

## **St Mary's Netball Club Geelong** **Netball – Culture -Service Program** **FIJI ISLANDS 2017**

In September 2015, St Mary's Football & Netball club members pioneered an incredible culture and community focused Netball program to the Fijian Highlands. In 2017 the opportunity presents itself again for those seeking a culture adventure of a lifetime.

St Mary's netball club are partnering with local social enterprise company Destination Dreaming to design and deliver an interactive experience in the majestic Fijian Highlands. The objective of this first visit is to immerse the players and parents in a diverse culture, engage with a remote community through netball skill sharing, education and consider building a long-term relationship with the community. Focusing on connecting with students in the Village Primary School, competing in netball fixtures and learning about life in a remote Fijian community.

Destination Dreaming and our Australian partner schools have been connecting with Fijian communities since 2004. This engagement has included the ongoing delivery of rugby/netball fixtures, injury prevention education and junior ball skill development. This program for St Mary's netball club has grown from a consultative forum with the respective community in July 2010, where the forum participants identified a need for netball skills training and interpersonal development opportunities for young women in the villages.



## PROGRAM OBJECTIVES:

- Increased intercultural understanding through immersion in a Fijian community
- Increased understanding of the world beyond school/local community and development issues
- Contribution to another community through skill-sharing, intercultural engagement and educational resources
- Increased ability to engage responsibly in community activity through immersion in a Fijian community, support of classroom activities in the local primary school and participation in netball fixtures
- Increased awareness of one's rights and responsibilities as a global citizen
- Increased interpersonal capacity, self-awareness and critical thinking skills through challenging experiences in a remote environment



## PROGRAM SCHEDULE

**Dates:** September 2017

**Departing:** TBC

### DAY 1: **Transfer to Nadi, Fiji Islands – Sunday**

- We arrive in the late afternoon and transfer to Nadi Bay accommodation, which is our base during our short stay in Nadi. We have an official program briefing and prepare for our first team challenge the following morning.
- After settling in, we enjoy an evening meal by the seaside.

## **DAY 2: Nadi to Draiba Village - Monday**

- After breakfast and loading the carriers we head straight to the Sigatoka fruit and vege markets where we meet our Fijian hosts.
- At the markets the students will be given the challenge of purchasing the ingredients for a meal that they will prepare for our highland host during the 4-night stay.
- Lunch in Sigatoka and then we then head up the spectacular Sigatoka Valley to Draiba Village.
- Our village-style accommodation greets us with a traditional welcoming dinner and cultural induction.
- After a long day, we head to bed for our first night in a Fijian bure.

## **DAY 3 - 5: Draiba Village – Tuesday to Friday**

These 4 days are filled with adventure in the highlands of Viti Levu, Fiji's largest island:

- Perform a traditional welcoming ceremony in recognition of Fijian custom.
- Participate in Fijian language lessons, learn to count and pronounce basic phrases and greetings to assist in creating an interactive Fijian experience.
- Prepare and cook a meal with your Fijian family.
- Compete in scheduled fixtures against the local village team.
- Plan for and deliver netball skills sessions with the village netball teams.
- Visit the village primary school to contribute educational resources and support the school teachers.

## **DAY 6: Highlands to Nadi - Friday**

- After an emotional farewell to our host family in the highlands, we then travel down Sigatoka Valley back to Nadi in preparation for our full day on South Sea Island on the next day.



### DAY 7: South Sea Island - Saturday

- Today our adventures take us out exploring the picture perfect South Sea Island just 45 minutes from Denarau by boat.
- The purpose of today is to reward the effort of the playing group and to capture the insights of the players through a reflection session following lunch.
- The afternoon may be spent sailing, playing volleyball, snorkelling or just chilling in the hammock.
- Returning to Tropic of Capricorn Resort around 6.00pm for dinner and awards presentation.

### DAY 8: Nadi to Melbourne – Sunday

- This morning the team head into Nadi town for a quick spot of shopping if they wish to purchase souvenirs for family at home.
- Lunch is in town then we head to the airport around 3.00pm for a 5.45pm departure.

**Returning:** TBC



## **PROGRAM INVESTMENT:**

Cost based on 20 - 25: \$1,900.00 (Does NOT include International flights and insurance per person, uniform, airport transfers or spending money).

Cost based on 26 - 30: \$1,800.00 (Does NOT include International flights and insurance per person, uniform, airport transfers or spending money)

### **All-inclusive program:**

- Destination Dreaming Program Leader: experienced facilitator with first aid training
- Program design and administration, risk management and communications.
- All activities as detailed in program schedule
- Netball fixtures
- Cultural workshops
- 7 breakfasts, 7 lunches and 7 dinners and filtered water
- 7 nights accommodation
- All domestic transport, including day boat trip to South Sea Island
- All permits and traditional owner payments

### **Payments Plan:**

Non-refundable deposits due: 10.12.16

Payment plan in 2017 TBA