

DREAM Guzman Ariza Summer Camp

Project Specifics:

- **Name of Project:** Guzman Ariza DREAM Summer Camp
- **Location:** Cabarete, North Coast, Dominican Republic
- **Type of Facility:** Privately-run summer camp run by the DREAM Project
- **Ownership:** DREAM Project
- **DREAM Start date at Project:** July, 2004
- **Current DREAM Volunteer:** In the process of soliciting new volunteers for July 2007
- **Special Donors:** Guzman Ariza and Associates, Ocean World and all of our DREAM Partners

Project Overview:

The Guzman Ariza DREAM Summer Camp was founded in 2004 with the goal of providing a first-world camp experience for the underprivileged children of Cabarete, that would give them the opportunity to take pride in their community, in their camp, and in themselves. The Guzman Ariza DREAM Summer Camp was specially designed with week-long experiences that include team-building challenges, projects, trips and games inspired by Maria Montessori's approach to peace education. Children, guided by their adult leaders, explore different elements of what it means to be a world citizen. Each child's gifts and challenges are identified and articulated, and the idea of finding allies and support from other campers within their group is brought forward.

Camp is organized thematically into Parade Week (Who am I – as an individual), Dominican Week (Who am I – as a Dominican), Haitian Week (Who is my Neighbor), Tourist Week (Who are these Visitors) and Olympic Week (Who are we). Activities and field trips coincide with the theme of the week. Camp is designed to build individual pride and self-esteem as well as enhance understanding and respect for other identities within the community. From nine in the morning until three in the afternoon, campers rotate between five fifty-minute periods of instruction in: Academic Tutoring, Arts and Crafts, Music and Dance, Sports and Recreation, Science and Nature and Life Skills.

The Guzman Ariza DREAM Summer Camp also allows children to partake in educational excursions to further their education and understanding of the world. In 2006, campers had the opportunity to visit the Cultural Museum and National Monument in Santiago, to ride the Cable Car to the top of Mt. Isabelle in Puerto Plata, to enjoy a Catamaran tour along the bays of the North Coast, to see local exotic wildlife in Islabon and take a Jungle Cruise down the Yásica River, to enjoy a day at the beach in Cabarete, to get a behind-the-scenes tour of the airport in Puerto Plata, to eat pizza at Pizza Hut, to play in the pools of the hotels in Cabarete, to check out the marine life in Sosua on a glass-bottom boat, to be dazzled by Sea Lion shows, Dolphin shows and Shark Encounters at Ocean World, to experience another way of life at a Haitian Batey in