



### **Do all teams require international travel?**

- No, we have domestic opportunities, even right here in North Carolina.

### **It's my first time out of the country. What do I need to know?**

- You will need a valid passport that does not expire for at least 6 months beyond your last date of travel (i.e. the day you plan to return home).
- The training and team meetings will help you prepare spiritually, logistically, and culturally.

### **What about COVID and vaccines?**

- All vaccines are country specific. Depending on your country of interest, vaccine requirements can be obtained through the CDC and in consultation with a travel doctor.

### **What about safety?**

- Safety is our priority! Global Hope Staff, Team Leaders and Team Members will work together with Global Partners to ensure safety.
- Every location is evaluated before a team is sent and constantly monitored along the way in conjunction with our partners. We have and will cancel or postpone a team when needed.
- Each team is covered by a travel insurance policy to cover medical emergency needs. You are welcome to purchase additional insurance.

### **Can I bring my children?**

- Yes! Family-friendly teams welcome children to serve with their parents.

### **What is the minimum age to participate?**

- Minors must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
- Minimum age is dependent on the team, ministry objective, and location.
- 11 years of age is the minimum age for international teams
- 4 years of age is the minimum age for serving Lighthouse Family Retreat (NC)

### **What about food and water?**

- You will have access to filtered water.
- Most meals are provided by the partner and are vetted for health and safety precautions.

### **Where will we stay?**

- For all international teams, accommodation will be provided. This could be a guest house, partner headquarters, hotel or other.
- For those serving Lighthouse Family Retreats, there is shared accommodation with other team members within a condo, one family per bedroom.

### **How do I join a team?**

1. Complete the “First Step” also known as the Global Hope Interest form. Please fill out a new form annually, as some information may have changed.
2. Talk with Global Hope Staff to learn more about the upcoming teams and identify which team you would like to join.
3. Complete the team-specific application. (Global Hope Staff will email you the link.)
- 4 A non-refundable application fee may be required.
5. Complete the required background check.
6. Complete interview with Team Leader.
7. Receive conditional acceptance or deferral email from Team Leader.
8. Complete all required Team documents.

### **Do I personally pay for my trip?**

- Though you are welcome to personally finance your mission expenses, we strongly encourage all team members to invite others to partner with you in prayer and financial funding to cover costs and support the ministry you will be serving.

### **What happens if I can't go or the team is canceled?**

- *As a 501c3 nonprofit, Hope Community Church is prohibited from issuing refunds per IRS laws. All payments or donations sent to Hope are non-refundable and donors are credited as giving to Hope Community Church.*
- If a team is canceled, we will make every effort to reschedule your team.
- If a team member CANNOT participate on the Team or if Global Hope must CANCEL the team for any reason, funds raised will be held for a future Global Hope team, to be used within 12 months, minus any expenses incurred (such as cancellation fees, non-refundable tickets, etc.).
- Alternately, the team member may elect to ‘gift’ funds to the Global Partner in lieu of holding future team involvement.
- After 12 months, any unused funds will be reallocated to support Global Hope initiatives, including partner support. Hope Community Church reserves the right to direct funds to where they are needed most.

### **Do I have to be a member of Hope?**

- No, but we do seek unity and ask that you
  - attend the team building and training time.
  - affirm Hope's beliefs.

### **Do I have to speak the language?**

- No, it is not required that you speak the language! A translator will be available as needed for international teams.