

LIVING WATER CHRISTIAN MISSION SHORT-TERM MISSIONS APPLICATION

****PLEASE PRINT****

Name of Team Leader: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal: _____

Telephone # _____ E-mail _____

Birth date _____ Male/Female _____

Emergency Contact

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

Relationship: _____

Trip Information

Trip Dates Requested _____

Describe the purpose of your trip or the project you might do: _____

Group Information

Sending Church: _____ Church Telephone: _____
(or organization)

Anticipated Number in Group: _____

Group participants (if known):	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

TERMS OF AGREEMENT

I understand that during my stay in Haiti to help further the charitable programs of Haiti Missions, a donation of \$500 per person is necessary to provide for our food, transportation, lodging, and basic project supplies. This ensures that the mission does not lose money from the general fund for costs incurred during your stay.

I agree that I will be responsible to cover all additional costs such as souvenirs purchased, resort stays (arranged with Salonique), damage caused by our group to vehicles or properties, etc. I will honor all promises or commitments I make to the Haitian people.

I agree that I will not smoke, drink alcohol or use coarse language during my short term mission trip to Haiti. I am aware that our group must dress modestly and appropriately for the occasion (work vs. church are VERY different!).

I am aware that I am traveling at my own risk to a country which is politically unstable. I will in no event hold Living Water Christian Mission or its stateside organization (Northeast Evangelism) responsible for any injuries, theft, disasters or accidents.

I have been advised not to give out personal information such as my phone number, e-mail or mailing address while I am visiting Haiti.

I understand that it is encouraged to build new and lasting relationships with the Haitian people, however dating is not permitted and in doing so my trip will be terminated.

I am aware and agree that if I have to be sent home early for any reason I will assume all responsibility for additional costs incurred.

I am aware that all in my group should have an unexpired tetanus booster. Check with your doctor for advice on other immunizations.

If any in your group are under 18 years of age, they must be traveling with a legal guardian who assumes all responsibility.

Please read the entire document before signing:

Signature of Trip Leader: _____

Date: _____

Please submit the form to a representative of Living Water Christian Mission, and we will contact you about your requested dates and any other information that is needed. Thank you so much for your desire to come and help with the important work going on in Haiti!

PREPARING FOR YOUR TRIP TO HAITI

THE APPLICATION PROCESS:

Before coming to Haiti you will need to submit the following:

- A completed and signed application form (which has been approved and scheduled)
- \$500 per person to the forwarding agent (unless other arrangements have been made with Salonique)
- Confirmation of airline reservation

Please note: If you are coming with a team, all donations and applications should be sent together by your team leader.

PASSPORTS:

You will need a passport to enter Haiti. Please make 2 photocopies of your passport identity page and give one to your team leader and leave the other with someone at home just in case of theft or an emergency.

CURRENCY:

You must travel with American currency. While in Haiti, American currency can easily be exchanged into Haitian currency. Visa cards are only accepted at some hotels and at one modernized grocery stores in Port au Prince.

HEALTH:

We encourage you to check with your physician before traveling to Haiti. You need to have your tetanus booster updated if it has expired. It is up to you and your physician to decide whether or not to take Malaria medication or other immunizations. Please request a prescription to treat travelers' diarrhea. It is common sense to have travel insurance for your trip. TravelGuard is recommended.

PACKING TO GO:

The airline allows one free 50-pound suitcases and one carry-on bag per person. If you wish, you can bring one suitcase full of articles you will need for your stay and you may fill the other suitcase with supplies needed for the ministry in Haiti. The second bag usually costs \$40 extra.

Personal items you will need:

Lightweight cotton clothing is strongly suggested

Comfortable walking shoes

Bible

Modest swim wear

Sunscreen

Backpack with an insulated water bottle

Flashlight and batteries

Toiletries (i.e. shampoo, soap, etc...)

Mosquito repellent

Camera

Band-Aids, Tylenol, Imodium, Gravol, Benadryl

Outfit for church service. Formal attire for church, according to Haitian Culture. No shorts, jeans, or short skirts.

In the Haitian culture, ladies generally wear dresses or skirts all the time. Men must wear a shirt at all times. Pants are preferred but modest shorts are acceptable for men except in church. Ladies may wear shorts around the house.

We also ask our visitors not to smoke or drink alcohol during your visit. Due to the Haitian culture and their beliefs, we request males remove all body piercings. It is believed that men with piercings are thieves and women with extra piercings are prostitutes or witches. Women are allowed earrings but excess piercings must be removed. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter.

YOUR ARRIVAL IN PORT-AU-PRINCE, HAITI:

While on the plane you will receive a customs/immigration card and upon arrival at the airport you must pass through immigration. When passing through immigration the card that you received will be processed there.

On the customs/immigration card you will need to fill out the address of where you will be staying in Haiti. Please put this address in your wallet or with your passport for your convenience. For security reasons please keep this address confidential and do not give it out to people you may meet in the airports, on the planes, or while we are in Haiti:

Address: #7 Ave des dates, Ruelle Sajous, Gonaives, Haiti

Phone: 011-509-3767-5951

Salonique will generally meet you at baggage claim and hire men to assist us in claiming our baggage and will transport our luggage through customs inspection and outside to the vehicle. Before exiting the airport it is often required to hand in luggage claim tickets to a customs officer. **DO NOT** give away these tickets until all the luggage has been retrieved.

PURCHASING CRAFTS & PHOTOGRAPHY:

Customs has advised us not to purchase or touch any goatskin items. Goatskins carry diseases and will not pass through customs. We ask you refrain from purchasing the following two items which are used in voodoo practices:

-A statue of an old man with a pipe, leaning on a stick

-Voodoo drums

You are welcome to take pictures and video while on the trip. However, we advise you to ask the Haitians permission before taking their photo.

TRIP COSTS:

You will be responsible for:

- Your own Airline ticket
- Travel Insurance
- \$500 per person for trip budget and donation to help further charitable programs. The amount needed for trips doing large projects will be discussed with Salonique.
- You will be required to pay an airport exit tax when leaving Port au Prince Airport. The cost is \$10 per person.
- Souvenirs and spending money for food at Airports are also your responsibility.

We thank you so much for your interest in our ministry. We want to make your stay as pleasant as possible. Every individual has different expectations, personalities and talents. Please share your trip expectations with us. We'll work with you the best we can to try and make your visit to Haiti an enjoyable memory.

HAITI FACTS/INFO

Haiti is the poorest nation in the Western Hemisphere. Despite living in material poverty and spiritual darkness, the people of Haiti have an enormous amount of endurance. When they receive Christ as Lord and Savior in their lives they find new hope and deep spiritual faith, but their physical needs remain overwhelming. God has called us to bring hope to the lost and assist in their fight against extreme poverty.

The following statistics indicate the severity of Haiti's problem:

Haiti is 750 miles south of the Florida Keys in the West Indies. Land mass is approximately the size of the state of Maryland with 10,000 miles of mountainous terrain.

Population now exceeding 9 million people makes Haiti the most populated and poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Over 50% of the population is under the age of 15.

The government is not able to provide the resources to educate the nation's next generation. Only about 20% of children attend school.

45% of the population is illiterate and less than 20% of Haitians age 15 and over can read and write.

The unemployment rate is over 80%.

More than half of Haitians live on less than a dollar a day or approximately \$250 US dollars a year.

Haiti has the third-highest rate of hunger in the world, behind Somalia and Afghanistan.

Less than one third of Haiti has access to clean drinking water and sanitation.

With running water lacking in most hospitals, Haiti's maternal and infant mortality rates are among the highest in the world. Also 30% of Haitian women die from child birth -- mainly infections.

Of the people, 90% are poor and 75% of the population lives in extreme poverty.

Life expectancy is 47-50 years of age.

One third of the children will die before age 5.

There are an estimated 960 deaths daily which works out to one death every minute of each day.

Leading causes of death are tuberculosis, starvation/malnutrition, HIV/AIDS. Polio re-emerged on the island in the year 2000. Only 30% of children are vaccinated against diseases.

HIV/AIDS kills an estimated 200,000 children each year. That gives Haiti the highest per-capita AIDS death rate in the hemisphere and one of the highest in the world.

The United Nations calls Haiti a "Silent Emergency."

UNDERSTANDING HAITIAN MONEY

There is actually no such thing as a Haitian dollar bill and everything is paid with goudes. One Haitian dollar is the equivalent of 5 goudes. Therefore if you someone is charging you ten Haitian dollars you would give them 50 goudes.

Remember, they ask for payment in "Haitian Dollars" but you pay using Goudes!

The U.S. to Haitian currency exchange rate changes frequently but generally it is around 8:1.

Here are some examples based on that rate.

\$1.00 US =	\$8.00 Haitian =	\$40.00 Goudes
\$5.00 US =	\$40.00 Haitian =	\$200.00 Goudes
\$10.00 US =	\$80.00 Haitian =	\$400.00 Goudes
\$15.00 US =	\$120.00 Haitian =	\$600.00 Goudes
\$20.00 US =	\$160.00 Haitian =	\$800.00 Goudes

You can see the pattern. Multiply the US dollars x 8 (or whatever the exchange rate is at that time) and then multiply the amount of Haitian dollars x 5 to give you the total amount in Goudes.

Remember if you are unsure of what to do please ask one of the Haitian representatives. Often, they are given a more favorable exchange rate, so they will purchase all items for a team and split up the bill later.