



Jamaica Mission Trip Manual

Dear Friend of the Poor,

Congratulations! You have joined a heritage of noble efforts that have continued successfully for more than 2,000 years – MISSION WORK. From the very first events of Jesus Christ, through the early church, the era of the gallant knights, the reformation, periods of revival, the great awakening, the industrial age, the Pentecostal renewal and now in the information age; mission work has been the driving force of the Church. “Freely you have received” and now freely you give.

This is a self-sacrificing adventure. While everyone enters into these pursuits for various reasons, the outcome is always the same: The Kingdom of God is expanded; communities are drastically improved; and people’s lives are changed for the good. Oddly, while great things happen on the mission field, it is the lives of those who answer the call of missions’ that is impacted the most.

My friend, the mission field is full of changes and challenges, but the one thing that is consistent is what God will do in the lives of those who yield to His command to “go ye”. I promise you, without hesitation, this event will positively impact your life.

Hope Charitable Services has four standard mission experiences:

Mission Station: Feeding the poor, Daily Children’s Crusade / Vacation Bible School and evening Gospel Crusades

Medical and Dental: Health care for the poor

Construction: Building simple homes for the homeless, clinics, schools and orphanages

Educational: Lecturers, conferences and empowerment

Regardless of the mission that you embark upon, you are following the great commandments and the great commission of our Lord (Mark 12: 30 - 32 & Matthew 28: 18-20)! You are embarking on a journey that will never end - until you find yourself at the feet of the King of Kings! I am pleased that you have chosen to travel this journey with us. Attached, you will find an informal booklet that will shed some light upon your upcoming mission journey. I look forward to working with you. Until then, I remain . . .

YOUR MISSIONARY TO THE POOR,

Bishop Frank Allen
Executive Director



P.O. Box 7816, Portsmouth, VA 23707-0816, USA

P: 757.393-0664 ♦ F: 757.393.6144 ♦ E: www.hopecharitable.org ♦ 3516 Winchester Drive ♦ Westhaven/Midcity Area

Welcome

We are very excited that you will be a part of the INVASION OF HOPE- JAMAICA Mission Team and are looking forward to working with you in the foreign mission field. Our desire is to build the Kingdom of God in the third world; and also to help you be ready to go home after the trip and maintain the spiritual momentum you gained with us.

The first thing that you must do, is realize this is not a vacation, a cultural experience or just a good thing to do. This is a biblical mandate, a divine appointment and a mission from our Lord, Himself. God has called you through his word:

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen”. Matthew 28:18-20

“ . . . Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in: Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me. Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? Or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? Or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.” Matthew 25: 34-40

My friend, when you decided to come on this adventure. You have chosen to become a missionary, to do the work of the Lord and to answer your own Macedonian call.

. . . And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us. And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go . . .” Acts 16:6-13



RAISING YOUR SUPPORT

One of the biggest concerns of Short Term Missions is, raising the financial support needed. However, we have seen God work in amazing ways to provide for needs over the years. We can have confidence in God, because He has promised in His Word to supply our needs.

“And we have the confidence which we have before Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. And if we know that He hears us in whatever we ask we know that we have the requests which we have asked from Him.” 1 John 5:14, 15

“And my God shall supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus.” Philippians 4:19

PRAYER: The most important thing you can do in raising your financial support is to PRAY. God is concerned about you and is able to meet your needs. He wants you to ask and depend on Him. We suggest that you pray, privately, corporately and establish prayer partners to pray for you.

ACCOUNTABILITY: We believe that accountability is the key to continued growth in your personal relationship with God. It is helpful to have a “mentor” with whom you can talk about spiritual things as well as day-to-day activities, and who can encourage you in your walk with God. One of the concerns that leaders have for Short Term Mission Team members is: *“When they return home, they won’t be able to maintain the growth in their relationship with God and their excitement about living as a World Christian for Him.”* With this in mind, we would like to ask our INVASION OF HOPE-JAMAICA team members to do the following:

Make a list of people who could serve as your mentor – a godly people that you respect.

Pray, asking the Lord for guidance – ask Him to lead you to a mentor. Prayerfully, decide whom you will ask to be your mentor.

Within a week of reading this manual and studying the scriptures referenced, decide who your mentor will be. Go to the person and ask if he/she would be willing to help you as mentor: someone to advise you, help you along, listen to your ideas and help you to develop your Christian character and ministry. He/she should understand that you will meet regularly with him/her for prayer and to hold you accountable to achieve your goals and maintain your word. A sample letter to a mentor is enclosed with this material.

Start meeting with your mentor once a week. The two of you can pray together about your support raising and other concerns you may have, and you can work together on the preparation material. Plan to meet regularly after the summer trip, too. NOTE: The word “mentor” is used here. You may wish to call your him/her an “accountability or prayer partner” praying for and encouraging each other, while mutually holding each other accountable.

ACTION: The next step is ACTION. You have two important needs: Prayer and Finances. If you fall short in either of these areas, it will have negative consequences for you. When going on the mission field, you are entering into service for the Lord, and into serious spiritual warfare. Short-term participants often say that their finances were one of the most beneficial experiences of their mission trip; because it forces you to rely on the power of prayer in a situation, which is beyond your control. We trust you also will look on this aspect as an opportunity to see your own faith grow and be strengthened by seeing God at work!



Prayer + Financial Support = Success



Prayer & Financial Support Raising Guidelines

Step One: Commit this task to prayer and fasting. Enlist the prayer and fasting of others. Our confidence is in the Lord and He has promised to meet our needs. Specific prayers bring specific answers. Pray that you'll see God work beyond your own dreams in providing the necessary for this mission trip. Read over Philippians 4:10-19, Jeremiah 2:27, and ask the Holy Ghost to guide you.

Step Two: List all the people you think would have even the slightest interest in what you are doing: friends, family, teachers, work-mates, neighbors, business that you frequent, employers, etc. Ask the Lord to bring people to mind that you should approach for support. Include pastors and leaders from friends' and family members' churches for mission support from their ministry. Please, ask people from outside the church as much as possible. This mission trip can also be used to build relationships in the community and inform the community that your church has a Christ-centered worldview and a biblical perspective regarding the care of the poor. We have seen churches grow from foreign mission trips.

Step Three: Read thoroughly all the material you have been provided so that you are as familiar as possible with the aspects of the trip.

Step Four: Compose a letter and send a letter asking for prayer, financial support, and a return envelope. Make sure the envelope you enclose is addressed to your home address!

Step Five: Phone or personally talk with five-ten individuals each day until you have contacted everyone on your list. (Actual conversations, not messages left.) It is extremely important not to rely on written letters alone to obtain support. You need to speak with people on the phone or in person! Tell them:

- † **What you are doing** and its potential impact for the Kingdom of God & the Church.
- † **Why you are doing it** and that you are hoping God will use you for His Glory, bring the Gospel to lost people, feed and clothe the poorest of the poor. Your supporters will share in the eternal fruit of this endeavor.
- † **What you are asking for:** to prayerfully consider being part of your support team – both in prayer and in tax deductible financial support. You may want to suggest an amount with some people. With others, you may just leave it open ended. Pray about this before each call.

Step Six: Send a thank you note to the people who have made a commitment to pray or support you. This is not only appropriate, but will also serve as a reminder to them of their commitment. Update them by e-mail while you are serving on the trip. Send them fresh prayer reminders as needs arise.



What should you contribute financially to this trip?

The answer is, "something". We are not going to lay a dollar amount or percentage on you here. People have differing abilities. King David said in 2 Samuel 24:24 *however, the king said to Araunah, "No, but I will surely buy it from you for a price, for I will not offer burnt offerings to the LORD my God which cost me nothing." So David bought the threshing floor and the oxen for fifty shekels of silver.*

Notice that King David, already serving God as king of Israel, did not allow someone to pay for his vision, he also wanted to give personally in terms of financial sacrifice. Although everyone will have different incomes and expenses, everyone can sacrifice something. You can give up items of entertainment and other nonessentials in order to be able to set aside money for the trip. You can put off purchasing items you were planning to buy. Some team members may have to write 100 letters and make 100 phone calls to be a part of this mission trip. Regardless, in order for you to be blessed you must give something, sacrifice something, whether you sell something that you have, fast meals and give that money or work extra. To be truly blessed, you must give of your own resources.

How should donor checks be handled?

Have all tax deductible checks made payable to **YOUR CHURCH**, with your name and mission account in the memo section. Your church office will consolidate the funds and forward one check each month to our missions' office. However, on the enclosed envelope that you include with your letter to your potential donors, put your personal address at which you receive your mail! It is important that you collect the checks personally, and see that they are delivered, each week, to the MISSION TEAM COORDINATOR at your church office. This will help ensure that your account receives proper credit for all the funds that have been sent to you.

If your supporters send their checks into the Church Office they often forget to designate whom the check is for, and it may not be properly credited to your account. Put your checks together and mark them as being for you, make sure they are recorded correctly. Bring them as you receive them. Bring the Checks with you to church each week and turn them into the mission team coordinator. Do not hold the checks, you may lose them. Do not wait until the end, as there are cut off periods where certain amounts of money are due.

NOTE: Some people will want to know how soon you need the support. Give them the Payment schedule provided to you by the mission trip coordinator you have for your particular trip.

WRITING A FUND-RAISING LETTER

When writing your fund-raising letter, keep the following guidelines in mind:

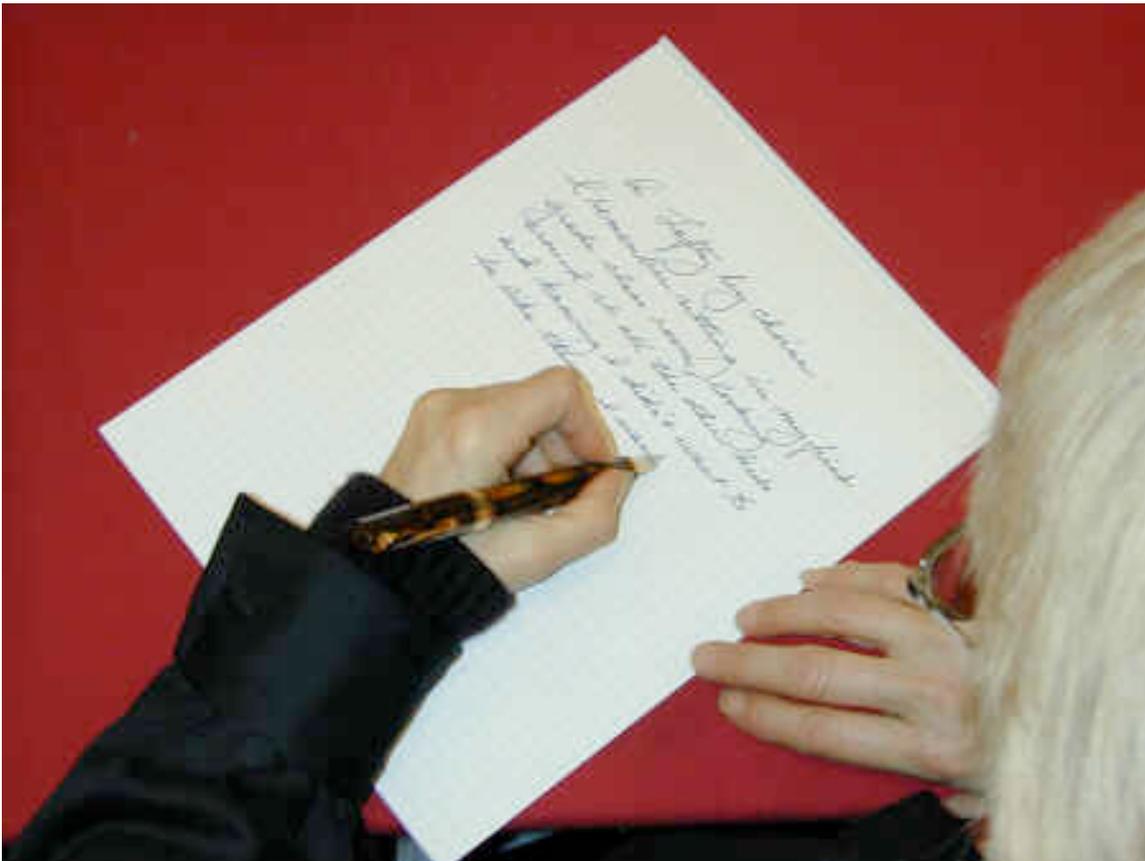
- † Keep your letter to one page.
- † Make your letter warm and personal. Use the sample letters as a guide, but be sure to use your own words and style. Visualize the face of the person to whom you are writing.
- † Answer the questions: "Why do you need the money?" and "Why do you need the money now?"

- † Ask for their tax-deductible gift; don't command them to give.
- † Suggest a specific amount or range that each donor could give to help you meet your goal quickly.
- † Ask them to pass the gift to **you** so that you can have it processed.
- † Include a self-addressed return envelope.

It is always appropriate for you to request a 10-minute appointment with people to share with them personally about the mission trip, the people that you are helping and the part you will fulfill in this mission. Then ask them, face to face for your support. Keep it brief on your part.

Never apologize for writing or calling a person who you wish to involve in helping you meet a need. You are providing them with an opportunity to be involved in a spiritual ministry through his resources. When you apologize, you end up appearing to be a beggar rather than a child of the King!

You should challenge people to give a specific gift, or within a specific range. Do not be vague or general. Ask them to respond by a set date, so that you are not uncertain of your support as your time-line winds down. You can ask people to give \$25.00 a month for four months. If people want to support you, but can't give what you have suggested, they will let you know and not be offended.



Sample Letter #1

Date

Dear _____,

I am sure you are aware of the severe poverty in the third world Caribbean Basin. These tiny Island nations suffer from a long history of poverty, corruption, exploitation and disaster. It is in Jamaica, the heart of the Caribbean that I am going on a mission trip. We are conducting our INVASION OF HOPE: a children's gospel crusade with hot meals to more than a thousand children daily and in the evening we preach and minister under the large Gospel Tent to the least, last and lost in the inner city of Kingston Jamaica.

A few months ago we had Rev. Frank Allen, the missionary to the poor, visit our church. We were equally moved by his work among the poorest of the poor as we were by his dynamic preaching and work in the altar. He invited us to pray about coming to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to the impoverished people of Jamaica. After seeking God - through prayer, fasting and bible reading, our entire choir decided it was God's will for us to go. Not just to sing, but also to work by serving 1,000 lunches each day to malnourished children, after we conduct a Vacation Bible School and Children's Crusade. In the evenings we will work in the Gospel Tent Crusade while our Pastor preaches. When I asked God "What good reason would I have to do that?" it quickly turned into, "What good reason do I have not to."

I have enclosed a brief description Jamaica and this mission trip. We are asking God to work in a mighty way 'through' and 'in' each of us that go on this trip. It will be our objective to live out the word of God by fulfilling Matthew 25:31-40 & 28: 19, 20 as we feed poor malnourished children and preach the gospel to the desperate people of the inner city of Kingston.

For this mission trip to successfully it will depend on two things, financial support and, even more critically, strong prayer support. My preparation, ministry cost, food for the poor, travel and living expenses for the trip are estimated at \$1,400, which must be raised in a very short time. While I am contributing, losing wages and asking others to help, I am asking you to please help me on this mission. Prayer for our travel, our ministry and the things God intends to do in our lives through this mission trip is absolutely essential.

Would you consider participating in this opportunity with us by making a tax deductible contribution of \$10, \$20, \$40, \$100 or more? No offering is too small or too large. Whether or not you participate financially, I would ask for your prayer support for this ministry and for my family while I am away. Financial contributions can be made out to THE SADDLETREE CHURCH OF GOD and mailed to me in the enclosed envelope. Please do not put my name on the check if you want a tax credit. We are eager for your prayers and partnership with us. I will send you a report of the work that we did along with photographs upon my return.

In Christ,
Signature

p.s.

Any surplus funds will be turned in to the permanent missionary to be used to support the ongoing work for the poor.

Sample letter #2

Date

Dear _____,

Greetings to you in the name of Jesus. My purpose for writing is to let you know about a great opportunity that the Lord has laid upon my heart. The Saddletree Church of God has partnered with Hope Charitable Services and put together a short-term missions trip to present the Gospel to some of the poorest people in the western hemisphere. I am excited about going on this trip and the possibility of using my talents and abilities for the glory of God and the good of the people in Kingston, Jamaica.

On this trip, I will be part of a 50-member choir team. We will be preparing and serving 1,000 children daily, conducting a Vacation Bible School and Children's Crusade during the days. In the evenings, we will be ministering under the big gospel tent, as a choir, while our pastor and other ministers preach the life changing gospel to the poor.

I am excited about this because this is where my passion is. In addition, I am trusting that God will use this trip to expand my vision for the world and use me to help reach more people for him.

The importance of prayer for our ministry, safety, travel, and that, which God intends to accomplish through us, is absolutely essential. Would you please participate in this ministry with your prayers? Of course, there is also a cost to this trip. It will be approximately \$1,400.00. Please consider giving a tax deductible offering to help us bring the gospel to the poor. Please make your check payable to The Saddletree Church of God and mail it to me so that I can turn it in. I've enclosed an information sheet and an envelope for your convenience.

I am eager for your prayer support and financial partnership in this ministry, and I greatly value your friendship and help in this venture of faith. I will send you a report of the work that we did along with photographs upon my return. Thank you so much.

Your friend in Christ,

Signature

p.s.

Any surplus funds will be turned in to the permanent missionary to be used to support the ongoing work for the poor

A Brief History of Jamaica, West Indies

On the second voyage of Christopher Columbus to the New World, he landed on the island of Jamaica, at a place now called Discovery Bay. When he returned to Spain and reported to Queen Isabella, he described the island by taking a piece of parchment and crumbling it up. Laying this on a table, he said that was what the island looked like. What a graphic way to describe the high mountains and the deep valleys of the island.

Jamaica was given to the Columbus family by the King and Queen of Spain as a super large estate, but was not settled until 1509. Jewish settlers, fleeing persecution from Spain migrated with Columbus and established the business infrastructure that is still intact on the Island today. The Spanish settlers found a peaceful Indian tribe called the Arawaks whom they enslaved. After only 50 years the entire tribe had been exterminated, due to the cruelty and hard work imposed by the conquerors. To continue raping the vast natural resources slaves were imported from Africa, East India and other native races in South/Central America.

In 1655 the English, commanded by Admiral Penn and General Venables, captured the island. During the English rule many British and Arabs/Syrians; East Indians and Chinese from the four corners of the Empire migrated as laborers, planters and businessmen. A horde of Scottish, German and Irish migrants came as bond and indentured servants and settled; resulting the "bright-skin" people of the St. Elizabeth Parish. This multi-racial culture is the root of the National Motto: "Out of Many, One People". Jamaica remained an English colony until 1962 when it became an independent nation and a part of the British Commonwealth.

The language spoken is Patois (a mixture of African, Spanish, French and Broken English), but English is the official language. If missionaries speak slowly, everyone can understand them. However, the Jamaican dialect of English is a bit difficult to understand by new arrivals.

Jamaica is a tropical island with just two seasons... wet and dry. It is always warm, but most of the time it is just plain hot. The citizen population is about 95% black, ranging from dark black to pecan tan. The other 5% is composed of different nationalities from the four corners of the world. Yet they are all proudly Jamaica.



A Typical Jamaica Family Reunion

Why are we doing mission work in Jamaica?

Jamaica is one of the most beautiful tropical paradises known to man. Often, when we think of our Caribbean neighbor, it is of powder white sand beaches, tropical breezes, island rhythms, crystal clear water, five star resorts, endless gourmet buffets, constant parties, and a nightlife that lasts all day.

While all of this is true, it is not the norm for the citizens. All of this luxury is provided for tourist on the broken backs of worn natives. Living in abject poverty while working for a few dollars a day providing an extravagant escape for tourist.

This small island has been hijacked by greed. Westerners, and the wealthy world-over, travel to find a sumptuousness getaway - living large at the expense of others. Survival has been bred with corruption resulting in the exploitation of the population. While the elite continue to succeed the poor seem to get poorer.

Rampant unemployment compounded by severe underemployment fatigues the already exasperated economy with extremely low wages that wrestles with hyperinflation. The evils associated with poverty: hunger, teen pregnancy, AIDS, homelessness, crime, addiction and street wars further erode the moral and hope of these wonderful people.

Christianity had a firm hold from colonial times. However, abuse, corruption and exploitation caused the rise of Rastafarianism and ancient derivatives of traditional African religion (Obeah, Revivalist, Maroon, Voodoo, witchcraft, superstitions, etc.) As foreigners, we are very careful to only preach Jesus and His gospel - allowing the national church to deal with cultural religions and beliefs. The Church of God (known as The New Testament Church of God in Jamaica) is the strongest denomination. However, its membership is mostly poor and needs fraternal support from the USA.

Still a third world country, Jamaica is wading through the miry residue of globalism and striving for national stability, as it wobbles away from colonialism. Yet, these good people are willing to work hard and are only asking for a small start, somewhere to begin, a little help, an opportunity, a glimmer of HOPE . . .

Our INVASION OF HOPE mission teams do more than just preach the gospel. We live the gospel by feeding the poor; clothing the naked; and building houses for the homeless, clinics for the sick, orphanages for the fatherless and schools for the uneducated.

During this mission trip God will use you to change the lives of people who would remain hopeless if it were not for you. Thank you for answering the call. We understand that this is a sacrifice for you. God will honor, reward and repay you for all that you do in this endeavor.

Some Guidelines

While in Jamaica, there will be several guidelines each team member will need to follow. While Jamaica is going through a cultural revolution, it is not on the same level as the United States, Canada, England or Europe. There are different expectations for Christians from within the church. While some church folks there have embraced the modern way of thinking - some have not. Even the unchurched population in Jamaica has a higher expectation for Christians.

Men: Wear pants and a polo shirt while at the mission station/site. (No earrings or jewelry except wedding band and watch).

Ladies: Wear a loose skirt or gauchos and simple blouse/top (not tight or form-fitting) at least quarter-length sleeves, no exposed cleavage while at the mission station/site. We suggest no finger or toe nail polish and only wedding/engagement rings and watches only.

Everyone: At the hotel (in rest/recover mode) and at the resort on your free day, please remember that you represent Christ, your HOPE CHARITABLE SERVICES. Your team leader and team coordinator will share with you the expectation that your church has for you concerning beach and swimwear. However, HOPE CHARITABLE SERVICES would refer you to the practical commitments of the Church of God.

While everyone on this mission trip may not be a Christian or may be at different levels with their Christian walk. As guests to Jamaica, representing HOPE CHARITABLE SERVICES - a Christian organization, we will extend the simple courtesy of complying with their cultural norms and expectation for Christians.

About three months before the trip we will provide you a packing list. You will bring one suitcase and one carry-on for your personal items. HOPE CHARITABLE SERVICES may ask you to bring a second piece of luggage with needed ministry items. Recently, some airlines have imposed an extra cost for each piece of luggage; this has not been included in your mission team cost and will be your responsibility. HOPE CHARITABLE SERVICES will provide you with a price breakdown for luggage.

HOPE CHARITABLE SERVICES will provide you with one (1) polo shirt. We suggest that you wear it on the day of travel so that you can be identified with your team.

Men and Women, please ensure that your clothes are loose and comfortable. Travel will be tight. Lines will be long. Workdays will be long, hard and hot. Church services will be long and hot. Kingston Jamaica is a very hot environment. Your dress shoes should be comfortable and casual; the terrain is very hard and the worship services are long.

Following is a suggested dress code for the various mission teams that we routinely lead.

Mission Station Assignment Teams:

Sunday wear khaki bottoms, white tops, and necktie with comfortable dress/causal shoes.

Crusade services; wear Khaki bottoms, dress shirt without tie and dress shoes.

During the day wear cool and modest shirt with khaki or jean bottom.

Men, we suggest that you bring:

- two pair of khaki pants

- two pair of blue jeans or two pair of knee length short pants

- two simple white dress shirts

- two polo shirts or two tee shirts

- one necktie

- one pair comfortable casual/dress shoes

- one pair of sneakers

- enough underclothes and socks for seven days

- appropriate beach/swimwear including sandals

Women, we recommend that you bring:

- two khaki skirts/gauchos (to the knee or below)

- two blue jean skirts/gauchos (below the knee) or two pair of loose fitting knee length shorts

- two simple white dress blouses (not tight or low cut)

- two polo shirts or two tee shirts

- one pair comfortable casual dress shoes

- one pair of sneakers

- enough underclothes and socks for seven days

- appropriate beach/swimwear including sandals

Construction Teams:

Long pants or knee length shorts, polo/tee shirts, safe shoes & other safety equipment

Men – slacks, dress shirt (with or without neck tie) and casual dress shoes for services

Women – knee length skirt, loose top (not low cut) and casual dress shoes for services

Medical/dental Teams:

Scrubs during the workday

Men – slacks, dress shirt (with or without neck tie) and casual dress shoes for services

Women – knee length skirt, loose top (not low cut) and casual dress shoes for services

Educational Teams

Information will be provided for each institution

If you will be working on the outside and while on your free day, wear a hat that will protect you from the sun and always use sunscreen (regardless of race) to protect from ultra violet sunrays.

Packing List:

Airline Baggage Regulations: The days of free baggage are gone. Remember, the more you bring the more you pay.

We have special identification tags for each checked bag (2 per person) that will include a space for you contact information.

Your team coordinator will arrange for all luggage to be weighed the day before you depart and stored on the bus/truck/trailer/van/etc and will remain secured until you arrive at the airport. Security and weight limits are strictly enforced by the airlines. Watch them load and lock your bag on the day before.

Because of limited ground transportation you luggage cannot exceed:

One personal item: which includes a purse, briefcase, laptop or camera case.

One Carry-on baggage: of up to 51 inches/129 cm (11x14x26 inches or 28x35x66 cm)

Two checked bags allowance: Two checked bags with the maximum total dimensions of 62-in/157 cm weighing less than 50 lbs each

Electronics (what to bring, what to leave home):

What to bring – cell phone (for the road and hotel only, digital camera, small camcorder with plug-in charger and batteries,

What to leave at home – game systems, cd/dvd players, TV's, laptops, iPods, etc.

What about cell phones?

Student Teams: All cell phones will be collect before we board the international flight. Cell phones will be turned off, stored in a box, and returned to team members after we clear customs at the first airport in the USA *No students will be permitted to take cell phones to Jamaica.

Adult Teams: You may bring your cellular phone, but you maintain the sole responsibility for your phone. If it is lost or stolen, thousands of dollars in calls can be made in less than a day. You can check with your service provider and determine the cost of calls to and from Jamaica. However, there are often very exorbitant hidden costs and taxes from Jamaica. Your trip cost includes one three-minute call home the day of your arrival. HOPE CHARITABLE SERVICES strongly advises that all teams follow the guidelines of the Student teams above, regardless of age.

Spending Money:

We recommend that each team member have \$150 - \$250 in cash (small bills.... no \$20 bills) for the trip. This will be enough money for meals at the airport and small souvenirs in Jamaica. All meals, beverage and snacks (while in Jamaica) will be provided through your trip cost. However, you may want additional snacks. The amount of U.S. money you wish to be exchanged to Jamaican currency will be collected, upon arrival and exchanged by our national coordinated and returned to you on Monday. Since you are not working in a tourist area, we suggest that you exchange \$50.00 and definitely no more than \$100.00. US currency and credit cards (VISA, MASTER, and AMERICAN EXPRESS) can be used in the tourist areas and US currency can be given in the offering.

Do not give money to any national!!! PLEASE, THIS CAUSES CONFLICT AND PROBLEMS AND HAS RESULTED IN HUGE PROBLEMS AFTER TEAMS LEAVES. If someone asks or begs money, tell them that you do not have money to give, that all funds are handled by our national coordinator and refer that person to the national coordinator. If you feel impressed to give money, give to the HOPE CHARITABLE SERVICES Missions Director and discuss how you would like to see it used.

What should you pack?

- Soap/shampoo/toiletries
- Wind-up or battery alarm clock (with electricity so erratic, an electric clock will not help)
- Bible and an extra Bible (just like yours to give to a Jamaican friend)
- Notebook/pencils/pens
- Sunglasses/sunscreen/bandanna/cap/hat
- Camera with plenty of batteries (or video camera)
- Flashlight with fresh batteries
- Ladies: knee length skirts, skorts, capris, gauchos, loose shorts, coolots, polo, blouse, thick tee-shirt (no spaghetti straps, tank tops, low cut and exposed abdominal areas, no short-shorts or tight fitting clothing) for free time (see dress code for daily clothing list)
- Men: knee length shorts, or lightweight long pants, Tee shirt, Polo (no short-shorts, tank tops or tight fitting clothes, see dress code for daily clothing list)
- 1 pair of comfortable casual dress shoes – flip-flops beach and pool only
- 1 pair of good sneakers/walking shoes
- 1 hooded sweatshirt for air-conditioned bus ride in the evening after hot days
- 3 sets work clothes, work gloves, work socks and work shoes (if construction mission)
- 7 pairs of underclothing + 2 extra pair (or be prepared to hand wash if you bring less)
- 1 pair of pajamas
- 1 modest swimsuit (one-piece w/thick and long tee-shirt for women and long trunks w/ tank top for the guys)
- 1 pair of flip-flops (for shower and lounging)
- Bug spray
- Sunscreen, regardless of race to protect from ultraviolet sunrays
- Money for snacks and souvenirs - should be in small bills (1's, 5's, and 10's)

Pack light and be prepared to wash clothes by hand at night, this will make travel and packing much easier. HOPE CHARITABLE SERVICES will provide laundry soap, upon request.

Construction teams must provide a complete and detailed inventory of all tools, with serial numbers and values that will be brought into the country three months prior to departure date.

All performance musical, audio, video (not personal camcorder or video camera) equipment must be listed with serial numbers and values and presented three months prior to departure date.

All medical equipment must be listed, with serial numbers and values three months prior to departure.

All medication and medical goods for mission work must be listed, with expiration date, detailed inventory and presented three months prior to departure date

All professional (medical, educational, scientific, etc.) certifications and licenses must be copied, certified by a notary of the public and presented three months prior to departure date.

All goods to be carried for mission distribution and use must be inventoried, with expiration date listed, valued and documents presented three months prior to departure.

**Where there is a need,
there is HOPE!**



And you are that HOPE!