

Partners in Missions, Inc.
Application for Your Mission Trip

308 Windridge Dr. – West Monroe, LA. 71291 Ph: 870.500.3576

karvinadams@gmail.com



www.partners-in-missions.org

Trips are usually limited to the first 15 who send in their application with their deposit.

Your space CANNOT be reserved until deposit for ticket is received.

PiM reserves the right to refuse any application. Make check payable to: “Partners in Missions”.

Price of trip is determined by **Base Cost** plus, **Airfare** from your airport. We start buying tickets about four (4) months before trip, to get cheaper rates. We can give you an estimated cost at any time, but we cannot guarantee the price until your ticket has been purchased. Your **extra** expenses will be...

~ **Souvenirs**

~ **Meals** while traveling/touring

~ **Passport** (passport must be valid for at least 6 mo. after scheduled date of return)

~ **Baggage Fees** (airlines are now charging \$65/checked bag for round trip) on all flights. You must pay with a credit card **only** at departing gate or possibly online 24 hours before departure.

~ **Recommended Immunizations** by CDC (Tetanus, Hepatitis A and Typhoid)

The Mission Trip is beneficial for both the Host Church and the Church offering assistance. The interacting of the two cultures helps one better understand and promote the unity of Christ’s Body. Both parties build relationships that are often maintained for years. It is our prayer that your Mission Trip will be as rewarding.

Partners in Missions Will Provide

- Round trip tickets from your nearest airport to mission site
- Private transportation while at the mission site
- Guide and Interpreter for your sightseeing
- A director for all of your activities from the time of your arrival at the International Airport, to your return to the International Airport
- Meals while not traveling or touring

The Host Church/Missionary Will Provide

- A place to stay and meals
- Workers from the local church as their time and jobs permit
- A warm and loving atmosphere in which to learn another culture
- Plans and Permits for construction

Those Going on This Mission Trip

- Should be able to assist in the following ways: Preach/Teach, Construction, VBS, Crafts, Cooking, etc.
- Shall have a respect for the culture of the Host Church, which includes their style of dress and worship. In general, the church in Latin America is more conservative than in the U.S.; therefore your dress should be modest. Shorts are not appropriate in most places we visit.
- Shall be an effective witness for the Lord. No one will be allowed to use any type of alcoholic beverage, tobacco, or profanity while a part of this mission team. Your dress must be modest and conservative. If you have questions, contact PiM before you leave for this trip.
- Shall attend all mission trip activities, including devotions and services; and conduct themselves in a Christian manner.
- If you have need of a computer while on this trip, you should bring your own.
- Tattoos and visible piercing must be covered (or rings removed) for in some countries they are connected with gang activities; small earrings for females are permitted.

A Deposit for Your Ticket is Necessary with This Application
Your Space Cannot Be Reserved Until Deposit is Received for your Ticket
Make Check Payable to: "Partners in Missions".

Mission To: _____ (fill in country you're going to visit)

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY and RETURN Pages 2 & 3 to:
Partners in Missions
308 Windridge Dr. – West Monroe, LA. 71291

=====
Name: _____ Phone (home) ____ - ____ - ____ (cell) ____ - ____ - ____
(Legal Name as on Passport)

Airplane Seat Preference: Aisle __ Window __ None __.

Sex: M __ F __ E-mail: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: ____ Zip: _____

Birth Date ____ - ____ - ____ Marital Status _____ Spouse's Name: _____

Church Home: _____ Your Responsibilities in Your Church: _____

Your Pastor's Name: _____ Phone (ofc) ____ - ____ - ____ (home) ____ - ____

Your Pastor's Signature as a Recommendation for this Mission Trip: _____

Passport # _____ (send PiM a color copy of the page that has your picture)

Person to Contact in Emergency (Name) _____ (Phone) ____ - ____ - ____

Prior Mission Trip Experience? __ When: _____ Where: _____

Occupation: _____ What Type of Skills Do You Have? _____

Health Problem We Should Know About: _____

Beneficiary for our health/life insurance, which is included
(Name) _____ (Ph) ____ - ____ - ____

RELEASE of LIABILITY: I understand that no individual, person, group, church, or organization is liable for any injury, damage, or loss that would be connected with this mission project. I agree to hold any person, group, church, or organization FREE from all liability. I also agree to abide by the guidelines on pg. 1, under "**Those Going on This Mission Trip...**"

Signature: _____ Date: ____ - ____ - ____

CONSENT, INDEMNIFICATION, RELEASE, AND WAIVER OF LIABILITY

I do hereby CONSENT to my/my child’s participation, and do hereby assume all of the risks associated with such participation, do hereby INDEMNIFY, RELEASE, WAIVE LIABILITY and forever discharge Partners in Missions and all of its officers, directors, employees, volunteers, and any persons connected therewith, from any and all loss, liability, actions, claims and demands of any nature, past, present or future, that may result from or be in any way related to my/my child’s activities conducted under the auspices of Partners in Missions.

- 1. I understand that this document is a release, indemnification and a waiver of liability for the benefit of Partners in Missions and that by this document I am assuming the risks of traveling to and working in such foreign countries as Partners in Missions may select in order to carry out a mission trip. I understand that I will be traveling and working in areas where health and sanitation practices may be below United States standards. I also understand the risks inherent in air travel: death, illness, terrorism and inadequate medical facilities.
- 2. I understand that the people I am releasing may hereafter make mistakes, commit acts, or otherwise fail to do things, which may cause my death, injury, illness or loss of property or other serious harm. I am taking that risk; and if such should occur, it is my loss and I understand that the release and waiver releases Partners in Missions, its employees, agents and assigns from any liability in such loss. I, or anyone on my behalf, cannot seek any damages, compensation or other remuneration from Partners in Missions for that loss. My spouse, children, heirs and beneficiaries also waive damages, compensation or remuneration in the event of my death, injury, illness or any other detrimental occurrence. I understand that I am indemnifying Partners in Missions, its employees, agents and assigns, from any liability as a result of my actions during the course of my volunteer services with Partners in Missions.
- 3. I understand that Partners in Missions will not be held responsible for any additional cost, loss of airfare deposits, or losses due to flight schedule changes or cancellation, whether by me or by airline, including connecting flights. I understand that there is to be no deviation in travel itineraries to any other destinations unless previous arrangements are investigated and approved by trip leader very early in advance planning of travel. I also understand that any deviation from the group itinerary for additional tourism is NOT authorized under terms of a group itinerary. Any possibility of travel deviation may not be possible and MUST be discussed with group leader.
- 4. I understand that money paid for trip may not be fundable depending on actual expenses incurred by Partners in Missions.
- 5. I understand that passports and sometimes visas are required for international travel and that it is my responsibility to obtain the necessary travel documents. Partners in Missions will not be held responsible for any loss of travel cost due to lack of obtaining these documents.
- 6. I acknowledge that I have completely read and understood this document. I am signing this document freely and voluntarily and without any coercion or any influence of any kind. I acknowledge that there have been no promises, representations or inducements to my signing this document other than those set forth herein.
- 7. I understand that I may not be able to call home or have use of a computer while on this trip. If possible (1) one email will be sent to the families of everyone on the trip, but don’t expect further use of a computer.

| | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------|------|
| Print Name of Applicant | Signature of Applicant | Date |
|-------------------------|------------------------|------|

If under 18, Must be Notarized
 Name of Parent/Guardian (print) _____ (signature) _____

Date: ____ - ____ - ____ Notary: _____

Mission Trip Orientation
(A few things to remember while on this mission trip)

1. We are guest in their church, country and culture; therefore, be respectful for the way they do things.
2. Pictures:
 - Permitted of the church people, work site, general locations
 - Use Caution when taking pictures of Indians, government buildings, military, police, worship services. Pictures may be taken in a worship service, but do not let it distract from worship.
3. Assume they can understand English; therefore, do not say anything that may offend someone
4. Respect their style of worship, dress and culture, which will be different than ours
5. Do not assume that our way of doing things is better
6. Limit exposure of your money, valuables, passport, smart-phones.
7. When we are out of the church area, DO NOT go anywhere without a partner or without informing team leader.
8. Do not give or promise to GIVE, anything to the Nationals. If you see a need, we will check it out with the pastor/missionary and take appropriate action
9. Have Respect for others, be flexible, go with the flow. Things will not go as smoothly there as they do here.
10. Bathrooms: Put Toilet paper in trashcans (unless told otherwise), the water pressure and drains are not sufficient for the paper.
11. Conserve water & electricity. When taking showers wet-down, turn water off until ready to rinse off.
12. Food: Do not eat anything that has not been Cooked or Peeled. Some of the nationals eat after we have, therefore, wait until they are finished or until they ask if we want more.
13. Day after arrival in country: put all your travel documents (passport, immigration papers, eTicket) in your carry-on suitcase to ensure that you don't lose them while in the foreign county
14. **Dress modestly** (Women: dresses for services) no tight slacks, short shorts or halter-tops. Loose slacks, knee length loose walking shorts may be OK. Often this depends on which country is visited and where in the country the visitor is. What is appropriate in the city may be different from what is appropriate in the rural areas. It always helps to ask before leaving the U.S.)
15. **Frequently asked question:** What do I have to do to be safe? The following are not to put fear into you, but to help you be aware.
 - a. **Leave JEWELRY at home:** Wearing jewelry, which may look expensive even though it isn't, is an invitation to be attacked especially in many areas of the cities. A plain wedding ring is fine. Don't put yourself and others at risk. Besides wearing expensive-looking jewelry sends the wrong signal to those we are visiting.

- b. Be alert:** When walking, driving or waiting in a public place, notice where people are and how they are moving about. Pickpockets and others planning mischief are often deterred by alert foreigners. Pay close attention to the group leader for time and place of meetings and for where the group will be going. It is easy to get lost and difficult to get directions when the visitor doesn't know the language or the names of local leaders and locations. Write down names, locations, and phone numbers. It is best to travel at least in pairs.
- c. Be gentle and polite:** Aggressive and loud visitors are inviting mistreatment. It is very impolite to insist on service and activities done 'the way we do it in the States' and/or to indicate that 'the way we do it in the States is better'. (Often 'the way we do it in the States' is not better or appropriate in the other country.)
- d. Keep money out of sight:** Do not flash money or be obviously carrying significant amounts of money. Money belts and flat packs worn under a blouse or shirt are often a good idea. Loosely held large purses especially without shoulder straps are not good ideas.
- e. Don't walk alone:** Groups of three or four, preferably with a trusted local person are best. Don't be drawn away from the group with an individual local person: Often Street hawkers will try to get a visitor separated from the group to make a sale, exchange money, or get a special deal and this can put a visitor in a precarious position.
- f. Keep your checked bag receipt** given you @ departing airport; you'll need it when you arrive @ international airport
- g.** The following recommendations are from Walt Clements, Associate Director of Global Corporate Security Division for Proctor and Gamble Corporation. He travels throughout the world training CEOs, CFOs and high-level Executives of the company on how to be protect themselves and be more secure from theft, hijackings and car-jacking. When traveling to or living in foreign nations it is good to remember the following:
- Listen to your hunches (instincts) about being watched or followed. Just because you're paranoid doesn't mean you're not being followed.
 - Maintain as low a profile as possible.
 - Keep informed on the changing world events. Watch CNN and local news programs if possible.
 - Keep several separate copies of your Passport ID page in various safe places. (We need to have one of the copies of your Passport ID.)
 - Memorize your Passport number, and write it somewhere it can be accessed.
 - Don't wear conspicuous clothing.
 - Don't change money at the airport. This is one of the places where people hang around to see who you are, where you keep your money and how much you have on you.
 - Consider having a throw-down wallet that looks real, has real looking credit cards not in your name, and some small amount of money. If confronted by thieves you can pull this out, throw it on the ground away from where you are standing and then run to safety.
 - Don't provide information about yourself to anyone unless necessary.
 - Be alert to anyone expressing undue interest in you. "Hi, you American? Can I practice my English with you?"
 - Don't accept opened or even unopened drinks from strangers. They may be drugged.
 - Keep car windows and doors locked. Be aware of street activities. Look into the distance when driving. Don't drive or walk into disturbances. If you must, make a U-turn to head into the other direction. Be aware of street activity. Walk with your head up, looking around you as you walk.
 - Walk and act like you know what you are doing, where you are, and where you are going. Map out your activities before you leave the hotel or church. Let Team Leader know where you're going.
 - Limit exposure of your Passport and smartphone, people has been killed for them.

I Corinthians

A Guide to Culture for Cross-Cultural Worker

If I speak with the tongue of a national but have not love,
I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

If I wear the national dress and understand the culture and all forms of etiquette,
and if I copy all mannerisms so that I could pass for a national but have not love, I am nothing.
If I give all I possess to the poor, and if I spend my energy without reserve but have not love,
I gain nothing.

Love endures long hours of language study and is kind to those who mock his accent;

love does not envy those who stayed home;

love does not exalt her home culture,

is not proud of his national superiority.

Does not boast about the way we do it back home,

does not seek her own ways,

is not easily provoked into telling about the beauty of his home country,

does not think evil about this culture.

Love bears all criticism about her home culture,

believes all good things about this new culture,

confidently anticipates being at home in this place,

endures all inconveniences.

Love never fails:

but where there is cultural anthropology, it will fail;

where there is contextualization, it will lead to syncretism;

where there is linguistics, it will change.

For we know only part of the culture, and we minister to only part.

But when Christ is reproduced in this culture,

then our inadequacies will be insignificant.

When I was in America, I spoke as an American,

I understood as an American, I thought as an American;

but when I left America, I put away American things.

Now we adapt to this culture awkwardly,

but He will live in it intimately;

now I speak with a strange accent, but He will speak to the heart.

And now these three remain:

cultural adaptation, language study and love.

But the greatest of these is love.

-author unknown