

buildOn TREK

Help End the Global Education Crisis! Build a School with Us.



Worldwide, nearly 754 million people are illiterate. Education is a basic human right, yet those who need it most—children living in poverty—are often the least likely to attend school.

That's why, since 1991, buildOn has been mobilizing communities in low-income countries to build schools. To date, we've constructed over 3,000 schools, providing quality education opportunities to more than 399,000 children, parents, and grandparents every day.

Our program unites community members and participants in meaningful work, igniting a more equitable world through the transformative power of service and education. **The impact is profound and lasting for everyone involved.**

Through this global service-learning opportunity, participants immerse themselves in the culture and customs of a rural community, live with host families, and help construct a buildOn primary school. The experience emphasizes service, leadership, and team building through dynamic cultural workshops, deep reflection activities, and in-depth explorations of issues facing the host community.

The opportunities for growth are immense, as participants gain a deeper understanding of the world and themselves as leaders. Past participants have reported significant improvements in teamwork and leadership skills.



A TYPICAL DAY IN THE COMMUNITY



WORKSITE. The work includes digging the foundation, mixing concrete, making cinder blocks, carrying water, and tying rebar. It's physically demanding, all done by hand, and will likely leave you with blisters and sore muscles.



REFLECTION. In addition to working and learning together, participants engage in deep reflection on their lived experiences with culture, inequality, education, privilege, and service.



HOST FAMILY. You may find yourself cooking over a wood fire, playing games with children, doing laundry, carrying water, singing, dancing, or learning each other's languages. These relationships will be among the most meaningful parts of your experience.



CULTURAL EDUCATION. You will take part in daily cultural workshops unique to your host community. Depending on the country, these may include basket weaving, pottery making, local agriculture, traditional music, or sports.

JOIN OUR MOVEMENT

buildOn provides an easy-to-use online fundraising tool for individuals and teams. Participants raise funds for school construction, which costs between \$36,000 and \$49,000 depending on the partner country, as well as their own travel expenses. This ensures that all donated funds directly support our mission. Currently, buildOn offers the Trek experience in Guatemala, Malawi, Nepal, and Senegal.



Ready to learn more? Contact Director of Community Engagement
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