing option will have a cost based on
  what we choose to do. (pricing is not included)
• Departure schedule is similar to 3/24/2024

For Applicant’s information
YMCA OF HONOLULU
Philippines Service Work Camp (March 16-24, 2024)

Application Deadline: November 30, 2023
Print, Complete, and E-mail to Troy Tomita (ttomita@ymcahonolulu.org)

APPLICATION FORM

(Please type or print in black or blue ink)

Name ___________________________________________ Age ___ Birthdate _________________________
(Last) __________________ (First) __________ (Initial) __________
(as appears on passport)

Address __________________________________________ City ___________________ ZIP __________

Cell Phone # __________________________ Other # __________________________ (_______________)

E-mail __________________________________________

___ I am a University of Hawaii Student

Grade ___________ Field of Study __________________________________________

___ I am a full-time staff person of the YMCA of Honolulu Branch ______________________

Supervisor’s Name: __________________________________________

Executive Director’s Signature for participation approval:

______________________________________________________________

Do you speak Filipino? ___ fluently ___ some ___ very little ___ none
(which dialect(s) ________________)

Understands Filipino? ___ well ___ some ___ very little ___ none
(which dialect(s) ________________)

___ I have a current US Passport that expires after October 1, 2024

___ I don’t currently have a passport, but I understand the process to expedite one.

___ I have a valid foreign passport and have confirmed I have access into the Philippines and
return to the US.

I am interested in participating in the March 24 - 27 sightseeing option. YES___ NO______
Short Essay:

Why is an international service experience important to you?

Tell us about a previous service or volunteer experience.

What qualities do you have that make you well-suited for this trip? And why do you feel that you are the best candidate?

What are your long-term career goals? How do you see this experience helping you achieve those goals?

Please use the space provided below for any additional comments (optional):