University of Wisconsin
Summer Medical Mission to Guatemala
July 27-August 8, 2013

Background: This trip is organized through an organization called the San Lucas Mission. For the past 5-6 years UWSMPH Students and Faculty have travelled to San Lucas Toliman, Guatemala, to work in satellite clinics around the southern/eastern areas near Lake Atitlan. This year, we would like to continue building our relationship with the people of Guatemala, by participating in the San Lucas Community Healthcare Program. A typical day for our medical group would consist of getting supplies for the day, traveling to and setting up the clinic in a community, and holding the clinic for the morning and afternoon. In the clinic, the students will work in groups to screen the patients and then present them to the providers for evaluation. The evenings and weekends are usually free for sightseeing; however, there is a diabetes clinic that is held on Saturdays by the local health providers that volunteers can participate in. There are also several community projects our group hopes to learn about/get involved with, such as reforestation, construction, coffee processing & picking, and stove-building.

Logistics: A mix of 10-12 medical students with about 4-5 providers will comprise the group. Spanish proficiency is beneficial but not required (half of the students on the trip are proficient/fluent). The trip will be two weeks in duration, comprising the last week in July and the first week of August (roughly leaving on July 27th and returning on August 8th). The cost is your flight to Guatemala City and about $210 per week for food/lodging provided by the San Lucas Mission that organizes the groups and clinics. We estimate around $1000 dollars for the entire trip based on previous year’s experience. Students going on this trip will also be enrolled in an independent studies course and receive academic credit.

Faculty: Dr. Svenson and Dr. Rodriguez (Faculty Directors), Dr. Schalch (Faculty Mentor)

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