



Frequently Asked Questions

Question 1

Q: Are the places we travel to safe?

A: Safety is a primary concern for every trip and every team. We have safety plans in place in every country where we serve. We have structured and safe transportation for every aspect of the trip. The places we stay are secure and safe. We take every precaution in our work and adventures to ensure complete safety. In all of our years of national and international mission work, we have never had an incident that endangered anyone. We monitor each country we work in for trouble and review US State Department travel guidance regularly for warnings. If there is trouble or concern in an area, we will notify you and may suspend travel until things stabilize. When needed, we take every precaution to protect our team from any risk.

Question 2

Q: Who can go on a mission trip?

A: If you have a heart to care for others - you qualify. Each specific trip may have a minimum age requirement. We love the idea of allowing younger travelers and families to serve together as much as possible. We do set minimum age requirements which vary by location. People come from every background and have very diverse experience levels. We have people with medical, dental, construction, agriculture, teaching, ministry, social work, students, business, and most every walk of life.

Question 3

Q: Will my family be split up to work on different ministry projects?

A: Your family will stay together and work on the same ministry projects, unless otherwise specified. (i.e. A husband may work in construction while his wife works in the medical clinic.)

Question 4

Q: Are there any special preparations my family needs to make before going on a mission trip?

A: There will be multiple trip team emails, meetings and phone calls throughout the planning process. This will include: orientation, introduction of the culture, talk about travel plans, daily agendas and expectations when in country. We encourage you to also enlist family and church family who will pray for your mission experience.

Question 5

Q: What kind of vaccinations do I need?

A: It is up to you to get the proper recommended vaccinations prior to travel. The CDC Travelers' Health Vaccination webpage is a good resource for determining which vaccines are necessary based on destination. Volunteers may have to pay out-of-pocket if the recommended vaccinations are not covered under medical insurance. Ample time should be allotted when a series of vaccines (e.g., Hepatitis B) must be obtained to be effective. World Hope does insist on Hepatitis A & B and Tetanus no matter the destination.

Question 6

Q: Do we book our own travel?

A: This will vary on international and domestic trips. If you are traveling from a location other than Orlando, you will be asked to purchase your own airfare to one of our main airport hubs (i.e. Orlando, Miami, New York), at which time the international flights will be booked by World Hope. You will meet up with the rest of the travelers and fly to the destination together. For domestic trips to Detroit, travel plans will vary depending on the type of group. Regardless, we are here to help with all travel plans.)

Question 7

Q: Who leads the teams?

A: Each of our team leaders has a passion to serve our Savior by serving those less fortunate. Our leaders have served on mission trips in various locations. They possess a mature faith, a practical wisdom and street smarts in an international environment, team building skills, and a contagious energy for serving others.

Question 8

Q: Is my trip tax deductible? Can people sponsor my trip?

A: Tax-deductible giving: If you are raising support through your local church, your church may be able to set up a fund that would allow the contributions to be tax deductible. Check with your local church to work out the details. If you raise support through World Hope, the people donating to your trip will get a contribution statement. Checks should be made payable to World Hope.

Non tax-deductible giving: If someone prefers to make the check payable to you, the gift is not tax-deductible because you are not a nonprofit organization. There is no problem with donors making contributions directly to you, so long as they understand that this will not be a tax-deductible gift. A personal check or credit card payment by you for your own trip expenses is not tax-deductible, because you will receive the benefit of that purchase.

Question 9

Q: Are you promoting the gospel of Christ?

A: Yes! The reason we go is to demonstrate the example of Jesus Christ through our actions by serving the people we meet. Depending on the freedom given in our host city or country, we take whatever opportunity we have through speaking, prayer, music, etc., to proclaim the love of Jesus Christ.

Question 10

Q: Where do the team members come from?

A: World Hope travelers come from all over the world. Very few people know each other at the beginning of the trip but leave as strong friends with a deep common experience of service that binds them. God always places the perfect team of personalities and talents together and leave as strong life-long friends.

Question 11

Q: Will I have to speak in front of crowds or share my testimony verbally?

A: Though opportunity may present itself, no one is forced to share. Many team members who never thought they could share have done so and their lives and those hearts listening have never been the same.

Question 12

Q: What would I do each day? What skills do I need?

A: We will certainly have a variety of choices when it comes to work and service each day. We strive to give people options throughout the trip. Some days you assist in food distribution. You will spend time playing with the kids, arranging events for them, and loving on them in special ways. You may help with painting or construction projects. You may have the opportunity to teach classes or lead Vacation Bible School style events. You may pray with others. You will be asked to get out of your comfort zone and try new things. You will provide care for today and hope for tomorrow in each project and interaction. Each day will be very full of activities and opportunities for you to use your gifts.

Question 13

Q: How clean of an environment will we be working in?

A: Each World Hope trip will vary based on the location. Prepare for the unusual. No matter where we serve, we will always have a safe, clean, comfortable place to rest and relax in the evening.

Question 14

Q: What do we eat?

A: Our goal is to be sure you are healthy and eat well. Each city and country is different but we use variety and do provide mostly American style foods. In all cases, we are careful to exercise good sanitary technique so as to keep the team from stomach issues. We use bottled water on all international trips. Snacks are encouraged. Bring some to share too.

Question 15

Q: What is the average group size?

A: World Hope trips range from 10 travelers to 50 travelers depending on the destination and need. Even with large groups, our organization and planning will give you a sense of an intimate group.

Question 16

Q: How do we find out about future trips?

A: All trips are listed on the website. These will be updated as more trips are added to the schedule.

Question 17

Q: Are there scholarships available?

A: We do not offer scholarships. Please refer to the fundraising booklet.

Question 18

Q: What is your trip cancellation and change policy?

A: As circumstances change, you may find you need to cancel your trip.

- If you cancel and your airline ticket has already been purchased, you will be responsible for the cost of the ticket.
- We will make every effort to return your additional funds. You may also choose to leave your funds on account with World Hope and look to book a future missions trip.

Question 19

Q: Besides the trip fees, what expenses will I personally incur?

A: If you do not have a passport, you will need to obtain one. Start this process as early as 6 months before your departure date. Generally, a team will eat at a restaurant or order food 1 or 2 times, a day, each meal cost \$10-15 depending on how you order. We try hard to keep cost down. Team members have spent anywhere from \$100 to \$500 including souvenirs. If traveling to Kenya, you will have an option of a safari and the required Kenya visa is \$50. During your two travel days, you may also want to purchase something to eat or drink at the airports.