

Youth With A Mission  
San Diego/Baja

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# YEAR END REPORT

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2019



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## WE ARE

Youth With A Mission San Diego/Baja is an international, interdenominational Christian mission that exists to engage a broken world with God's generosity. We do this in 3 primary ways:

**1. MOBILIZATION:** We invite, equip and host thousands of people in love your neighbor outreaches.

**2. MERCY MINISTRIES:** We engage the poor and needy through acts of mercy and community transformation.

**3. TRAINING:** Through our University of the Nations courses and seminars, we train and equip people to grow in three key areas of their lives: faith, character and knowledge.

# GO SERVE TRANSFORM

Youth With A Mission San Diego/Baja  
P.O. Box 5417  
Chula Vista, CA 91912  
[www.ywamsdb.org](http://www.ywamsdb.org)  
619-420-1900  
[info@ywamsdb.org](mailto:info@ywamsdb.org)



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# HOPE CHANGES EVERYTHING



### 2019 Year-End Report – Hope Changes Everything

As we look back at 2019, we see our God of hope at work in amazing ways in thousands of people’s lives through the ministry of YWAM San Diego/Baja. Our theme for 2019 was **“Hope Changes Everything.”** When people have no hope for their future, no destination, they often succumb to fear, anxiety and depression.



**When you have a destination, you have hope and HOPE changes EVERYTHING.**

We are excited to share with you all that we did to offer hope to those in need this year. In this annual report you will be able to see some of the pictures and read some of the stories of how we are bringing transformation into the lives of thousands of people around the world through the programs and ministries of YWAM San Diego/Baja.

On behalf of our Board of Directors and dedicated staff, I want to thank all of our participants, volunteers, donors, prayer partners and friends who support this ministry. Your partnership is vital in helping us bring this new hope into the lives of the least and the lost of our world.

Blessings,

**Sean Lambert**  
President/ Executive Director

*“May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.”*

**Romans 15:13**

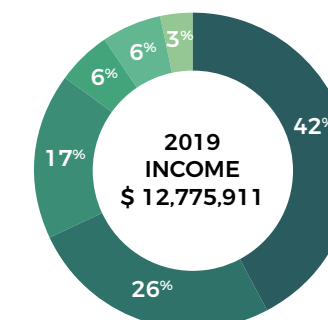
## FRUITFULNESS REPORT

YWAM San Diego/Baja is a 501-C3 non-profit. Our 18-member Board of Directors meet four times per year and we are annually audited by an external CPA firm. Assets in Mexico are held in a Mexican non-profit corporation called Promoters of Youth With A Mission. Board members of Promoters of Youth With A Mission are nominated by the YWAM San Diego/Baja Board of Directors. We also have a Canadian non-profit, Youth With A Mission Society (Mexico) in Alberta, Canada, that serves our Canadian partners.

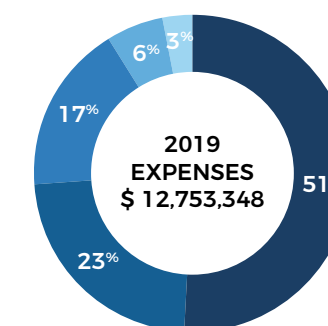
As a ministry, we carry no debt and use a Board approved budgetary system to oversee and manage all our financial resources. We have a target goal of an 8% margin on all programmatic activity. If this margin is achieved, the excess funds are used to further develop the ministry and programs of YWAM San Diego/ Baja. Contributions to YWAM San Diego/Baja are used for staff support, student scholarships, Homes of Hope scholarships and the property development of our two Baja campuses. Our management and stewardship practices aim to support our God-given goals.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of YWAM San Diego/ Baja, we would like to thank you for joining us in serving God’s beloved poor! Most of you are familiar with the Homes of Hope program that builds houses for those in need, but in addition, YWAM SDB serves the poor in northern Baja through over 20 different ministries, including, community centers, a children’s library bus and various youth programs. We also offer educational growth opportunities through the University of the Nations courses and seminars. None of this service to the poor would be possible without our incredible and selfless staff who have dedicated their lives to serving others. There are now over 200 full time staff on our three campuses who have answered God’s call to leave their homes and families in order to share the love of Jesus. Our Board is truly humbled by our faithful staff and it is a privilege to be offering oversight and guidance to this faithful and fruitful ministry.

**Steve James – Chairman - YWAM San Diego/ Baja**



- Homes of Hope
- General Contributions
- Staff Contributions
- University of the Nations
- Mission Adventures
- Programs - Other



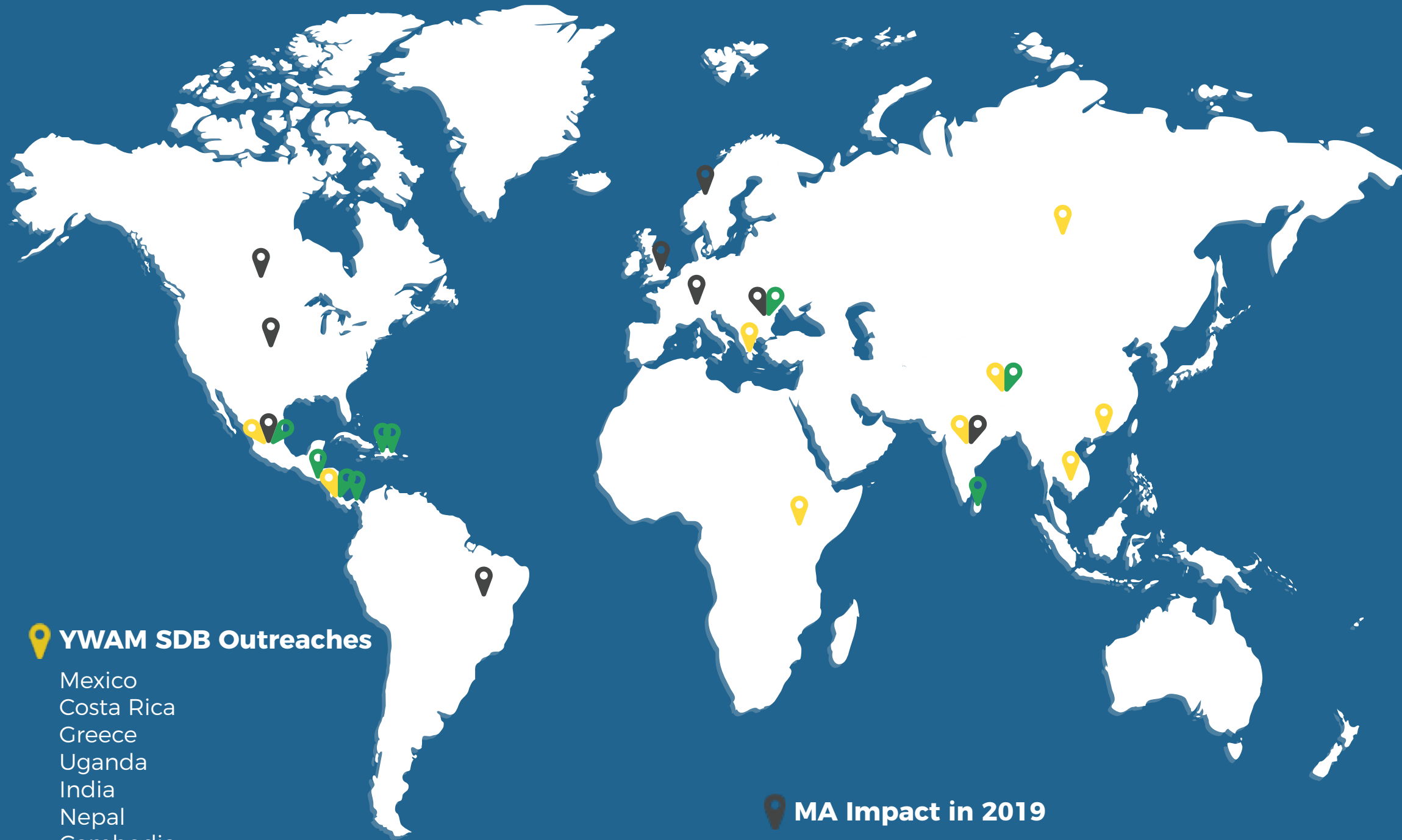
- Programs
- Designated campus and program expenses
- Staff Support
- Administration
- Fundraising

# GLOBAL IMPACT

## 📍 HOH Impact in 2019

Mexico  
El Salvador  
Costa Rica  
Panama  
Haiti

Dominican Republic  
Romania  
Nepal  
Sri Lanka



## 📍 YWAM SDB Outreaches

Mexico  
Costa Rica  
Greece  
Uganda  
India  
Nepal  
Cambodia  
Hong Kong  
Mongolia

## 📍 MA Impact in 2019

Canada  
United States  
Mexico

Brazil  
England  
Romania

Norway  
Switzerland  
India



# HOMES OF HOPE



**415** HOMES BUILT FOR THE POOR IN 2019

**9** DIFFERENT NATIONS

**316** HOMES BUILT IN BAJA, MEXICO

**6,945** HOMES BUILT SINCE 1990

After the Contreras Lopez family was forced to leave where they had been living, they faced what many families living in poverty face, a lack of options. With very little income, they were barely able to cover regular expenses like food and medicine, and had nothing left over to build a quality structure for their family. They did what they could with a difficult situation and found a tent to live in. At least they had makeshift walls to help shelter them from the elements, but the situation was still dire. A nearby neighbor, feeling burdened for them, took a video of the family's living conditions and put it online. Once the video was posted online, word spread and they were able to get in contact with YWAM about getting them a Home of Hope. Shortly after, our Family Selection Team went out to visit them and assess the situation.

As our staff members went out to check on the situation, they found that the "tent" the family was living under was more like a tarp with three unstable poles holding it up, and a flimsy plastic acting as siding for the walls. Their belongings were spread around their land and inside the tarp they had a mattress set up on a table for the children to sleep on. The parents had to have the children sleep off of the ground to protect them from the snakes that would come into their tent at night. Our staff members could feel the desperate need for a safe home for this family.

On the day of the house build the mother, Nancy, said "We had a lot of hope in God and always believed in a miracle." Now they are living that real miracle! After just two days, they have four walls and a roof over their heads. As a family they can rest at night, knowing that they are safe from the snakes, the wind and the rain.





# FIVE BENEFITS OF A HOME

## 1. ECONOMIC IMPACT

52% of Mexico's 126 million people live below the poverty line, with 5.4 million households, in inadequate living conditions. On average it would take an impoverished family 10 years to replicate what the Homes of Hope program does for them in just a few days. Receiving the gift of a debt-free home helps leverage families out of poverty. Families who receive a Home of Hope experience a new economic freedom and can use their limited income in other areas of family life such as education, food, clothing and health care.

## 2. EDUCATIONAL IMPACT

Children who come back to a home the family owns, are three times more likely to attend school. A stable home environment

encourages ongoing learning and promotes academic success. Achieving success in school instills a sense of dignity and self-worth in the child and has long-term implications on career prospects and earning potential.

## 3. HEALTH IMPACT

Families who receive a new Home of Hope with a cement floor experience significantly decreased instances of disease. A concrete floor provides a 78% reduction in parasitic infestations, a 49% reduction in diarrhea and an 81% reduction in anemia over families who live on dirt floors. Poorly built makeshift shelters contribute to indoor air pollution, which leads to ongoing respiratory and cardiovascular diseases. Homes of Hope promotes healthy living.

## 4. TRANSFORMATIONAL IMPACT

Families facing the instability of homelessness are more likely to separate and dissolve, experiencing an inability to properly envision and perceive their own future. The gift of a home has a positive effect on the long-term thinking skills of the poor and provides a safe and welcoming environment for families to invite others in and demonstrate hospitality to their community.

## 5. SPIRITUAL IMPACT

The gift of a home is a very practical demonstration of God's love, mercy and grace to a family in need. Jesus Christ is the ultimate homebuilder and even now He is preparing a place for us to dwell with Him forever.

# MISSION ADVENTURES



**9** NATIONS HOSTED MISSION ADVENTURES IN 2019

**1494** YOUTH HOSTED IN BAJA, MEXICO IN 2019

**135,000+** YOUTH HOSTED SINCE 1997



In 2017 I came to Tijuana Mexico for my first Mission Adventure experience with my church. This was my first time at YWAM and it couldn't have been more amazing. I left different from when I came, my heart was so touched by the people we met and my life impacted by the ministries I participated in.

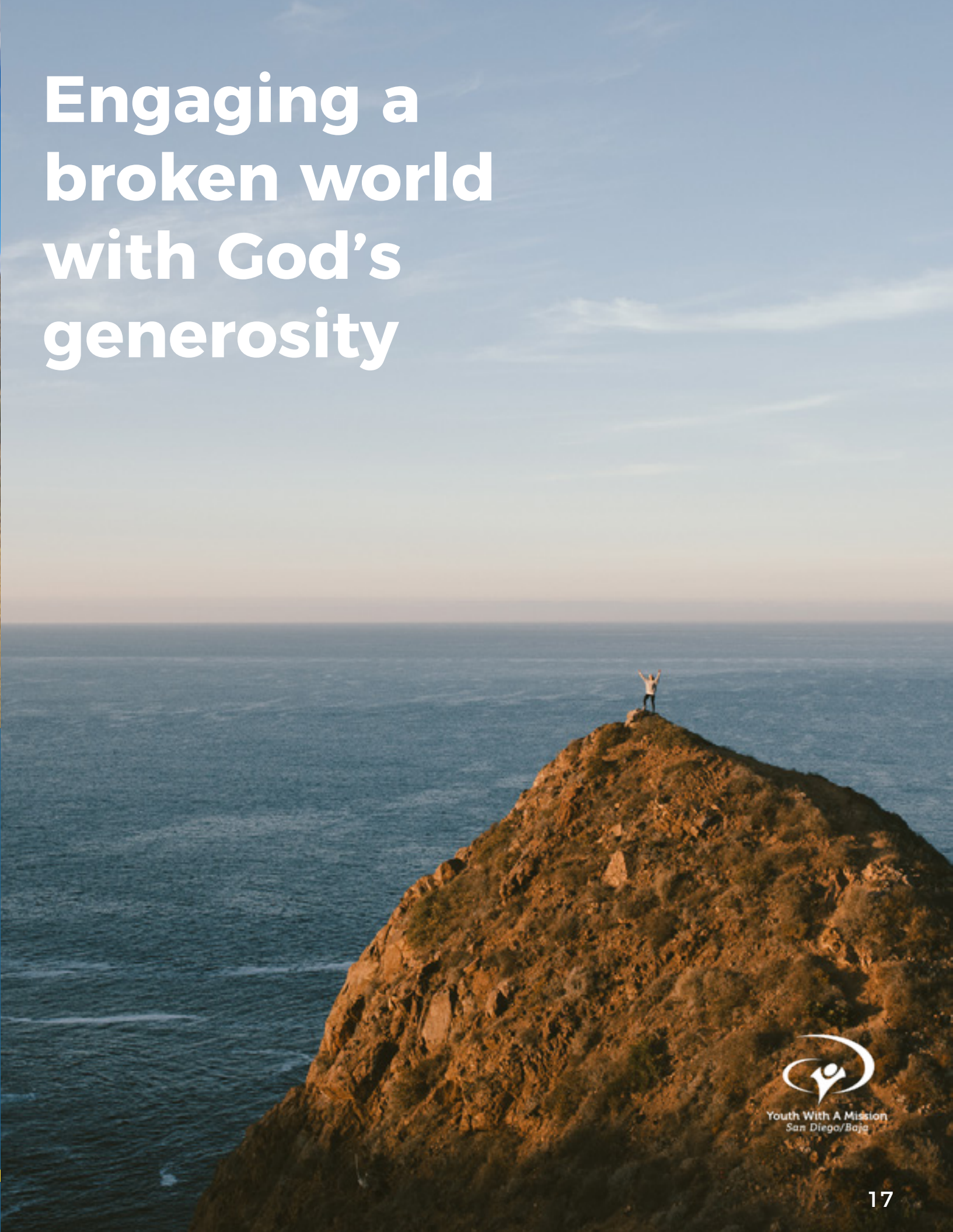
When I first arrived at YWAM I was amazed by the community I was met with and their passion for serving. That week met us with multiple tasks that pushed us into new growth areas. After serving in the orphanage, dump and soup kitchen, my whole team was met with a level of humility that changed our hearts forever. Even as the hot sun was beating down on us as we painted a school wall for several hours, I was still met with a burning passion in my heart to continue serving others. The motivation and passion of the Staff inspired me to serve others and reflect the love of Jesus Christ. I felt this hunger to continue to grow in this but wasn't sure exactly how to make that happen. When some of the YWAM staff shared with me about the Discipleship Training School (DTS), I knew in my heart that this was the answer I was looking for!

In September 2018, I arrived in Tijuana to begin my DTS. Saying goodbye to my family and friends was difficult, but I knew it was what the Lord was calling me to do. Through those six months I found my identity in Christ and gained true confidence in my faith. This experience of my DTS was only the beginning of my mission calling. Soon after returning home from my DTS, I felt the Lord calling me to return to Tijuana to serve as a volunteer staff for the summer with Mission Adventures.

This experience even further prepared me to come home and be a missionary in my own town. I have taken on a leadership role in my church's youth group leading middle school girls. My passion for youth ministries all started with Mission Adventures, and for that I am so thankful. If it weren't for my first Missions Adventures experience and the way the staff reflected the love of Christ, I don't think my passion would have grown to the volume it is at right now. To this day I am so thankful for the way the Lord revealed himself to me through Mission Adventures.



# Engaging a broken world with God's generosity



## FULL-SERVICE MISSION TRIPS FOR YOUTH GROUPS INSPIRING AND EQUIPPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF YOUTH FOR A LIFETIME OF MISSIONAL SERVICE.

Mission Adventures had its initial formation in 1986 when Sean and Janet Lambert wanted to launch a new wave of young people into missions. The program ran during spring and summer break and the youth were encouraged to know God and make Him known. The initial pioneering years were challenging, but proved fruitful. In 1997, the program was officially named Mission Adventures and was expanded to other YWAM locations as a global network. Since 1986, over 135,000 youth and thousands of churches and Christian schools have been mobilized, impacting over 60 different nations!

# UNIVERSITY OF THE NATIONS



The University of the Nations was founded as a training branch of YWAM International in 1978 and annually provides educational opportunities to an estimated 28,000 students at 600 locations in 160 nations. The University of the Nations is truly a dynamic and diverse university, where students are equipped in faith, character and knowledge. Students can study to receive Associates, Bachelors or

Masters degrees in multiple colleges within the University of the Nations. YWAM San Diego/Baja provides in-depth courses and seminars on a wide variety of topics such as community development, the Bible, youth ministries and vocational training. As a University of the Nations campus we believe in equipping people to impact all spheres of society.

**377** students trained

**13** different courses

students from **19** nations

**8** countries impacted with outreaches



After completing my Discipleship Training School with YWAM San Diego/Baja, I came back to do the Community Development School (CDS) through the University of the Nations. I had studied Community Health in college and this school, while in the same field, was completely different, because it is grounded in a Biblical Worldview. The CDS was a time of deep transformation for me for so many reasons. I gained a fresh perspective of my field, got to learn how to participate in God's restorative work around the world and that any transformation around me has to begin within me. In every relationship and in the ministries or organizations that I am involved with, I am now able to approach the work with an organized way to bring real transformation that lasts, all from the foundation I received during my CDS. I am currently a part of a team developing a women's ministry at our church and it's been incredible to see the tangible impact of what I learned. Thanks to the CDS, the way I viewed the world, God's plans, and myself have all drastically changed.

**STUDENT'S NATIONALITIES**

- Canada
- USA
- Mexico
- Costa Rica
- Dominican Republic
- Ecuador
- Colombia
- Chile
- Uruguay
- Brazil
- Switzerland
- France
- Germany
- Netherlands
- United Kingdom
- Norway
- Sweden
- Australia
- New Zealand



**OUTREACH LOCATIONS**

- Mexico
- Costa Rica
- Greece
- Uganda
- India
- Nepal
- Cambodia
- Hong Kong

# DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING SCHOOL



**6,480** HOURS OF INTERCESSION

**28,728** HOURS OF EVANGELISM

**21,504** HOURS OF CLASSROOM LEARNING

## DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING SCHOOL (DTS):

The Discipleship Training School is a 5 month program designed to empower students to know God and make God known. Students participate in a three month lecture phase where they learn and grow, followed by a two month cross-cultural outreach where they put into practice what they have learned.

### BUILDING HOPE:

The heart of the Building Hope DTS is to equip the students to bring the hope that we have in Christ to the lost and broken of our world. Students also receive special training on Homes of Hope, having the opportunity to participate in various home builds.

### MUSIC AND ARTS COLLECTIVE DTS:

Students discover how to co-create with God as they express God's beauty and love to the lost through their various art forms.

### COMPASSION IN ACTION DTS:

Students focus on cultivating a life of intimacy with God, gain God's heart for the broken and hurting, and then share God's love through acts of compassion and service.

### PHOTO-STORYTELLING DTS:

Through the Photo-Storytelling DTS, students learn how to use their passion for photography to bring an impact to those around them. Students are equipped to use photography and storytelling as a bridge to build relationships and to communicate the stories on God's heart.

### TRANSFORMATION DTS:

In the Transformation DTS, students focus on knowing God, experiencing his presence and engage with the transformative work of Christ as they are made more into His image.

### SURF & SKATE:

The Surf & Skate DTS is designed to teach the students to make Jesus the focal point of their lives, while empowering them to share God's love for the world through their passions.

### MARKETPLACE DTS:

The heart of the Marketplace DTS is to help students find their ministry or purpose in the middle of their passion and to equip students to be involved with establishing the Great Commission from within the spheres of society.

## SECONDARY COURSES

**2,448** HOURS OF INTERCESSION

**13,056** HOURS OF CLASSROOM LEARNING

**68** STUDENTS IN OUR SECONDARY COURSES

### SECONDARY COURSES:

**THE CHRONOLOGICAL SCHOOL OF BIBLICAL STUDIES:**  
The SBS-C is a nine month Bible course that equips students to study all 66 books of the Bible using the inductive method. This method involves learning about the author, genre, history and context of each book so that the students are able to better understand the intended message of the text.

**THE CHRONOLOGICAL BIBLE CORE COURSE:**  
During this 3-month Bible course, students study 12-15 books of the Bible inductively, learning the method to be able to apply it to study the rest of the Bible beyond the course.

**THE DISCIPLESHIP BIBLE SCHOOL:**  
The DBS is a 12- week introduction to the Bible. Students gain insight into God's overarching story. In addition to lectures on specific books, students spend time in small groups reading and talking through the scriptures.

**THE TITUS PROJECT:**  
The Titus Project is a course designed for graduates of the nine month School of Biblical Studies to be equipped to teach the Bible to others. Students spend three weeks learning teaching methods and best practices for communicating the Word of God before going out on a two month outreach to put it into practice.

**THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SCHOOL:**  
In the CDS, students receive practical training and leadership development to be able to bring transformation to the communities in which they serve.

**THE SCHOOL OF WORSHIP:**  
The heart of the SOW is to establish a lifestyle of intimacy with God, leaning into God's heart and how to use your gifts and talents to lead other people into the presence of God. In this three month course, students grow deeper in relationship with God as they grow in their practical skills.

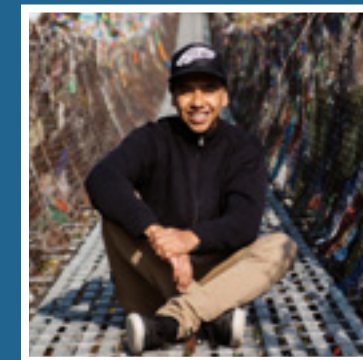
## COMMUNITY INITIATIVES

Each week YWAM San Diego/Baja staff work in wide variety of community initiatives. ***We are engaging a broken world with God's generosity.*** We are passionately working to see individuals and whole communities transformed and restored to God's intentions. Tijuana and Ensenada staff engage weekly in community sports ministries, after school tutoring and mentor activities for youth and children, Bible distribution, discipleship classes, and marriage and family seminars. Also offered is vocational training in woodworking, basic construction, window making, and sewing classes. As we serve and engage impoverished communities, the residents feel valued and empowered. A new hope for the future is kindled, and as we know, hope changes everything!

**1,000+** ENGAGED EACH MONTH

**948** WINDOWS BUILT BY YOUTH WHO GREW UP IN HOMES OF HOPE

**5,225** YOUTH PARTICIPATE EACH MONTH IN ILUMINA YOUTH EVENTS



Julio Alonso was actively involved in his local youth group but seeking for more. When he heard about the Ilumina youth conference happening at our

San Antonio Del Mar campus, he wanted to attend but didn't have the money. Omar Gallo, the founder of Ilumina, told him that if he volunteered and helped set up for the event, he could participate. Julio was excited about the opportunity and came a few days early to set up.

During the days volunteering, Julio met many long-term YWAM missionaries, who have travelled around the world to preach the gospel. It was so inspiring to him! As he went through the conference, he was given new perspectives and dreams, and a passion for missions grew within him. Ilumina helped Julio get out of his comfort zone and see possibilities beyond the norm for his life. He realized that there are more things out there than just going through the motions of faith. He went on to participate in the Summer School of Missions through the Ilumina ministry before doing a Photo-Storytelling Discipleship Training School with us at our San Antonio Del Mar Campus. He has since graduated and plans on joining full time staff with YWAM San Diego/Baja!

Julio says, "Ilumina is all about what the name signifies, shining light in the darkness." Ilumina sparked his call to missions and Julio is passionate about doing the same for youth throughout Tijuana.

**90** WEEKLY PARTICIPANTS  
IN HOPE ZONE

**30** STAFF SERVING  
WITH HOPE ZONE

Hope Zone is an outreach program located in the red-light district of downtown Tijuana. Each month, the program continues to grow, and classes are overflowing. One of the priorities for Hope Zone is to reach kids that are struggling in school. Many of the kids who attend are unable to read or cannot read at their grade level.

Only 35% of Mexican children have access to educational materials such as library books in their home. By giving our Hope Zone kids access to relevant reading books, we are able to promote literacy and open up new learning opportunities and experiences, empowering them to dream afresh of what they can accomplish with their lives.

Kimberly is nine years old. Her brothers and sister all read below grade level, but not Kimberly! She is very smart and is right on track for the 4th grade level. We told her that she didn't fit in a class, but she could be a helper in the class for the youngest learners. After several classes of Kimberly being the helper, we decided to give her a new challenge to read 25 books out loud and be part of the "25 book club." One of our staff approached Kimberly and explained the 25-book challenge. When Kimberly was told that the challenge was twenty-five books, her eyes widened as what we were asking her to do seemed to be an impossible task. In just six class sessions, Kimberly finished the challenge and read all 25 books!



**1,000+**  
BIBLES DISTRIBUTED IN  
THE RED LIGHT DISTRICT  
OF TIJUANA

**26** WOMEN TRAINED IN  
SOWING SKILLS

**12** MEN TRAINED IN  
CARPENTRY

We announced Kimberly's accomplishment to her mom and all the parents and they were bursting with pride and cried tears of joy. She was given a task and she had succeeded! Not only did she succeed, but she was excited and ready for the next challenge to read 50 books! Kimberly is not only getting better at reading, which is influencing her success in all her classes at school, but she has begun to believe in herself in new ways she is also challenging those around her to read. Her accomplishments stirred a new hunger in the moms of Hope Zone to set out to read and memorize scripture from the Bible.

One completed challenge from a child started a ripple effect of ambitious adults who were inspired to achieve something for themselves as well. When we set goals and attain them, it allows us to grow in confidence and to believe that we can conquer more than we thought. It spurs in us the faith to set bigger goals for ourselves. These achievements in Zona Norte, defy the odds and one accomplishment builds upon another and become contagious as others begin to say, "I can too." Hope changes everything.

**25** YOUTH ATTENDING WEEKLY THE REVOLUCIÓN MINISTRY

**200** KIDS WITH ACCESS TO BOOKS THROUGH BIBLIOTECA ANDANTE

**120** PEOPLE ACCEPTED CHRIST AT FARO DE LUZ IN 2019



### OTHER MINISTRIES

**La Industria** is a program that involves discipleship and teaches vocational skills to at-risk youth. In addition to the youth coming to our campus each week to play soccer and have a Bible study, we have carpentry training and provide jobs. These same youth are hired to build the windows that we put in each Home of Hope!

**Revolución Skate Ministry** is a skate ministry that happens weekly at our Ensenada campus. 18 to 25 youth come each week to fellowship, skate and have a Bible Study. The transformation is evident as we get the privilege of watching the youth grow in God through this ministry. In 2019, two of the boys decided they wanted to be baptized and we held a celebration for them on the beach as they dedicated their lives to the Lord!

The “**Biblioteca Andante**” Mobile Library bus is a ministry that shares the love of God through reading and education in an effort to create lifelong learners and Christ followers. We visit local schools, orphanages, churches and community-based programs to expand access to books in areas where there are no libraries and where most children do not have any reading materials at home. When only 45% of the country’s population has completed middle school, and a similar percentage living in moderate to extreme poverty, we believe Christ-centered education is key to the future success of Mexico.

**Faro de Luz** or “the lighthouse” is a community outreach center, situated in the heart of Tijuana. Each week, impoverished families come to the center for food, Bible studies, children’s programs and skills training. It is a safe place for families to discover the hope and light of Jesus.

# THE HOMES OF HOPE STORY

How One Question Sparked a Global Housing Movement For The Poor.



## BUY THE BOOK AT

[www.TheHomesOfHopeStory.com](http://www.TheHomesOfHopeStory.com)

## ABOUT YWAM SAN DIEGO/BAJA



YWAM San Diego/Baja was founded in 1991 by Sean and Janet Lambert. The initial vision was to mobilize groups to come to Baja, Mexico to serve the needs of the poor, both practically and spiritually. As this vision grew and expanded, transformational training courses and strategic partnerships around the world were added. Today, we provide both outreach and training opportunities at two Baja campuses. In San Diego we have a support office and warehouse.

We finished 2019 with a community of more than 300 staff, staff children and volunteers that served and hosted more than 7,158 participants, 226 students and thousands of people around the world. YWAM San Diego/Baja is positioned well for future growth and kingdom fruitfulness!

### OUR LOCATIONS



*Come and join us!*



## 4 ways to get involved

#### BRING A TEAM

Bring a team and join us for a Homes of Hope build or bring your youth to our Mission Adventures program.

#### ATTEND A SCHOOL

The Discipleship Training School (DTS) is the gateway program into YWAM and additional courses with the University of the Nations.

#### JOIN US

Come and join us as a short-term volunteer at one of our two campuses in Baja, Mexico or learn about how to become a full-time staff member.

#### MAKE A DONATION

Your ongoing support and contributions are vital to the continued growth and fruitfulness of the ministries of YWAM San Diego/Baja.

Youth With A Mission San Diego/Baja  
P.O. Box 5417  
Chula Vista, CA 91912

[www.ywamsdb.org](http://www.ywamsdb.org)  
619-420-1900  
[info@ywamsdb.org](mailto:info@ywamsdb.org)



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