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# FRIENDSHIP AMBASSADORS FOUNDATION

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299 Greenwich Avenue, Greenwich, CT. 06830 • [www.faf.org](http://www.faf.org) • [friendlyam@faf.org](mailto:friendlyam@faf.org) • 1-203-542-0652; -0661 fax

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact Victor Izquierdo at [victor@faf.org](mailto:victor@faf.org); 1-800-526-2908

## **SUMMER, SERVICE ABROAD PROJECT IN THE ECUADORIAN RAINFOREST PLANNED BY FRIENDSHIP AMBASSADORS FOUNDATION. VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT: JULY 5 – 18, 2011. PROJECT SEEKS TEENS & YOUNG ADULTS TO ‘BUILD HOPE THROUGH CONSTRUCTION’ WITH A NEW CULTURAL CENTER IN LIMON INDANZA, ECUADOR**

(Greenwich, CT) This summer volunteers can engage their minds and bodies in the experience of a lifetime. Friendship Ambassadors Foundation (FAF; [www.faf.org](http://www.faf.org)) is offering an intensive, service immersion trip to the quiet rainforest village of Limon Indanza, Ecuador that will also be a people-to-people cultural exchange. Volunteers from service organizations and individual youth leader volunteers looking to promote UN MDG #8 (Global Development) are urged to apply at this time.

**JULY 5 – 18, 2011: a select number of youth volunteers will have the chance to live and work in an indigenous community in Ecuador, helping families construct a much-needed cultural center. The cultural center is intended to aid the growth of cultural exchange between the Shuar people and outside communities. The new cultural center will include a small museum, classroom, and visitors center. It will be built from the ground up, led by FAF consultant Paul Byrne, and assist the Shuar in using their increased tourist trade in a sustainable, locally owned and managed way. FAF projects help communities help themselves by bringing hope to a region where YOUR involvement could have positive effects for decades to come.**

Volunteers are planning an initial work visit from July 5 – 18,. The service opportunity offers young adults, ages 16-23, the chance to immerse themselves in the Shuar culture and learn about their society and way of life. Beside the construction work, volunteers will participate in a variety of regional, traditional activities and share meals with home-stay families. All work on the construction will take place within the community itself. This volunteer, service abroad effort culminates with a cultural exchange and sightseeing excursion throughout the region. The fee for this safe, once-in-a-lifetime volunteer service and cultural immersion experience includes round trip airfare, travel insurance, guide fees, meals, and nightly accommodations.

This project is developed and directed by Friendship Ambassadors Foundation, which has a thirty-six year history for promoting sustainable development through service and cultural exchange. FAF projects create enhanced peace building opportunities through intercultural exchange and by facilitating volunteer youth service helping communities help themselves - so that they can thrive on their own long after volunteers have gone. FAF staff prepares every aspect of its service and cultural exchange projects, permitting participants to focus solely on preparing themselves for the trip and immersing themselves when in-country. FAF's method allows the project to find success and the participants to form lasting relationships and unforgettable memories.

For interviews, contact Victor Izquierdo (native of Ecuador and FAF staff): [Victor@faf.org](mailto:Victor@faf.org); 1-203-542-0652. To APPLY to join the project, please contact: [serviceambassadors@faf.org](mailto:serviceambassadors@faf.org) or 1-800-526-2008.

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