



**SEACOAST
MISSIONS**

***Global Leaders
Manual***

WELCOME

Your commitment to lead a short-term mission trip is an incredible blessing. Leading a mission trip is a challenging yet very rewarding experience. We truly believe that God is going to do amazing things through you and your team as you serve alongside our global partners.

We will assist you in equipping your team to feel safe and prepared for this short-term mission trip experience. Your attitude will set the tone for the trip. Your team will look to you for guidance and leadership throughout the trip, and it is your responsibility to manage their expectations to the best of your ability. Remember, you do not have to do this alone. The Global Missions Department is committed to helping you every step of the way.

We recognize the amount of work that goes into preparing for and leading a mission trip, and we want to help make this process as smooth as possible. This manual will serve as a guide and will provide the resources needed for you to prepare and lead a successful short-term mission trip.

You will have a leader and co-leader on each trip. Below are the primary responsibilities you will share:

YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES AS A LEADER ARE TO:

- ⇒ Meet with your Trip Coordinator from the Missions Department prior to planning your trip to discuss trip specifics and needs.
- ⇒ Review the Missions training website or Teams app for important information and useful documents (which are also referenced throughout this manual).
<http://training.seacoastmissions.org/>
- ⇒ Review the Pre-Trip Leader Timeline document, which outlines all of the key responsibilities of the team leaders beginning 8 months from the date of the trip.
- ⇒ Attend the annual Leadership Training Event hosted by the Global Missions Department.
- ⇒ Recruit team members for your trip.
- ⇒ Participate in the application process as outlined below and follow the guidelines for passports and VISAS.
- ⇒ Communicate with your Trip Coordinator regarding your team's financial goals.
- ⇒ Facilitate team meetings on logistics, policies and a (4) session on-line training series with handbook.
- ⇒ Guide the spiritual development of your team.
- ⇒ Lead your team on the ground in with the leaders of the host global partnership.
- ⇒ Participate in a post-trip debriefing with the Global Missions Department.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

The trip leader will receive a trip application and “Getting To Know You” form submitted by potential trip participants. These forms need to be reviewed by the leader prior to approving an applicant for a trip. You will need to let your Trip Coordinator know if an individual has been approved so the participant can be made ‘active’ on the fundraising page. If the leader does not know the individual, they should call references or schedule a phone call or in-person meeting to determine if the applicant is a good fit for the team (see below).

RECRUITING YOUR TEAM

Our desire is for each trip to provide opportunities to model and develop healthy relationships through serving. As the leader you begin this process by recruiting & selecting your team. We want you to select the best team possible in order to fulfill the goal for your trip. We are here to help as you recruit and select your team, but we want you to own the process. Team selection can be challenging, so as you look for team members, look for people who have the potential to be assets to the team. For example, starting with a couple of experienced team members will make the process easier, especially for those applicants who have never been on a trip or to your specific destination before. Selecting someone who speaks the language of the people you are going to serve, or choosing a handyman if your trip is focused on renovations, will help your team immensely. If you have an opportunity to recruit some people you know, we encourage you to do so. The opportunity to invest in some of your friends by inviting them to join you on this trip is incredible. The team selection process is very important. A few minutes on the phone with applicants will be worth your time. Even just the question “what drew you to this opportunity?” will provide greater insight than only reading application answers. You need to be comfortable with your team. Don’t hesitate to call references of those you don’t know – especially if they attend a different campus than you do. Critical mass isn’t as important as ensuring that your team members are qualified. Team dynamics can be the most difficult part of the trip for leaders, so select each team member carefully.

CHECKING REFERENCES

Consider information given by references seriously. Here are some possible questions to ask:

- *How well do you know the person and in what capacity?*
- *What do you think this person can contribute to this trip?*
- *How would you describe this person’s personality? (Warm, aloof, approachable, etc.)*
- *What do you feel might be this person’s motivation for applying for a global trip?*
- *What do you consider his or her strengths?*
- *In what areas does he or she need to grow?*
- *How would you feel about being lost in another culture with this person?*
- *How have you seen this person grow in the last two years?*

PERSONAL INTERVIEWS

If the references give you any reason to be uncertain about an applicant, set up an interview. It is better to have a 30-minute conversation and put your concerns to rest than to discover a problem later.

WARNINGS

There are no perfect team members. As you look at these warnings, realize that what might be a hindrance for one trip could be an asset for another. Be cautious if you find any of the following:

- **Medical Problems:** Make sure the person can withstand the mental and physical rigors of the trip. (Even food allergies can affect a person's ability to participate.)
- **Emotional Difficulties:** A person may not be ready emotionally for a cross-cultural trip (a recent death in the family, a recent separation or divorce, etc.).
- **Wrong Motives:** Wrong motives can lead to crippling disillusionment later on in the trip (for example, a desire to sightsee that is greater than a desire to serve can cause problems). In addition, escaping a bad situation or thinking a mission trip will "fix" spiritual problems are unhealthy motives.
- **No Personal Relationship With Christ:** A Seacoast mission trip is not designed to be an evangelistic outreach to your team member. It is meant to meet the needs of our partners. Therefore, it is preferred that each participant has a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. If there is someone you want to take who doesn't have that relationship, take time to discuss this with a Global Missions Staff Member. Pray for discernment.
- **Unwise Decisions:** You may have an applicant who will be significantly at risk if he or she goes on this trip. Don't let a cross-cultural opportunity cause someone to lose a job or suffer financially.
- **Didn't See That Coming!:** If during the team preparation process it becomes evident a team member is not qualified or not committed to the mission, discuss your concerns with him/her immediately so that things don't escalate by the time you are engaged in the trip. If things don't improve, dismiss him/her. It is better to sacrifice the cost of a plane ticket than to jeopardize an international ministry or add stress to a team.

REMEMBER

Participants may come from various Seacoast campuses or even other churches, but everyone must fill out an online application—no application, no plane ticket! This information is critical to ensure each team member is logistically and physically cared for by the Missions Department. Also, because the information on each application is sensitive, we ask that you guard the content to which you are privileged. What is the bottom line when selecting your team? You are looking for people who love Jesus and have a heart to serve.

FUNDRAISING

Fundraising guidelines, sample fundraising letters and fundraising ideas are available on our training website, which are available to all of your team members. Please make sure you point these out to them and explain your team's fundraising goals and deadlines. These will be set with your Trip Coordinator at your first meeting and help ensure you are able to make timely payments for the trip. **Please note, no fundraisers are allowed at the church.**

MINISTRY PLATFORM INSTRUCTIONS

All fundraising should be done through Ministry Platform, the church's online portal for mission trips. Each of your team members will be able to access their account at any given time through this system. They will be able to set up a personal profile and personalize their fundraising page. Unlike "GoFundMe" and other on-line services, there are NO administrative fees, the gift is tax deductible and 100% of your donations will be applied to your trip. Online donations will process immediately. Individual checks or cash will be reflected on the account after they have been processed by the Missions and Accounting Departments. As a team leader, you will have access to each individual person's fundraising totals, but you will not be able to see individual giving within their accounts. The Missions Department will send updates to you on a regular basis about your team's progress. **There are step-by-step instructions for how to access Ministry Platform on the training website for you and your team members.**

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

The Missions Department has outlined policies and procedures for all team leaders and team members. This document can be found on the training website or Missions Manual. Anyone who signs up for a trip with Seacoast Church must acknowledge that they have an understanding and are in agreement with these policies. Please be sure to review them with your team members at one of your team meetings.

PASSPORTS

Everyone traveling on an international mission trip will need a passport that does not expire until at least 6 months after the trip return date. For example, if you are traveling from January 1, 2023 through January 10, 2023, your passport must not expire before July 10, 2023. It is the team member's responsibility to have a current updated passport. You can find out more information about applying for and obtaining a passport at the US Department of State and Bureau of Consular Affairs Page:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/passports.html>

Trip leaders must provide copies of all participant passports to the Global Missions Department prior to purchasing airline tickets.

VISAS

Some countries require documentation that you have legal permission to enter the country by the United States. Your Trip Coordinator will discuss the visa process for your team with you. Some visas are obtained at the airport and others must be obtained prior to departure. If your trip requires obtaining a visa prior to departure, this typically must be done at least one month prior to departure and after we purchase airfare. Visa fees are included in the trip cost. Your Trip Coordinator will assist you with this process.

PACKING LISTS

Sample packing lists are provided on the training website. You may need to modify those to make them trip specific prior to distributing them to your team members. Please pay attention to airline-specific restrictions about bags. Your baggage is determined by the originating flight so if you leave on Delta and they allow 2 carry-on's then connect with an airline that only allows one or has weight restrictions, Delta is the governing policy as long as your flight is booked on one ticket. However, when you return, you will be restricted by the in-country flight so be sure that you are aware of all restrictions.

BOOKING FLIGHTS

The Global Missions Department will book all flights. We have an excellent relationship with an agency that understands the process and needs. Please do not search for your own flights. What you are seeing on-line may not reflect a group rate or may not be refundable and therefore does not reflect accurate pricing. Your Trip Coordinator will work with you to determine your team's needs regarding flight times and provide you with options prior to booking. Unfortunately, we do not allow team members to use points. Everyone travels together and returns together. We do not allow team members to remain in country or travel somewhere else for vacation. There are restrictions by the IRS regarding flight costs that are tax deductible. You will need to provide your trip coordinator with a list of your team members' names **as they are on their passport** along with a copy of their passport prior to booking.

TRAINING

We believe that the success of any short-term mission trip team is directly related to the team's pre-trip training and preparation. That is why we have created a video training series to help train your team members on several key aspects of the mission trip experience:

- ⇒ Getting Started and Team Unity
- ⇒ Cultural Sensitivity and Culture Shock
- ⇒ Evangelism and Spiritual Growth
- ⇒ Spiritual Warfare and Re-Entry

Each video is 10-15 minutes and is designed to generate discussion about these important topics as they relate to the short-term mission trip experience. ***Our expectation is that everyone who participates in a mission trip with Seacoast Church will watch each video and participate in a discussion with their teammates under your direction prior to leaving for the trip.***

How you do this is completely up to you and should be catered to the needs of your individual team. You can plan a retreat-style event with your team where you spend several hours together watching the videos and discussing their content or you can break the video series up and watch it over the course of 2, 3 or 4 meetings.

Each team member handbook has a section that correlates directly to the video training series with questions to help generate discussion about each topic. Our hope is that you as the team leader will lead your teammates through these questions and provide insight to them as to how each topic relates directly to the country where you will be serving.

If a team member is out of town or misses a meeting, you can direct them to our website where they will be able to watch the video and answer the questions on their own.

Remember, it is critical to the unity of your team and the success of your mission for every person on your team to have an understanding of each of these topics prior to going on the trip, and the the Global Missions Department is trusting you to make sure this happens.

Suggested Meeting Schedule

The following suggested meeting format is based on 7 team meetings of approximately 1 to 2 hours each. This schedule is a guide, so feel free to add more if your team requires additional preparation or adjust as needed. It is your team, so you may lead the meetings as you think best. In order for our trips to be opportunities for people to pursue healthy relationships, we ask that you encourage your team members to attend all meetings.

We recommend

- Meeting 1: Four to five months before departure
- Meetings 2–5: Every two to four weeks following the first meeting – watch one of the training videos and discuss the questions in the manual as a team.
- Meeting 6: Two to five days prior to departure
- Meeting 7: (Post-trip celebration): After you return home

SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE TEAM

Participation on a short-term mission trip has the potential to change a person's life and lead them into a deeper relationship with Christ. Everyone who applies for a Seacoast mission trip identifies him or herself as a Christian but it is important to remember that your team will be comprised of people with different backgrounds and at different levels of spiritual maturity. It is your responsibility to create an environment during the pre-trip preparation and on the ground that challenges your teammates spiritually without pushing them too far out of their comfort zone.

We encourage you to have your team participate in worship, devotionals, and quiet time together before and during the trip as these are powerful tools that will help your team members grow spiritually. How you do this

will look different depending on where you are going, the purpose of your trip, and the missionaries you are serving, so be creative.

We have created several tools to help guide you through this process. On our website, you will find several sample devotionals that your team can edit and use for devotion time while on the ground. We recommend delegating the responsibility of organizing devotions to someone on your team. This person may want to write their own devotional or use one of ours, and he or she should work with you to encourage different team members to lead devotions each morning or evening while you are on your trip.

We are also willing to supply each person on your team with a copy of Jack Hempfling's, Before You Go: Forty Days of Preparation for a Short-Term Mission Trip. This book is an excellent pre-trip devotional to help your teammates spiritually prepare for all that they will encounter before, during, and after the trip. Your team members will be provided with a copy of this book along with a team manual in their "team backpack".

Creating space and time for team members to have personal quiet time to journal, pray, and process what is going on around them is just as important while you are on the ground. It is also necessary to give the team time to debrief each day as a group. You may want to ask your team to identify ways that they saw God at work that day or to share what they did, how it made them feel and what they learned (see Debrief model on website or Teams App) as a part of this process.

Remember to lead by example and to be in constant communication with God about ways that you can encourage and support your team members throughout the trip - You are not in this alone!

APPRENTICING FUTURE LEADERS

Developing the next generation of leadership doesn't simply happen. It takes intentionality. For Seacoast Missions, this model is essential in order to expand our influence around the world. You can partner with us by pouring what you know about leadership into someone else on the team. You will have a co-leader and the two of you should identify others with leadership potential and discuss future leadership with them throughout the process. If possible, include them in your meetings with your Trip Coordinator when you return from your trip. This sets them up to potentially take on a future trip as a team leader.



DEPARTURE DAY

Check out the Airport “Tips and Tricks” document on the training website or Teams App for helpful ideas on how to safely lead your team through the travel process. **As the leader, please arrive first to the airport.** Ask your team to meet you at the airline check in area. It is best to let your agent know that you are a missions team and ask the agent if they prefer to check the team in together. This ensures that everyone remains on the same ticket and flights. The agent is familiar with the process.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

Seacoast Church sends short-term mission trips to countries where we have well-developed partnerships and relationships. Our partners in-country do everything they can to ensure the safety of our team while on the ground. We work with our partners to make sure your lodging, transportation, food, and water are at the highest possible standard throughout your trip. If you have any questions about the safety and security of your team, please do not hesitate to contact the Global Missions Department with questions.

COMMUNICATION BACK HOME

Please identify a “point person” in America that you communicate with when you arrive and with periodic updates. This is typically a spouse or parent of a team member. Provide your point person with a list of emails with the contact information for the person(s) your team members would like to be informed when the team arrives and with any updates during the trip. Please inform your team of this process and set the expectation that communication will be limited. Team members may have their phones and it may be necessary that they phone home periodically. Be sure to set the expectation that it is best to disconnect as much as possible to

focus on the mission. Contact with family should, as much as possible, be limited and only during personal time not team time.

EMERGENCY PLANS AND INSURANCE

Although we do not anticipate any problems while you are on the ground, it is always important to be prepared for anything. Our partners are prepared to assist you in any emergency and help to determine if you need to go to the hospital (when in doubt – go to the hospital), transportation to hospital, interpreting with the medical staff, evacuation aid, etc.

Remember, the Missions Department will purchase travel insurance for each member of the team prior to your departure. This insurance provides coverage for medical, evacuation, property, crisis management, accidental death and dismemberment, disability, liability and more.

MissionSafe Accessing Portal

Every person entered into the MS system will receive an email notification from **noreply@itraveliq.com** telling them that they have been added to a trip and will be prompted to change their password. Travelers will also be given a link to login and access their iTravelIQ portal.

Once they are logged into the portal they will have the ability to complete their profile, enter their medical information, upload their passport info and passport photo page, add emergency contacts; they can add a photo of themselves for their profile, access all of the library resources, access security alerts as well as general information on the country they are visiting, and send and receive messages. From their portal, they also have access to the geo-locator for doctors, hospitals and dentists, and they can file an incident report.

Travelers can also access their portal by going to <https://seacoast.itraveliq.com/trips/> to log in.

If they have lost or forgotten their password, The mission staff team coordinator can go into their trip, click on their profile and assign a new password for them that can then be communicated to the participant.

Encourage your travelers to take a few minutes to read through our **Short-Term International Medical Checklist** (attached) as well as the *Guide to International Insurance* before the trip to ensure everyone understands how to best utilize the insurance in case an incident arises during the trip. You may also want to watch and share our video on [How International Medical Insurance Works](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lus5MdPZM0s&feature=youtu.be) - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lus5MdPZM0s&feature=youtu.be>

Failure to comply will result in a reduction of benefits.

To pre-certify, pre-notify, or verify eligibility and/or benefits, please contact IMG at:

Inside the U.S. and Canada: 1.800.682.4664 (press 2)

Outside the U.S. and Canada: +1 317-655-4500 (press 2)

Email: insurance@imglobal.com

Fax: +1.317.655.4505

Online Provider Network: www.imglobal.com/provider Electronic Claim Payor ID: IMGIN

Mail all claims to: International Medical Group (IMG) Claims Department

PO Box 9162, Farmington Hills, MI 48333-9162 USA

If there is an incident, the team leader should contact the Global Missions Department to keep them in the loop. The first line of communication is the Missions Pastor. If he or she does not answer, then continue down the chain of command as listed.

- Jodi McCall – Missions Pastor (843) 478 - 3908
- Marie Sarle – Trip Coordinator (843) 952 - 5359

These instructions would pertain to a medical emergency where you need to get a team member to either a local hospital or transported back to the United States for care. They would also pertain to any civil emergencies or country evacuations. Always remember to stay calm in the face of an emergency. Your team is looking to you for guidance and should only be informed of information that is necessary for them to remain safe.

MEDICAL ILLNESS

Anytime you are traveling outside of the United States and into a new country, there is the potential for a team member to become ill while traveling. As the team leader, you should work with the team member who is sick to determine the best way to address their needs during that time. If a team member is too ill to travel, they may need to stay at your accommodations while the team goes out onto the field. You will need to determine if the individual is able to stay alone or if someone should stay with them. If you feel that the individual needs medical attention, notify your host missionaries so they can help arrange travel to a local clinic. Doctor referrals can also be made by calling the US Embassy. A list of Embassy contacts for all countries where we serve is on the training website.

VOLUNTARY EVACUATION OF A TEAM MEMBER

If it becomes necessary for you as the team leader to ask a team member to leave the team because they violated the team covenant or are a threat to the safety and unity of the team, then you should notify the Global Missions Department immediately. The Global Missions Department will assist you in any way possible to try and rectify the situation or assist in making travel plans for the person to be transported back to the United States. The Mission Department will be responsible for any costs associated with this early evacuation if necessary.

EMERGENCY MONEY

The Global Missions Department will give each team leader a set amount of cash to travel with them on the trip and to be used in the event of an emergency or unexpected expenses. This money can be used for unexpected luggage fees or travel costs, but it should not be used for team meals, snacks or fun days. Money

for these things has already been budgeted into the trip cost. Team members are responsible for their own meals in the airport while traveling.

You MUST keep a detailed record and obtain a receipt (if possible) for any money spent out of this fund. Any unused money and this report should be returned to the Missions Department upon returning home. The amount of money that each team gets is determined based on the size of the team and where they are traveling. You will need to pick up this money from your trip coordinator prior to departure for your trip.

PREPARING THE TEAM BEFORE YOU RETURN HOME

Re-entry is one of the most difficult parts of going on a mission trip for most individuals. Returning home after being in a place that is culturally different and often much more difficult than life at home is a challenge. We believe it is incredibly important for our team leaders to begin equipping their team members to return home while you are still in country, while you are traveling home and then after you return home and have had some time to process your experience.

We recommend starting to talk about the re-entry process and what this will look like for each of your team members during your last several devotional or team discussion times. We also recommend having your team members spend a few minutes preparing their answer to the question “How was your trip?” that they will be asked over and over again when they return home. It is important to have this answer prepared to avoid being too vague. Encourage them to write down a short synopsis of a powerful moment for them on the trip that would be a great way to answer this question instead.

You can also ask your team members to write a letter to themselves about the trip on the flight home. This letter should include the answers to the following questions:

1. How have you seen or experienced God in a new or deeper way?
2. How will your life be different when you return home?
3. How can you contribute to the ongoing effort after this trip?
4. What will you do to solidify the growth and enlightenment of this week?
5. What commitments or promises are you making to yourself today that you want to hold yourself accountable for 6 months from now.

You will need to have copies of the letters and envelopes with you when you leave for the trip to give to the team. Ask them to put the letter in a sealed envelope and give it to you before you arrive home. Make a note to yourself to mail these letters to everyone 6 months after the trip as a reminder of the incredible work God did in them and through them on the trip.

We will provide the above referenced letter as well as additional resources on the website or Teams App for you to review and cater to the needs of your team, so please look through these prior to leaving for the trip. We will also include a list of suggested reading on this particular topic that you can share with your teammates. Finally, we encourage all teams to get together to debrief a few weeks after you return home as

this will allow you to discuss some of the challenges you may be facing together. Please take time to plan a date for your team and their families to come together for fellowship and sharing.

Below is a great resource to send your team in an email. It is a great reminder and steps for processing your return - even for our leaders!

<https://wordoflife.edu/2017/07/28/10-ways-recover-missions-trip-part-1/>

10 Ways to Recover from a Missions Trip

from WORDOFLIFE.EDU

Returning home after a missions trip isn't always an easy transition. You've experienced a new culture, bonded with unique people, and maybe even shared the gospel in another language. You've been pushed out of your comfort, and your relationship with God has never been better. But as you drop your luggage on the floor and jump into bed, it hits you: you're home.

What do you do next? Here are ten tips to help you recover from your missions trip.

1| Get Some Rest

You've probably just spent a few weeks in another time zone with late nights, early mornings, and an action-packed schedule. Besides sleep deprivation, I'm sure you can also add exhaustion, overwhelming emotions, and slight crankiness to the mix. Now is the time to readjust to your normal sleeping pattern. There's nothing wrong with getting some rest and unwinding when you return home. Unpack your bags, stay hydrated, and catch up on some sleep, because it won't get any easier than this.

2| Deal with Your Emotions

Now that you've taken some time to rest, you can accurately sort through your emotions. While sleep may have driven away jetlag and crankiness from the plane ride, you're probably still a bit of a mess. No matter the length, a mission's trip can have tremendous life-changing effects. You've just done some extreme bonding with a group of people, gone from an action-packed schedule to a normal routine, and you may feel bittersweet about being home. It's completely normal to feel some post-mission trip sadness. Whether you miss the host country, the ministry, or your new friends, strive to focus on the positive memories rather than the disappointment you felt in leaving. As always, thank God for the opportunity you had, and seek His Word through any emotions you might be feeling.

3| Don't Judge Others

You might not notice just how much you've changed until you spend time with other people. When I returned from my first mission trip, I immediately became annoyed with my own family and friends. They seemed to complain about everything from food to Wi-Fi. For every complaint they had, I could only think

of a story about the devastating circumstances I saw in Africa. Even my church seemed stagnant compared to the ministry I was involved with while I was away. Keep in mind that while you may have changed, seen things that broke your heart, and woke up to the problems in your own life, it doesn't mean anything has changed at home. While you were away, your family and friends were carrying on with their routine. Try not to judge your loved ones, but instead, try to maintain the changes from your own experiences to be an example to them. It's crucial to avoid a "holier than thou" attitude that will sever relationships. It isn't your job to change the hearts of your family and friends—that's up to God. Don't let the negativity and materialism of the culture around you influence your attitude. Remember what Paul urges us in Philippians 2:3-4, "Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others."

4| Pray

Sounds easy, right? For a while after a mission trip, you'll pray with conviction for the missionaries and the people you met by name. After you've been home for a while, the urgency of those prayers will start to lighten. Eventually, the names of the people you witnessed to and children you taught will fade to faces. And if you aren't intentional, the country, missionaries, and people will completely slip from your prayers altogether. Take the effort to remind yourself of the importance of those prayers.

God is still working, even when your mission trip is over.

5| Share (but not too much)

It's a given that you'll have a million stories to tell about your trip. From the ministry opportunities, inside jokes, fun stories of your adventures, or amazing revelations about what God did in your life, you could write a book. While these experiences are incredible, you may notice that many people won't be very interested. Sure, they might pay attention at first, but sooner or later, they'll zone out of the conversation. Bring it up enough, and they'll become annoyed because your trip will seem to be the only thing you talk about. While it's good to share about this amazing experience, it's best to do so in moderation. When it comes down to it, your family, friends, and church members weren't there, and they didn't experience what you did. Although reminiscing over every detail might make you happy, it will only annoy your listener. Don't let their lack of enthusiasm discourage you. Instead, share a short blurb about the trip, focusing on what God did. This is always a difficult part of recovering from your mission's trip, but don't let any discouragement stand in your way. Try using an outlet like journaling or blogging to discuss the trip or find a close friend with a good listening ear.

RE-CONNECTING WITH THE MISSIONS DEPARTMENT

Upon returning home, each team member will receive an email communication from the Global Missions Department. This communication will include a survey that we ask each person to complete about their

experience. It will also include ways to stay connected with your host missionary and the Global Missions Department. Please encourage all of your team members to take this short survey which will assist in making sure we are providing the best possible support for your short-term mission trip in the future.

We hope that this handbook has been helpful. However, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Global Missions Department at jodimccall@seacoast.org

And again, thank you for serving and making a difference in the world!