

CODE OF CONDUCT

Below is the Code of Conduct that you already agreed to when submitting your online form with Group Mission Trips:

- I will respect the spiritual growth and work goals of the mission trip and participate in all scheduled activities, which are designed to make the most of my mission experience.
- I will not act or behave in a way that creates significant distractions or disruptions to other participants or staff.
- I will respect others' privacy by not entering into areas of the lodging facility that are assigned to females if I am a male or areas assigned to males if I am a female. I will also follow the designated adult and youth-only shower times.
- I will dress and behave modestly to show respect for the community, its people, and the other participants. (Group has since put out that all participants need to wear modest-length shorts or pants and full t-shirts)
- I will respect the local community and those we live with for the mission trip by not damaging the lodging facility or other property.
- I will respect those around me by not using obscene or abusive language or engaging in reckless behavior that could cause harm to others or myself.
- To help the mission trip time be focused on interacting with God and others, I will not bring electronic video devices, computers, or toy guns. I understand there is no security for valuables.
- In order to build relationships with participants and residents at the mission trip, I will not use my cell phone or iPod, etc. on work sites or during worship programs.
- For my safety, I will not leave the lodging facility or project sites without an adult if I am under 21.
- I will not change room assignments, so my location will be known if I need to be contacted in an emergency.
- To respect other participants and so all can get the rest needed, I will respect the scheduled lights-out time.
- I will not have in my possession or use fireworks, firearms, illegal drugs, or alcohol. I will obey all the laws of the community and state in which I am serving. I know that illegal activity will not be tolerated and that local police will be called if necessary.
- I will respect and follow the directives of my adult leaders, other adult participants, and GMT staff.

- To respect others, I will not use tobacco, e-cigarettes, or vape pens in vehicles, at the project site, at the lodging facility, or in neighboring residents' yards. I understand it is illegal to use tobacco on most school grounds.
- I will respect others by avoiding inappropriate sexual activity. I will not engage in sexual misconduct, which can include inappropriate comments, gestures, or physical contact.
 - It is out of respect for God, ourselves, and others that we abide by these rules. If you violate these rules, you may be denied the privilege of participating in the mission trip.
 - You may be asked to leave (without reimbursement of expenses or registration) at the request of your youth leader or GMT staff.
 - Your signature, or your parent's signature, on the participant info form verifies that you have read, understand, and agree to this Code of Conduct.

MISSION TRIP LANDMINES

Below is the list of mission trip landmines with simple descriptions, along with a commitment to act in a certain way because of how these would affect me and others on my team.

1. **Romance:** Mission trips are not the time or place for romance. The romance between two unmarried people while on a mission trip tends to disrupt the unity of the team and takes away from the spiritual experience, which is the reason we are going.
 - I understand and will follow the **no romancing with anyone** rule.
2. **An Inflexible Attitude:** Each and every day will be filled with lots of opportunities for plans to change. This is all a part of the experience and it's your job to go with the flow, trusting in God for the outcome.
 - I understand and will do my best to **be flexible** at all times.
3. **An Undefined Work Project:** If you don't know what you are supposed to be doing, you won't be very efficient at your task. If you have questions, always ask. Make sure your crew has a general understanding of their task for the week before leaving for your job site.
 - I understand and will **ask for help** when needed.

- 4. Focusing Too Much on the Work Project:** While we all know that a mission trip is about people, not projects, it is easy to forget, especially with a deadline of the end of the week. We must remember though that the reason for our trip is to be a witness and it's hard to do that if we don't spend time with people. There is room in this area to find a good balance.
- I understand that I need to work diligently, but I will **not allow the work project** to become my **only priority** for this week.
- 5. Withdrawal:** In a new environment, and hopefully outside of your comfort zone, it can be easy to step back from the opportunities that God is placing in front of you. But, you only get this opportunity once, so go for it! In all of this, trust God to give you strength and to provide the outcome that honors Him.
- I understand and I will do my best to **'go for it'** instead of holding back when given an opportunity to engage or serve.
- 6. A Lack of Orientation:** Group does a great job of orientation, but you will only know as much as you hear. Please pay attention during any and all preparation times so that you know what is expected and how you are to serve. Even if you think you've heard it all before, please pay attention.
- I understand and will **be mindful of any and all training**, even if I feel like I don't need it.
- 7. Fatigue:** Everyone has a breaking point, and many will find it this week. We are only human and this is understandable. Please though, be mindful of where you are at and where others are at physically and emotionally, especially as the week goes on. Approach each other in love and grace and build one another up through the week.
- I understand what fatigue does to your body and **I will be mindful of where I am at** physically and emotionally, as well as looking out for others.
- 8. A Lack of Food:** If you don't eat, you won't have energy. There is always a large supply of healthy food available. Maybe you don't eat breakfast or lunch at home, but you also may not exert your energy at home like you will this week. Eat something healthy, even just a little, to keep you going.
- I understand that my body needs food to keep me going and **I will not skip meals** or just depend on junk food.

9. A Lack of Biblical Foundation: A Biblical foundation is so important for a mission trip. This is why we have a theme verse (Acts 1:8), and why we are asking each of you to pick and memorize your own verse for the week. This Biblical foundation will help lift your spirits when the days get long and the emotions get high.

I understand the need for a Biblical foundation and **will be memorizing** _____ for this week.

10. Culturally Insensitive Dress: It's very important to be mindful of how we dress, especially when labeling ourselves as representatives of Christ in a different community and culture. A modest dress code helps keep the attention off of us, and on the One we are representing.

I understand the need for a modest dress code and I will follow what has been put in place by Group and Checkrow.

I understand this 'Code of Conduct' and 'Mission Trip Land Mines' checklist.

I agree with all of the things listed here.

I will follow each of these things to the best of my ability.

_____ Date: ___/___/___
Participant signature

I, the parent, see that my student has read through this agreement, and personally verify that they, along with myself, are in agreement with its guidelines.

_____ Date: ___/___/___
Parent signature