



*Envision New York City*  
*Site Manual*



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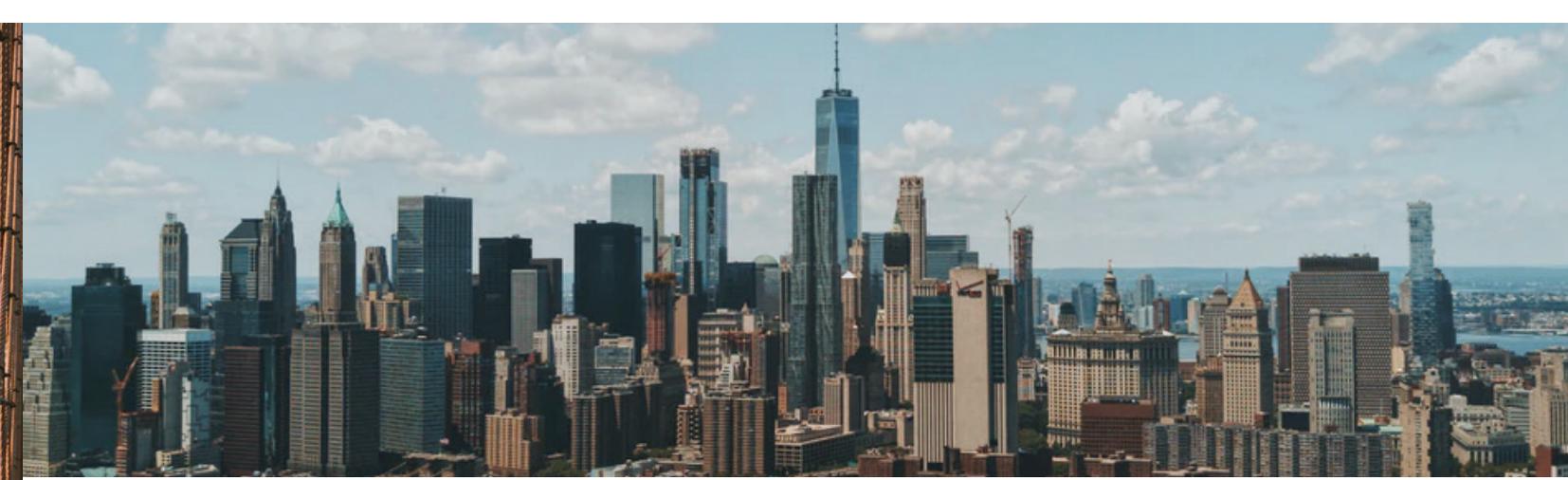
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# *Introduction*

## **About the site**

New York City is a global city - over 800 languages are spoken. Immigrants from all over the world have come for education, jobs, and many other reasons. The nations are represented and God wants them to embrace Him here and share Him with their family and friends around the world.

We desire to reach those in diaspora communities who have yet to encounter Jesus and we want to champion those in the diaspora who know him and are called to reach their people. (A diaspora community is a group of people living in a place other than their country of origin.) In NYC, there are at least 52 unreached people groups. Of these “people on the move,” almost 50% know Christ, but have not able to join in God’s mission. Perhaps they haven’t been equipped, are afraid, or maybe don’t know how to begin in a new place. Whatever the case, we want them to pursue God and His calling to be fully engaged in his mission.

Our vision is to facilitate the development of missional leaders in and for diaspora communities. Our vore values are persistent partnering, faithful sowing, humbly seving and practical equipping

# *Meet The Team*



**Site Coordinators** Brian and Michelle Davis launched the New York City Envision site in 2018. Before moving to NYC, Brian & Michelle Davis served in Senegal with the Christian & Missionary Alliance for 10 years. They were involved in church planting in close partnership with a local church that ministered among the local Wolof people.

The Davis family has now transitioned to ministry in New York City, where there is a significant Wolof diaspora (approx 30,000) and West African immigrant population (over 200,00). They have started an Envision site in NYC to engage with West Africans, and other diaspora communities, for the gospel, to develop young leaders to minister cross-culturally, and to build bridges between established churches and diaspora communities.

Prior to serving overseas Brian studied at Moody Bible Institute (BA, Youth Ministry), Southern Connecticut State University (Teaching Certification, Physical Education & Health), and Alliance Theological Seminary (MA, Intercultural Studies). He then taught in New Jersey public high schools and was ordained and served as pastor of young adults and missions. Michelle studied at Wheaton College (BA, Intercultural Studies) and Yale University (MSN, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner). She then worked in a private pediatric practice and hospital setting in NJ as well.

Brian & Michelle have four children and they live in Manhattan. Brian enjoys rock climbing, being outdoors, and exploring with his kids. Michelle enjoys scrapbooking, reading, and watching her kids' faces light up when they learn new things.



## *General Information*

### TEAM COSTS

We can accommodate groups of 5-15 people for our immersion experiences.

#### Immersion Team Costs

\$35 for one day immersion

\$300 for a three-day immersion

\$600 for a week-long immersion

The expenses cover meals, lodging, and transportation within NYC. Airfare/ travel expenses are not included.

### INTERN COSTS

\$2,500/month

The expenses cover meals and lodging. Primary care health insurance is required for every individual that visits the site. Airfare/ travel expenses are excluded.

### HOUSING & FOOD

You will be staying at a hostel in Manhattan nearby Central Park. The hostel has sheets and towels. Your team will have food to prepare for breakfast each morning at the hostel. Lunches and dinners are usually at one of the many ethnically diverse restaurants NYC has to offer. We can accommodate some food allergies. Please let us know in advance on your registration form.



## *Getting to New York City*

### AIRPORT & ARRIVAL INFORMATION

If you plan to fly to NYC, LaGuardia (LGA) is the closest airport to our site. It is about an hour by public transportation from the airport to our site.

If you plan to drive to NYC, we will give you a specific address and street parking instructions after we book your housing.

### COMMUNICATIONS

To gain and give the most from your immersion experience, we desire that all Envision NYC teams are fully engaged and free from outside distractions. For this reason, we encourage limited cell phone use during your time here.

In an effort to honor our community, there will be times when taking photographs and posting on social media will not be appropriate. We will let you know during those times.



## *Packing List*

- Comfortable walking shoes
- Ministry/daily clothes  
Men: pants and shirts, and comfortable clothes for relaxing at the hotel/hostel  
Women: shirts, pants, dresses or skirts (knee length or longer), or capris, and comfortable clothes for relaxing at the hotel/hostel
- Clothes for Sunday  
Men: collared shirts (collared short-sleeve polo or dress shirt)  
Women: dress, skirt or pants  
\*For a cross-cultural experience, women also need to bring a long-sleeve shirt or sweater and ankle-length skirt or loose pants and a scarf to cover your head
- Pajamas
- Rain gear (umbrella, jacket, poncho, etc.)
- Toiletries
- Backpack or drawstring bag
- Medications
- Bible, journal, pen
- Water bottle
- Sunglasses
- Spending money
- Sunscreen
- Any electronic needs (phone charger, portable phone charger, camera charger...)
- Project-specific resources (ask Envision NYC)

# *Ministry*

Here are the ministries that Envision NYC is a part of and that you will be invited to experience during your immersion.

- Persistent Partnering with followers of Jesus in diaspora communities and followers of Jesus in established communities to engage in ministry among the diaspora
- Faithful Sowing of gospel seeds through evangelism, prayer, discipleship Bible studies
- Humble serving diaspora communities through vacation Bible schools, community outreach days, teaching English, immigrant advocacy, immigrant transitional housing
- Practical equipping of insiders, interns, and immersion teams with healthy models for developing a life with God, building authentic relationships, sowing gospel seeds, and living with cross-cultural sensitivity

# *Schedule*

## **TEAMS**

A week in the life of a team here looks something like this:

Friday Orientation, Cultural Center, Ministry, and C&MA History

Saturday Training, Prayer Walk, Home Visits, Debrief

Sunday Church, Testimonies, Debrief

Monday Ministry, Service Projects/ESL, Dinner with immigrant family

Tuesday Ministry, Free Afternoon, Training & Debrief

Wednesday Ministry, Service Projects/ESL, Training & Debrief

Thursday Departure after breakfast

## **INTERNS**

Interns will be involved in a variety of activities including relationship building, evangelism, outreach, teaching English, leading Bible studies, connecting with West African or Arabic youth, prayer walking, administrative help, and other areas of passion and gifting for the intern. The day to day schedule will be dependent on the ministry season and specific ministry involvement.

# *Cultural Sensitivity*

NYC is a fast-paced, huge city. There are millions of people and countless activities, events, and restaurants. There are 800+ languages spoken in NYC making it the most linguistically diverse city in the world. Fifty-two unreached people groups are represented here. NYC is also the most religiously diverse city in the world, and it has the highest percentage of Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, and Jewish peoples of any city in America. There are more foreign-born immigrants living in NYC than there are people living in Chicago. An estimated 30,000 Senegalese live in NYC while approximately 210,000 West African reside in the greater NY area.

Envision NYC seeks to bring the truth, love, and power of Jesus to immigrant populations in this amazing city. In doing this, we want to communicate the importance of understanding and respecting the truly diverse culture of NYC. We will take every measure to ensure the safety of your team, but we will need your help by following our instructions and guidelines. This is not just for your safety, but also to aid in the longevity and impact of our local churches and ministries. Upon arrival, your team will be given safety and cultural guidelines that you will be expected to hold to firmly.

Even though you are still in the United States, this will be a cross-cultural experience. The people of NYC may look, speak, and behave differently, but always remember they are every bit as capable and valuable as your team members. We want to always treat people with the respect they deserve as people deeply loved by God. We desire to bring the immigrants of NYC into meaningful interactions with the triune God. This work is only done through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit. It's our goal to make your time with us as impactful as possible for the city, local ministries, and your team. We are very excited that you're coming to join the kingdom work that God is doing in NYC among immigrants. We hope you will get a passion for what God is doing among people on the move around the world while you are here in NYC. We hope your experience here will give you a heart for crossing boundaries to connect with immigrants in your area once you return home.

# *Questions?*

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