

LIFETOUCH MEMORY MISSION



January 13 - 21, 2020 - Rio Grande, Dominican Republic

Giving back is at the heart of Lifetouch. Since 2000 we have served children, families and communities both locally and globally. In January 2020, some 50 volunteers will depart on a Lifetouch Memory Mission® to the Dominican Republic.

In 2015, Lifetouch leaders visited the rural community of Rio Grande, Dominican Republic, for the first time. This small community nestled within the mountains was rich with sheer beauty yet lacked hope for the children's future. A one-room school provided education for about 18 students. The rest of the children were faced with the difficult decision to walk 5 miles round-trip for a half-day of school, or if they were old enough, to work to help support their family. Faced with this decision, most children did not attend school.

With our goal of coming alongside communities to support projects that support families and education, this seemed like the perfect place for Lifetouch volunteers to continue our mission of giving back. The 2016 - 2018 Memory Mission teams built a bright yellow two-story school and a cafeteria for the families of Rio Grande - a true beacon of hope. Returning to the school for its dedication ceremony in October 2018, we learned that 70 new families had moved into the community because of the school! That meant

that even more children would have the opportunity to attend the Rio Grande school - but it also caused a problem. The school isn't big enough to accommodate that many students.

Moved by the commitment of the community to educating their children, we made a decision. The 2020 Lifetouch Memory Mission is going back to Rio Grande to add on to our school.

Invited to apply are members of AASA, NAESP, NASSP, NSBA, National PTA, other educators and eligible Lifetouch and Shutterfly employees. Applicants must be residents of the United States or Canada and be 21 years of age as of September 23, 2019. Participants of past Memory Missions are not eligible for the drawing. Application deadline is September 23, 2019. See the full application online at lifetouchmemorymission.com

A passport valid through August 1, 2020 is required for travel to the Dominican Republic. Allow ample time for this process.

On or about Friday, October 4, a random drawing will be held to select volunteers. Volunteers will be notified by telephone or email. The odds of being selected depend on the number of applications.

Learn more and apply online at lifetouchmemorymission.com