



July 15, 2024

Dear Parkpoint Staff Member:

I am a firm believer in the value of cultural interaction, travel, and community involvement. Dating back to 2001, I've been an active supporter of Habitat for Humanity and its non-governmental, worldwide efforts to provide decent housing for all people. I have personally traveled and worked with Habitat teams in Sri Lanka and Zambia. My son Lucas has joined with Habitat in Costa Rica, Fiji, Los Angeles, New York, Sri Lanka and Paraguay. I am convinced there is no better way to experience a community or a culture; no travel agent could arrange such an immersion into any local community.

As Habitat scaled back their programs during the pandemic, another organization, Fuller Builds continued to provide trips all across the world. The Fuller Center for Housing was founded by Millard Fuller, who also founded Habitat, so the trips and objectives are very similar.

Visit the websites [www.fullercenter.org](http://www.fullercenter.org) or [www.habitat.org](http://www.habitat.org)

1. To learn about the organization.
2. On each website, you can view trip schedule, how to join a trip and more.
3. Trips or "Builds" generally last 1 – 2 weeks. Included are several days of community interaction, visits to nearby significant sites and relaxation.
4. The Volunteer is expected to pay for their travel to the site, and to pay an additional amount for room and board during the project.
5. For whatever trip you select, in whatever part of the world, Parkpoint Clubs will:
  - a) pay for the entire cost of your room and board (typically \$1000 - \$2000)
  - b) grant you an "unpaid leave" that does not count against your accrued vacation time, or, if you prefer,
  - c) give you "paid vacation" (if you have sufficient accumulated time).
6. You will be responsible for paying for your travel to the site. We will consider a loan to assist with that cost.

This program is open to all employees who have worked for Parkpoint Clubs for at least one year and who work at least 15 hours per week. Other long-term staff members with less than 15 hours/week will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

The next step is up to you. Pick a spot in the world and start your investigation. You may also choose a different "volunteer abroad" program if you find one to your liking.. I'm excited to share my experiences.

Please contact Jennifer Couch ([jennifer@parkpointhealthclub.com](mailto:jennifer@parkpointhealthclub.com)) or Heidi Eaton ([heidi@parkpointhealthclub.com](mailto:heidi@parkpointhealthclub.com)) if you are interested in this opportunity.

Best regards,  
Bill Buchanan – Club Owner