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## Pre – Camp Communication 2

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### La Semana 2022

[www.LaSemana.org](http://www.LaSemana.org)

Hosted at Base Camp

6202 Bloomington Rd, St Paul, MN 55111

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#### Welcome to La Semana 2022!

This document will provide you the information you need to be ready for a successful camp experience.

Summer always brings road construction! Check the MNDOT website for information: [www.dot.state.mn.us](http://www.dot.state.mn.us)

I-35W MN River Bridge Construction details can be found at <https://www.dot.state.mn.us/metro/projects/i35wbloomington/>

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#### Schedule Information:

##### Tuesday, July 26:

Welcome dinner and flag ceremony 4:00pm to 8:00pm

##### Wednesday July 27:

Camp programming 9:00am to 3:30pm

##### Thursday, July 28:

Camp programming 9:00am to 3:30 pm

##### Friday, July 29:

Camp programming 9:00am to 1:00pm Fiesta celebration 1:00pm to 4:00pm

**Hotel Information:** A block of rooms has been reserved at Best Western Plus. Mention La Semana when making reservations. Call or visit the [Bloomington Best Western](http://Bloomington Best Western) website to make reservations.

**Address:** 1901 Killebrew Drive **Phone:** [\(952\) 854-8200](tel:952-854-8200)

**Background checks:** If you do not have a current background check on file you will have received notice over email to complete one. As background checks are taking much longer to come back this year, we ask anyone with an uncompleted background check to immediately prioritize its completion. If you do not have a background check on file by the start of camp you will be unable to volunteer.

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#### 2022 Country of Focus: Guatemala



#### Important Announcement:

**For Safety: Everyone at Base Camp must have a name badge on at all times.**

**Volunteers:** Volunteers receive their name badge at check in table

**Visitors:** All visitors must sign in at the camp welcome & information table to get name badge.

**Campers:** Wear your t-shirt with your name on it all week.

#### Emergencies

In the event of an emergency, call 612-208-PLAC (7522).

#### Camp Welcome & Information

Need help? The camp welcome & information table is located near the main entrance.

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If you have completed a background check within the last three years for La Semana, you do not need to renew one for this year.

**Covid Protocols:** There has been a recent surge of cases within the area. We encourage mask wearing when indoors for the benefit of our immunocompromised campers and families. If you or your camper feels sick we ask that you stay home.

**What to Bring:** Wear comfortable closed-toe athletic shoes, warm-weather clothes, sunscreen, a refillable water bottle and bug spray.

- Please note that Basecamp does not allow any open toe shoes for activities.
- Lunch from *El Burrito Mercado* will be available at Basecamp. Campers are welcome to partake or bring their own bag lunch.
- Mask
- T-shirt and any supplies to donate to service project

**Hola Ayudantes:** Please be sure to fill out the Ayudante Survey that was sent to your parent's registration email. Within that form, you'll find a link to the camp code of conduct as well as a link to an Ayudante GroupMe that we'll use for organizational communications during camp.

We will have a brief informational Zoom meeting on Monday July 25 at 7:00pm to go over camp expectations and the logistics of how Ayudantes will help out at camp this year. This meeting is mandatory! If you are not able to attend, please contact Tina Gonzalez for alternative instructions. Please find the link in the Ayudante survey and join us!

A meet and greet will be held Tuesday July 26 prior to check in from 3:00pm-4:00pm at Basecamp. Come spend time with your fellow ayudantes and alumnos!

If you have questions, feel free to contact Tina Gonzalez @ 651-270-0388 or at [tina@gonzalez.es.com](mailto:tina@gonzalez.es.com).

**Alumnos:** We are looking forward to having you back at camp this year! If you are a first-year alumni we ask you to also attend the mandatory Zoom meeting on Monday July 25 at 7:00pm as well as the meet and greet Tuesday July 26 at 3:00pm before check in.

All Alumni are invited to attend an Alumni BBQ after camp on Thursday July 28<sup>th</sup>. Location and time details will come soon. Contact alumni representative Julianna Ondrey at [Ondreyjuliana@yahoo.com](mailto:Ondreyjuliana@yahoo.com) with questions. \*Not PLAC sponsored\*

If you haven't already, join "PLAC - Los Alumnos" group on Facebook to stay up to date on updates and events during and after camp!

**Tuesday Welcome Dinner:** We will kick off the start of La Semana with check in for all volunteers and campers from 4:00-5:00pm at Basecamp followed by the Flag Ceremony at 5:00pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30pm.

To our La Semana friends and families who could not join us this year at camp, we invite you to join us for our welcome dinner! If you are not registered to attend or volunteer at camp this year, any good will donation per person is encouraged and greatly appreciated.

There will also be items for purchase from the camp store and common hope marketplace. The camp store will accept card only and common hope with accept cash and card.

**Fiesta Friday Celebration:** We will wrap up our week with our Fiesta Friday celebration! This will include a variety of fun activities for our campers throughout the camp day from 9:00am to 1:00pm when checkout will take place.

This is the official end to the camp day, however, we then invite all campers, families, volunteers, and guests to attend our end of camp party. We will have a DJ, performance from Corazon Latino, and more! We will **not** serve lunch this day, so we ask all campers to bring their own lunch to camp. We will provide snacks to compensate for the late lunch hour.

**Lunch:** This year we will offer all campers and volunteers lunch from El Burrito Mercado. Hot lunch will be available onsite Wednesday and Thursday of camp. Wednesday's meal will include pork tamales, rice, and beans. Thursday's will include chicken enchiladas with salsa verde, rice, and beans. Lunch will be free of charge however we encourage and appreciate any donations during lunch.

**Service Project:** This year campers will be building supply bags out of t-shirts for The Bridge for Youth out of Minneapolis. Bring at least 1 t-shirt to craft with (no holes, no profanity) and if you want, supplies to donate:

- Basic clothing/undergarments (t-shirts, men's boxers, women's underwear, socks, sweatpants,)
- Summer items (sunscreen, sunglasses, umbrellas)
- Hygiene items (toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, hand sanitizer, bring your hotel provided items!)

We will have bins out all week for supply and t-shirt donations.

Additionally, campers will work with Common Hope to learn about and raise money for education in Guatemala by participating in a Walk for Hope. We will have a webpage setup for information and donations as well as a donation collection at Basecamp.

Learn more about our service projects at our Tuesday welcome dinner.

### **Drop Off/Pick Up:**

- **Do NOT arrive BEFORE 8:20 am Wednesday-Friday unless you have permission from your volunteer area chair or the camp chair.**
- All campers, volunteers and visitors must enter through the main door.
- All campers must check out with their chaperone when leaving camp. If leaving early, a parent must notify a camp official in advance.

**Chaperones CANNOT allow a child to leave without an authorized adult. Let your group chaperone know if anyone other than a parent is allowed to pick up your child.**

### **Behavior Expectations for All:**

- All campers, parents and volunteers must follow the rules outlined in the Code of Conduct (Link to 'Code of Conduct' provided below)
- Ayudantes who are having difficulty fulfilling their assignments will be talked with and a parent/guardian will be contacted. (Please refer to Ayudante Discipline under the Ayudante section of the website for further info)
- Please respect all campers and presenters. You may not post any photos containing images of MINOR campers or Ayudantes without PARENTAL permission.

### **Visitors :**

- Visitors are more than welcome during our social events on **Tuesday evening** during our welcome dinner or on **Friday afternoon** during our fiesta events.
- Upon arrival, visitors must check in at the camp welcome & information table and wear a nametag throughout the day. Visitors under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

**Emergencies:** In the event of an emergency, call 612-208-PLAC (7522) or 911 for medical emergency.

**Information for Volunteers:** Name tags must be worn all week. All volunteers, check-in and pick up your name tag on Tuesday at the volunteer check in table BEFORE going to your assigned volunteer position. Please return your name tag at the end of camp on Friday.

The volunteer table can assist you with any questions about your assignment. Volunteers should check-in at their volunteer spot before the opening ceremony on Tuesday.

DO NOT ARRIVE BEFORE 8:20 on Wednesday-Friday unless you have been instructed to by your chair. Please supervise your children before you check them into their group at 9am. It is very difficult to change positions. For the brief week of camp, we encourage all volunteers to remain in the position for which they have been assigned (and agreed to). Please refrain from any position changes unless it's absolutely critical.

We are counting on your pledge to volunteer in this role. If you do not fulfill your volunteer role at camp you will need to be charged the full price of camp. Every position is important for the camp to be successful for you and your child(ren). The more attention we give the children during this week at camp, the more enriched their experience - and yours - will be. If you have questions or concerns about your role as a volunteer, please contact Mari Creque at [volunteers@lasemana.org](mailto:volunteers@lasemana.org).

**Schedules and group assignments:** This year we will not be posting schedules and group assignments prior to camp. In order to maintain the safety and privacy of our campers and volunteers, these schedules and assignments will be distributed to campers and volunteers during check in. We appreciate your patience and understanding.

**Photo Opportunities:** Although we will not be able to have a yearbook this year, there will be plenty of opportunities for photos. Please remember, any photograph taken of campers or Ayudantes requires parental permission before taking the photo and especially posting.

Make sure to check our website and Facebook page for further updates. We can't wait to see you at camp!