



Samoa Trip
July 3rd-13th, 2010

Any Questions: Contact Derek Nesland- derek@courtsforkids.org, 360-521-0592

Thank you for your interest in joining our group's trip to Samoa. By next July we will have completed 15 multi-purpose sports courts throughout the world. But this will be our first time in the South Pacific. You will be inspired by the people, the culture; you will be moved by the poverty and you will return changed at a fundamental level. Please read through the following packet to learn more about this experience. Hopefully you can share in what promises to be an incredible opportunity.

The purposes of our trip are twofold:

1. We will work with a local Samoan community to bring a sports court to a very rural, impoverished area where kids have little, if any, opportunities for safe spaces to play sports. We will spend our first days in the community working hard building the court. After we are finished, we will have a chance to take part in other cultural experiences, or areas of service where we can be of help.
2. Second, we will go over there with humility and a willingness to learn. We tend to look at people in less developed countries as less fortunate. While this is true in some areas, it is definitely not true in others. We will be inspired by their relationships with one another, by their rich cultural heritage, by their joy in simplicity among many other things. We seek to learn and grow through this experience so that we will be changed as we come back.

This will not be a touristy, comfortable trip. The food will be different, our lodging will potentially be in sleeping bags on the floor, there might be bugs crawling around, and you will often feel uncomfortable.

However, if you choose to go, I can almost guarantee you will look back on this trip as a life-changing experience. You will grow so much in a week it will make you wish you could stay for longer. In fact, you will probably say this was the best week of your year.

Will you join us on an adventure?

Derek Nesland
President and Founder
Courts for Kids

Trip Details

Trip cost- \$2050* (Includes airfare, food, lodging, all transportation and travel insurance. Does not include- passport, immunizations, food at airports and spending money for things like souvenirs, calling cards, etc.).

**Trip cost applies for first 25 people who turn in their deposits. After 25, people will be put on a waitlist and the price might increase.*

To-Do List

1. Make sure you have a passport that will not expire before January 13, 2011. If you need a passport, go to the nearest post office for assistance. **In order to avoid the headache and stress, make sure you get your passport on time, do it ASAP.**
2. Fill out the sign-up form and turn in your non-refundable deposit of \$100 (check payable to Courts for Kids). (The deposit will go towards the cost of \$2050).
3. Turn in the first amount of \$600 by **May 1, 2010.**
4. Turn in the second amount of \$650 by **June 1, 2010.**
5. Turn in the remaining cost of the trip- \$700 by **July 1, 2010.**
For #2 through #5, see fundraising help
6. The recommended vaccinations for travel to Samoa according to the Center for Disease Control are the following (**Keep in mind these are recommended, not required. Check with your local doctor and make the decision best for you**):
 - a. Hepatitis A
 - b. Hepatitis B
 - c. Typhoid
 - d. Routine (make sure yours is up to date)

* The passport and immunization costs will be your own responsibility. If you raise more than \$2050, however, you can use the surplus to apply to these extra expenses. Just make sure to keep your receipts and turn them in to Derek.

Flight Itinerary

United 6078	July 3 rd	PDX 1030A	LAX 1249P
Air New Zealand 1	July 3 rd	LAX 930P	AKL 525A (July 5)
Air New Zealand 260	July 5 th	AKL 630A	APW 1125A (July 4)
Air New Zealand 26	July 12 th	APW 1159P	LAX 140P (July 13)
United 6073	July 13 th	LAX 658P	PDX 920P

PDX= Portland, LAX= Los Angeles, AKL= Auckland, New Zealand, APW= Apia, Samoa

1. If you choose to travel out of LA, the cost of your trip will be \$1850.
2. If you wish to extend your stay in New Zealand, Samoa, or Los Angeles, you are allowed to stay for a week for \$100 additional.
3. If you wish to stay for a week in Tonga or the Cook Islands, you can change your ticket for \$250 additional.
4. The changes only apply to adults 21 and older, unless otherwise arranged through Derek.
5. I need any deviation information by 50 days prior to departure.

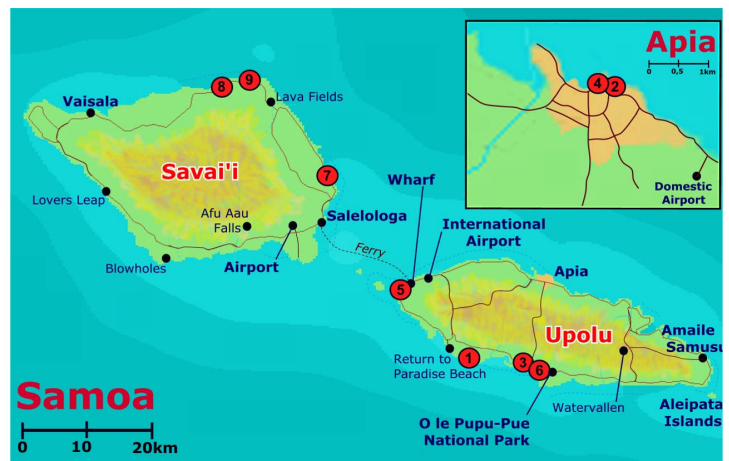
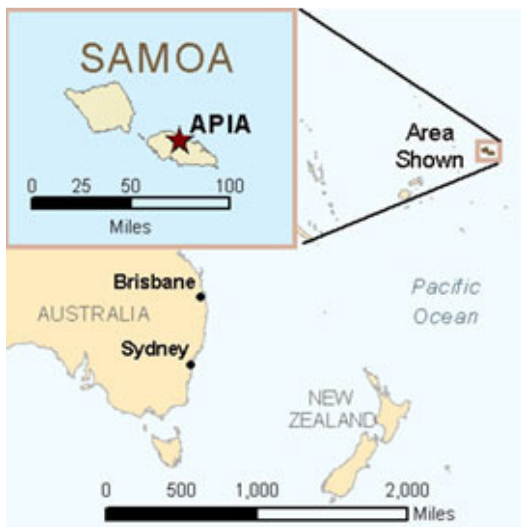
Site Details

We will fly into Apia, on the island nation of Samoa in the South Pacific, which is an independent nation and not a US territory, like its neighbor, American Samoa. Samoa is located about halfway between Hawaii and New Zealand in the Polynesian Islands.

After we fly in, we will make our way by ferry to the island of Savai'i, after which we'll travel by bus to the other side of the island to the community of Falealupo, which is one of the last places on earth to see the sunset, as it is situated close to the International Date Line. Since it is close to the Date Line, you will notice in the flight itinerary that we leave New Zealand on July 5th, but arrive into Apia on July 4th!

This project is a partnership with the community of Falealupo itself. We are working together with the village chiefs to make this a reality for the children in the community who do not have a safe place like this to play sports. Sports is not only a healthy outlet for these children, but has often provided Samoans with opportunities for education in the form of college scholarships, which has helped in the development of the island. The community is excited for their young children to grow up with the ability to play and the benefit it can bring to an entire community when even one child received a high quality college education.

In addition to the sports benefit, the court will also be used for ceremonies and traditional gatherings. Our team will be able to participate in some of these gatherings as we will be completely immersed in the culture, staying next to the court site, eating meals prepared by the local community. It promises to be a rich, cultural experience.



Sign up Form

To ensure your spot on our Samoa trip, please bring this form with a \$100 non-refundable deposit made out to Courts for Kids that will go towards your trip costs. Please send to:

Courts for Kids
Attn: Derek Nesland
PO Box 61874
Vancouver, WA 98666
360-521-0592
derek@courtsforkids.org

Name (as spelled on passport) _____

Email _____

Phone _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of Birth _____

Emergency Contact Name _____

Emergency Contact Number _____

*Beneficiary Name/Relationship _____

**Needed for our travel insurance policy*

Fundraising Help

1. Come up with a list of friends and family members who might support you on this trip. Don't rule people out too quickly. You will be very surprised at who will support you. Get their addresses.
2. Type up a support letter for people to make a tax-deductible donation on your behalf. (use the sample provided for an idea)
3. Send the letter, pledge card and a return-addressed envelope (to your house) to everyone on your list. **IMPORTANT- Get this letter out ASAP to make sure you get your support raised in time.**
 1. \$100 deposit made out to Courts for Kids ASAP
 2. \$650 to Courts for Kids by May 1st.
 3. \$600 to Courts for Kids by June 1st.
 4. \$700 to Courts for Kids for remainder of trip by July 1st.
4. If applicable, schedule a meeting to talk to your pastor to see if your home church will support you.
5. Make sure people give you checks made out to Courts for Kids. When you receive a check, put the name and address of the donor onto the worksheet provided. (This page is for your records, so you can send a thank you note when you receive the check as well as a summary afterwards).
6. When you have raised enough for your airfare or for your total trip, turn in the checks to Derek Nesland.
7. Make sure you send a thank you letter to all your sponsors. Then, bring their addresses on the trip so you can send them a postcard.
8. Other fundraising ideas (Send out support letters first as this is the best, proven way to fundraise for a trip like this)-
 1. Sell poinsettias. Ask Derek for more information.
 2. A big car wash-Instead of doing the car wash in a parking lot, approach a local car wash and ask if you can pre-sell tickets and get the proceeds for the time you are there helping.
 3. Ask people for in-kind donations. Either have a big garage sale or sell them on ebay.
 4. Pursue grant opportunities at local, larger businesses. For example, Walmart and some grocery stores regularly give away grants around \$500-\$1,000.
 5. Do a marathon event and get sponsors. Example- an all night free throw shooting marathon and get people to sponsor per made free throw. Be creative and find a good fit for your group.

(IT IS BEST TO REWRITE THIS LETTER ADDING YOUR OWN WORDS TO GIVE IT A PERSONAL TOUCH. USE THE FOLLOWING AS A GUIDE)

November 30, 2008

Dear _____,

I am excited to share with you about an upcoming service project I will be doing in Samoa this upcoming July. I need to raise \$2050 in order to make this a reality so I am asking friends and family members to consider helping out with a tax-deductible contribution.

We are headed to the island nation of Samoa in the South Pacific. Samoa is much more undeveloped than its neighbor, American Samoa, since it doesn't receive the funds from being a US Territory.

We will be building a multi-use sports court for a rural community where the kids have few, if any, opportunities to play organized sports. The children end up participating in many destructive behaviors as a result of the lack of opportunities. Since the Samoans are naturally gifted athletically, sports has provided great benefit to the islands, as many children have received a quality college education as a result of success in sports. This education, in turn allows them to help provide for their community. The kids in Falealupo will soon have opportunities to further these gifts, and in turn, to help their communities develop.

Sports has been a big part of my life and I am excited to be able to help kids around the world through something that has helped me in so many ways.

In addition to sports, the community will also use this court as a means to host celebrations and traditional gatherings as it will exist in a very central location for the community.

We are going to be completely immersed into the community, staying right next to where the court will be built, eating foods prepared by the locals and gaining a great insight into their rich cultural heritage. We are going to help support the local community, but I know this will be a life changing trip for me as well. We will be eating the local food and will truly be immersed into the community. The community is planning some cultural activities and I know this is going to be a life-changing learning experience for me.

Would you consider supporting me as well as the Samoan community in this project? I need to raise **\$2050** for this trip to be possible. If you are interested, please make a check out to **Courts for Kids** and return it in the enclosed envelope. Could you please return this envelope as soon as possible in order to make sure I hand everything in with enough time to spare? Your donation is **tax-deductible** and **100%** of what you give will go directly to this trip.

Sincerely,

o Yes, I would like to support _____ on the Samoa Courts for Kids project in the amount of:

- _____ \$500
- _____ \$200
- _____ \$100
- _____ \$50
- _____ \$25
- _____ other amount

Please check this circle and write your email to the right if you want your donation receipt e-mailed to you to help us save costs and resources.

Name _____
 Address _____

 City _____ State _____
 Zip Code _____
 Phone Number _____
 Email _____

Please make your **tax-deductible** contribution out to **Courts for Kids**, and return using the return-addressed envelope as soon as possible.



o Yes, I would like to support _____ on the Samoa Courts for Kids project in the amount of:

- _____ \$500
- _____ \$200
- _____ \$100
- _____ \$50
- _____ \$25
- _____ other amount

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 Address _____

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 Zip Code _____
 Phone Number _____
 Email _____

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- _____ \$500
- _____ \$200
- _____ \$100
- _____ \$50
- _____ \$25
- _____ other amount

Please check this circle and write your email to the right if you want your donation receipt e-mailed to you to help us save costs and resources.

Name _____
 Address _____

 City _____ State _____
 Zip Code _____
 Phone Number _____
 Email _____

Please make your **tax-deductible** contribution out to **Courts for Kids**, and return using the stamped, envelope as soon as possible.



Donor Giving Worksheet

Name of Participant _____

Donor Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contribution Amount _____

Donor Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contribution Amount _____

Donor Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contribution Amount _____

Donor Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contribution Amount _____

Donor Name _____ Phone Number _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contribution Amount _____

Donor Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contribution Amount _____

Donor Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Contribution Amount _____

Total Amount on page _____

Keep this page for your records and then turn in checks to Derek Nesland (360-521-0592, derek@courtsforkids.org) with the checks made out to Courts for Kids.

**Courts for Kids
PO Box 61874
Vancouver, WA 98666**