



CARE Learning Tours

Supported by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

Founded in 1945, CARE is a leading humanitarian organization fighting global poverty in 87 countries around the world. CARE places special focus on working alongside poor women and girls because, equipped with the proper resources, they have the power to lift whole families and entire communities out of poverty. To learn more, visit www.care.org.

About Learning Tours:

CARE is in a unique position to improve the lives of families around the globe. One critical component of this work is introducing U.S. policymakers and key stakeholders to the importance of U.S. investments overseas. CARE believes the best way to engage these leaders is through travel, and we know to focus our activities on the impact made by effective and innovative programs – particularly as they save lives for women and girls.

On the Learning Tours, CARE showcases a wide range of cross-cutting programs that address the challenges faced by women and their families, such as health, food security, education and governance. Following each Learning Tour, CARE works with participants to support strategic follow up activities that maximize the trip's impact.

Who Goes on Learning Tours:

These high-level delegations include members of Congress, the U.S. Administration, corporate partners, donors, celebrities and other influential individuals. Members of the media have often joined Learning Tours, and CARE brings a photographer and videographer to capture the experience.

Past participants have said they learned from personal interactions with people living through these challenges, and have since developed relationships with local government officials working to improve the conditions in their country.

CARE covers all travel costs for the trip, including airfare, hotels, meals and transportation, in compliance with Congressional ethics rules.

Additionally, CARE is eager to invite members of Congress and their senior staff to visit development programs while on official travel.



Firsthand Knowledge, Better Understanding

CARE's Learning Tours give participants a unique opportunity to examine the effectiveness of U.S. investments overseas.

Observation and open dialogue is an important part of CARE Learning Tours. Each trip takes the delegation off the beaten path to talk with community members, meet with partner organizations and engage with high-level government officials.

Here's a glance at how CARE structures the trips in order to maximize participants' time and experience in-country:

► **DAY 1: The Big Picture**

Meet with local development staff, USAID partners and community leaders to discuss development opportunities and current challenges.

► **DAY 2-3: Face-to-Face**

Interact with the people who benefit directly from U.S.-funded development programs:

- Visit rural communities to see innovative programs that integrate health, education and economic opportunity.
- Tour clinics and hospitals.
- Meet with local leaders, NGO partners, UN Agencies and the U.S. Mission.

► **DAY 4: Creating Change**

Meet top government officials to learn why U.S. support is vital to the fight against poverty in their country.

The Learning Tours aim to answer the following questions:

- What have U.S. investments achieved? How are results measured? How do results impact future development efforts?
- How do we bring about an effective and accountable integration of efforts across U.S. government programs and other major institutions?
- How can we increase support for better development policies, funding and partnerships?

CARE has organized highly successful trips to various regions of the world, including Sub-Saharan Africa, South Asia and Latin America. CARE accounts for every detail of the trip from security and lodging to interpreters and flight arrangements. CARE works closely with the U.S. Embassy and USAID, as well as our country office staff to plan the safest, most effective use of the delegation's time. In turn, members of Congress and the U.S. Administration utilize CARE as a resource when they visit development projects in an official capacity.

Over the next two years, CARE will organize Learning Tours for policymakers and key stakeholders. The diversity of the delegations has been cited as one of the highlights of the trips. For example, policymakers have said they are encouraged to know that the private sector and the media are thinking about their own role in this work. This also distinguishes Learning Tours from other official government travel.



If you are interested in CARE's Learning Tours program, please contact:

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