



MISSIONS HANDBOOK

*"We take short term mission trips
to achieve eternal life impact."*

www.concernfortheworld.org

GETTING OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE

When you go on a mission trip, there can be difficult times.

Let's get those out of the way now!

- *People will speak a language that may be unfamiliar.*
 - *Things will not always go as expected.*
 - *The food is different then the typical American food.*
 - *You will get hot.*
- *There could be miscommunications among team members and staff.*
 - *You may get sick.*
 - *You will sweat and be filthy at the end of the day.*
 - *You will be tired at the end of each day.*
 - *You may have 'difficult' people on your team.*
- *You will be asked to get out of your comfort zone a time or two.*

BUT YOU WILL BE A LIFE CHANGER

Mission trips can be hard emotionally and physically. At the beginning of each morning and before going to bed, we must be reminded why we go. We have been called to reach the utermost.

This trip will leave you blessed and you will leave with a closer relationship with the Lord and prayerfully a new mindset towards missions.

Cost and Travel

CFTW facilitates and organizes all inclusive trips in order to help those who have a desire to serve. Our trip price includes everything you need for your trip, with the exception of team supplies or any extra spending money you may want to buy. Here are some of the major things we organize and provide for your team:

- Flight arrangements*
- In-country transportation*
- An adequate number of Christian translators for your team*
- Travel and medical insurance*
- All meals in-country*
- Preplanning and organizing your trip*
- Lodging expenses*

We hold the price of your trip as low as possible while providing everything we can to make your trip most effective. However, if a team chooses to do a project, such as construction, the team will need to pay for any materials used in-country. Small items, such as Bibles, tracts, craft supplies, ministry snacks and other items should be brought from the U.S. as team supplies. We suggest that the church or organization provide funds and donations for these items. These items can be discussed with the team leader and U.S. staff leader.

Once we have purchased flights, if you are no longer available to come, you are responsible for the expenses of the flight, if we can not exchange the flight, change the name on the flight, or cancel it. Please know that if you walk away from that responsibility, you are hindering our ministry and organization. The waiver you sign says that you will be held accountable for the flight cost.



WHAT TO BRING

- Concerning clothing, modest shorts for men and women are okay while at the mission house. However, for church services or mission days, men need to wear pants and women need to wear pants or long skirts. It is best to bring enough clothes for the entire trip, as we are unable to provide any laundry services. Since it is hot, you may want a hat, sunscreen and sunglasses. One of the most important things to remember about clothing is to be modest. We are representing Christ.
- Bring a flashlight. It is not uncommon for the power to go off.
- A team First-Aid kit is suggested; including general medication for diarrhea, headaches, cuts, insect bites, etc.
- The airlines usually allow one checked bag of up to 50 lbs and one carry-on bag. We suggest you take as much of your personal belongings in the carry-on. This leaves everyone with space in your checked bag for tools, crafts, teaching materials, and any other items for the week.
- We will have filtered water for the team, during the day. Team members should use this water instead of local water.
Feel free to bring snacks!
- You may want to bring some cash for the time we go to the market and off day. Bring clean, unmarked U.S. paper currency. U.S. coins are not accepted. It is best to bring your money in small bills. Do not bring travelers checks.
- Three meals, per person per day, is included in the cost of the trip.

Sample Packing List

Passport
Money, clean bills
All toiletries and meds, in carry-on
Bible, notebook
Appropriate clothing for each day
Two pairs of comfortable shoes
Hat
Camera
Water Bottle
Supplies for your missions
Sunscreen
Bug spray
Snacks
Bathing suit (no bikinis)
Sunglasses
Wet wipes, hand sanitizer
Flashlight
Small backpack for daily use
Gatorade powder for individual drinks

Passports

If you do not already have a passport, you should go to your local Post Office soon and apply. Do not delay doing this because it can take months to get a new one.

*All team members must have at least **6 months left on their passport** before it expires. Please check your passport now, as this has created problems for previous trips.*

If you are traveling to Nicaragua, you can register yourself with the U.S. Embassy, in case of any kind of emergency. It is simple and only takes a few minutes. <http://step.state.gov/step>





Staying Safe and Healthy

1. *Always stay in groups.
Never walk alone.*
2. *Girls/women must dress modestly.*
3. *Avoid wearing valuables.*
4. *Keep money with you secured.*
5. *Drink more water than you think you need.*
6. *Always follow your leadership.*
7. *If you sense danger, leave that area immediately.*
8. *Never flash your money.*
9. *Drink and eat only items provided by your leaders.*
10. *Keep an eye on your valuables.*
11. *Never give or talk about giving people money without speaking with leadership first.*
This has caused problems in the past.
12. ***DO NOT ask other translators to join us for the week or for day off. We have hand chosen who we feel would be best to work with us that week. We also do not want to hurt other translators feelings who did not get invited to your off day.***

Thank you!

We are excited that you will be joining us!

We will be praying for your preparation and will see you on the field!