

Compassion Experience-Dominican Republic (Ages 16 and up)

March 6-14, 2025, | Los Alcarrizos and Villa Altagracia, Dominican Republic

Cost: approx. \$3000/person

Dear Ministry Partners and Friends:

Previously known as mission trips, COMPASSION EXPERIENCES aim to equip and mobilize our churches, youth workers, and youth to compassionately live out the message of Jesus locally, nationally, and internationally.

Experience tells us that youth and young adults are profoundly transformed when they get out of their context and build relationships with those who are different from themselves, whether economically, culturally, or socially. The opportunity for accelerated discipleship occurs as youth have these COMPASSION EXPERIENCES.

There is something about serving and partnering with others that brings transformation from the inside out. CBOQ Youth partners with youth workers across our denomination to help mentor youth as they discover the significance of serving others and demonstrating compassion.

The Compassion Experience-Dominican Republic (CE-DR) is a unique opportunity to impact students as they see God in the global context, many for the first time, and learn from brothers and sisters in the city of Los Alcarrizos and Villa Altagracia.

Since 2001, we have hosted our entry-level compassion experience with the Lighthouse Project through International Teams (ITeams) (previously with Careforce International); almost 1000 student and leaders have experienced a deepening of faith through this. This registration package outlines some details to get you started in the application process.

We thank you for considering partnering with us as we see God transform both the communities we are coming alongside as well as your students and leaders.

Serving You in Christ's Name,

CBOQ Youth

APPLICATION PROCESS

LEADING UP TO YOUR APPLICATION...

- 1) Read this package and be familiar with its contents.
- 2) Pray for everything leading up to, during, and after CE-DR.
- 3) Promote CE-DR to your high school students and leaders.
- 4) Get (preliminary) approval from your church leadership (e.g. mission and outreach committee, deacons, church board, etc.).
- 5) Complete the team application form and include a \$100 per church application fee (regardless of the number of participants) before September 23, 2024.
 - a) We accept up to 29 team members in total. However, we do reserve the right to limit the maximum number of participants per church.
 - b) The \$100 application fee will only be processed if your application is accepted (for online applications, this fee will be refunded if the church application is not accepted). This fee assists CBOQ with initial administrative expenses in facilitating this experience and will NOT be applied to the funds required by ITeams.
- 6) You will receive a confirmation by October 1, 2024, about your team's acceptance status.

AFTER YOU GET YOUR TEAM ACCEPTANCE

(Note: You will receive any updated deadlines after you are given your acceptance.)

- 1) Once you have received confirmation, you will also receive the leaders' manual (which will contain additional details) and forms, and an introduction to your Compassion Coordinator.
- 2) All individual applications, responsibility waiver, photocopy of valid passport, and \$200 deposits via ITeams's online portal are due to CBOQ by October 15, 2024. Once these have been received, the online fundraising page will be activated for each participant.
- 3) You will regularly meet with your church team for spiritual formation and work on team building and fundraising.
- 4) On Saturday, November 2, 2024 (location TBD), bring your team (students and leaders) to meet together and begin your CE journey.
- 5) On a date TBD (in mid-November 2024), your Compassion Coordinator will meet with you and the other group leaders for an orientation specific to CE-DR.

- 6) All remaining forms (e.g., Medical Waiver, travel insurance, Parental Consent, Police Background Check, Plan to Protect record of completion) and the remaining balance is due to ITeams by January 31, 2025.
- 7) The team will meet on the evening of Thursday, March 6, 2025, for a commissioning service and orientation. The team will leave on Friday, March 7 and return on Friday, March 14 (note: updated departure and arrival times will be given at time of acceptance).

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW!

Financial Details

CE-DR is a ministry of CBOQ Youth. The cost to carry out this project is approx. \$3000 per person (the final program costs will be shared at time at the time of the team's acceptance) including all materials, accommodations, DR transportation, flights, travel medical insurance and DR entry fee (does not include passport, vaccinations, cancellation insurance, or other incidental costs).

Note that this is not a registration fee but the cost to carry out the program. All donations are allocated to the program, not the individual; therefore, there are no refunds. In the event that there are surplus funds, they will be directed towards the Lighthouse Project.

All financial payments can be made on each participant's online fundraising page or by cheque (payable to "International Teams").

Group Leaders

You will need at least one leader per seven students (max.) of the same sex (e.g. one female leader for five female students, two male leaders for 12 male students) who has been **screened through your church's child protection policy**. These group leaders will also be your small group leaders and cabin leaders. Small group material will be given to your assigned group leaders in advance. Group leaders should be at least 25 years of age and/or on church staff.

Promotional Materials

We have several highlight videos and online blog posts found at cboqyouth.ca. You can contact Alvin for other resources.

The Fine Print

Security: For the safety and continued success of CE-DR retreats and the Lighthouse Project, security protects you and your students from undue danger, and protects the CE-DR program. As youth ministry professionals, the CE-DR team understands how important it is for young people to maximize fun and protect the fun of others by insisting on your adherence to the rules that we have established. They are not harsh, nor do we want to emphasize any of them on this experience. We simply ask for your co-operation.

Youth Leaders: Please note that you will be wholly responsible for the behaviour of your group, and that we reserve the right to send students and leaders home at any point during the experience if we deem it necessary. Each primary group leader must be in full control of their students and leaders. Negligent students and leaders will find their groups fined \$100 for negligent behaviour, particularly if vandalism or breakage is an issue wherein full replacement and repair costs will result.

CE-DR Team Application Form

Due Date: September 23, 2024

Group Leader's Name: _____ Title: _____

Church: _____

Work #: (____) _____ - _____ Home #: (____) _____ - _____

Email Address: _____

Has your church attending a CBOQ Youth Compassion Experience (or short-term mission trip) before? Yes / No (circle one)

If so, which one? _____

Does your church have a current child protection policy in effect? Yes / No (circle one)

Have your leaders all been screened by your child protection policy? Yes / No (circle one)

Why does your church group want to attend CE-DR? _____

(use other side if needed)


REGISTRATION GUESSTIMATE (**NOTE: adult leaders must be 25 years or older**):

	# female adult leaders (at least 1 female leader per 7 female students)
	# female students
	# male adult leaders (at least 1 male leader per 7 male students)
	# male students
	TOTAL

Note: You can alter your numbers before the individual deposit is submitted before October 15, 2024.

Date: _____

Please submit this team application form before **September 23, 2024**, by:

Mail:  5 International Blvd, Etobicoke, ON, M9W 6H3

Online: <https://cboqyouth.ca/cedr25>