

Your WEAG 2012

Short-Term  
Mission Project  
Application  
Booklet



## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Thanks for your interest in a WEAG short-term mission project. Please take the time to thoroughly read through this application packet. The information requested and the contents of this application are designed to help you through the project process, save you later headaches and possibly some unexpected fees. So, completely fill in the application and all medical info – even if you have done so in the past. Current medical info makes it possible for the team leader to properly seek help in the event of an emergency.

### TEAM MEMBER QUALIFICATIONS

#### **Spiritual –**

Team members should be committed Christians who desire to serve Jesus Christ and His people. A willingness to submit to team policy and leadership is imperative.

#### **Physical-**

Team members must be able to withstand long hours of work, often in hot, humid and less than ideal conditions. Team leaders must be informed of any condition that could hamper the work of the team.

#### **Social-**

Team members must be able to interact socially with one another and with local people. A withdrawn person who demands his or her space and privacy will not fit in well within the confines of team life. Meals can also be a challenge on a project. Projects are definitely a place where we eat what we are served and are graciously thankful.

## WHY PROJECTS?

Trips offer each of us a way to connect with career missionaries and team members. They give us a broader view of the needs and challenges in our world and an opportunity to spend some time reflecting on Christ's instruction to us from the Great Commission. It's why we go, disciple, pray, send and teach.

***As we reach out through projects, we accomplish three significant things:***

***-we meet real needs for some of the world's hurting people***

***-individual team members experience a new spiritual awareness as a result of what they have seen and experienced during the project***

***-our church is revitalized through the excitement, spiritual energy and renewed vision of returning team members.***

## **HOW ARE PROJECTS SELECTED?**

Locations for projects are based on requests from our missionary partners. We are there to assist them in their work, meet a specific need from those we serve with and give WEAGers an opportunity to use their skills (and some they haven't discovered yet) for a greater good. Each year we turn down multiple requests from missionaries for a WEAG team. The 2012 selection offers construction, teaching, medical, evangelism and humanitarian aid projects – something for everyone, with a variety of dates, distances, languages and in all price ranges! Hopefully, you have found the project that fits your schedule and your wallet, will enable you to use your talents and the one that (after praying about) will challenge you in new ways.

## **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Team members are housed depending on the location of the project. Usually, accommodations are very simple--an inexpensive hotel, church classrooms, a rented house, or even tents. Accommodations are frequently dormitory style. (Husbands and wives may not be able to sleep together, depending on facilities available.) A highlight of every project is the sense of shared community that team members enjoy. Eating together, fellowshiping at night, or sleeping in primitive conditions create opportunities for each of us to get to know our teammates better.

Many WEAG teams include a team cook whose sole responsibility is to prepare and serve meals. All team members--men and women alike are expected to help with kitchen chores and share in the preparation of meals and snacks.

## **PASSPORTS**

All countries now require a passport for international travel. If you are considering participation in a project, we strongly recommend you apply *immediately* for a passport. Most countries also require at least a 6 month period of time extending past a return date in order for the passport to be usable.

## **GROUND TRANSPORTATION**

Once a WEAG team arrives at the country of final destination, some form of ground transportation is necessary to move the team around. Usually, vans, buses and/or other assorted vehicles are available. Traveling in developing nations can be a very dangerous activity. Safety standards are often nonexistent. Although we do our best to arrange reliable and safe ground transportation, there is always an element of risk involved in ground travel.

## **EMERGENCIES**

Generally we are able to supply a phone number or email address in close proximity to the project site in the event that you need to be reached by loved ones at home.

## **PROJECT FUNDING**

Funds for project supplies come from the Missions and Music and Fine Arts Departments. This past fall \$58,000 was raised by the auction. With the addition of a \$35,000 gift from MFA production proceeds, we are able to offer a variety of opportunities in 2012. No supply costs are passed along to team members.

## MISSIONARY HOSTS

WEAG projects work with career missionaries who are already positioned in various fields and working for a variety of mission sending agencies. The mission department as well as team leaders work closely with them when making plans and decisions. It is a great opportunity to meet, observe, and work alongside these remarkable men and women of God.

## FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Each project listed in this booklet has a fee, which must be paid before departure. All anticipated expenses (except souvenirs, sightseeing and food while traveling) are included in this amount. For most projects, the amount represents air travel, departure taxes, visas, room and board, insurance, ground transportation and administrative costs.

Projects are priced as close to actual cost as possible. However, unexpected airline charges and expenses can sometimes occur- over which we have no control. Thank you for your understanding if we do have to increase the stated fees.

## TEAM LEADERSHIP

Each project has a team leader- sometimes two. Each leader has been chosen because of his or her mature faith in Christ, demonstrated ability to lead wisely, and experience in past projects. It is mandatory for all team members to cooperate with team leaders. Where decisions must be made regarding any area of team life, the buck stops with the team leader.

Circumstances sometimes require team members to be extra flexible because needs at a site can change; also team members may be asked to do work that seems beneath their training or talents. Under these circumstances, please remember **Phil. 2:5-8**. If all team members follow the admonition of this passage, everyone will have a wonderful and fulfilling project experience.

## NECESSARY RULES

**Dress Conservatively!** WEAG teams are representing Christ, our missionary host and His Church. Team members are instructed about proper dress prior to each project and are expected to comply. Standards and styles vary from country to country.

**The PURCHASE & USE** of tobacco and alcohol is prohibited. This includes all aspects of projects, including travel to and from the country of destination.

Team members are required to participate in team **devotional life**. The unity of the team will depend on each member's attention to devotions. They are conducted daily, usually first thing in the morning or right before bedtime.

There should be **no profanity** on a missions project. This includes on clothing and in conversation.

## CROSS- CULTURAL RELATIONS

Short-term projects offer each of us exposure to a variety of cultures and new experiences. Because of differing views on Americans, Christianity and gender/age roles, you may be asked to remove jewelry, cover tattoos, or body art, or wear clothing more in keeping with the standards of the national Christian community or the local population we serve. In some cultures, tattoos signify gang affiliation and can cause problems with the national church. This also applies to piercings and other

jewelry and body art. Our missionaries appreciate all we do to comply with their guidelines.

## **TRIP CANCELLATION ISURANCE**

Once your name is on your airline ticket you have the option of purchasing travel insurance for ticket cancellation through companies such as Travel Guard. This is not the insurance included with our trips for health coverage. The price of this particular travel insurance is based on a number of factors such as ticket price, age of the traveler, how long you are away, etc. It covers a sudden change in your plans that prevent you from going and using your airline ticket.

Visit the web for a complete list of companies offering this feature. If you would like to purchase this insurance, we will be glad to send you an email copy of your confirmation code and ticket. You will need this information before you can make a purchase. Please note that this is a personal transaction and the price is variable, so we do not handle any funds for trip cancellation insurance through WEAG missions.

## **SICKNESS**

Every effort will be made to minimize the potential for sickness. Everyone should drink only purified water. Produce should be washed thoroughly & avoid eating from street vendors. Even with these precautions, some team members will have stomach and intestinal problems. A selection of over-the-counter medicines will be provided in the first aid kit. Team members must supply all personal prescription medicines and it is always a good idea to check with your personal physician for any recommendations they may have for your particular health situation.

We make every effort to keep you informed of recommended medications needed for the countries we visit. The VA. Health Dept. and Center for Disease Control are contacted prior to each trip for up-to-date information on current medical needs in each country.

Each team member will be required to sign a liability waiver stating their knowledge of the medication recommendations for their particular project. Every member of a medical or disaster relief team must have Hepatitis A and B vaccines. All team members should have a current tetanus shot and current childhood vaccines.

The Medical Questionnaire is not designed to pry into your private life, but to protect you and the team. Most countries we work in have less than adequate health care. Few come up to the standard of what you are accustomed to in the US. So it is vitally important you answer honestly when filling out this application.

No one wants to spend time in a hospital where you might be required to bring your own antibiotics or food and share a ward with others in a variety of challenging health conditions.

Let us know if you have ANY serious or chronic health or diet issues, before filling out this form. Also, if you feel you are getting sick in the days just BEFORE your scheduled day of departure – be sure and visit your doctor. Upper respiratory infections, as well as viruses, flu and other ailments can develop quickly into a serious illness after a long plane flight, little rest, and differing climate conditions than home. Be prepared and think ahead if you get sick before departure. THANKS!

# Medical Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_

(Please print carefully)

Please complete the brief medical information requested below. This is confidential and used for project safety & health as we work together.

Are you currently under a doctor's care?  No  Yes If yes, why?

\_\_\_\_\_

Are you on any prescription medications? If so, please list them:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any physical challenges that would limit your participation on any part of this project? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any of the following?

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="radio"/> Diabetes            | <input type="radio"/> Joint Replacement                          | <input type="radio"/> Asthma             |
| <input type="radio"/> Celiac Disease      | <input type="radio"/> Dietary Restrictions                       | <input type="radio"/> Allergies to foods |
| <input type="radio"/> Drug Allergies      | <input type="radio"/> Pregnant or planning a pregnancy this year |  |
| <input type="radio"/> High Blood Pressure | <input type="radio"/> Sleep Apnea                                | <input type="radio"/> Migraines          |
| <input type="radio"/> Lactose Intolerant  | <input type="radio"/> Heart Disease                              | <input type="radio"/> Other??            |

Are you  vegetarian or  vegan?

All childhood immunizations must be updated for foreign travel. Please check with your personal doctor for your shot record on MMR, DPT, polio and Hepatitis A & B. Please initial that you have read, understand and will make certain that you are current on all needed vaccines \_\_\_\_\_

For specific countries, there may also be additional medications recommended by the CDC- these will be listed in your team handbook. It is your responsibility to make certain you have all inoculations and medications.

# 2012 Project Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print full, legal name as it would appear on a passport.)  
Nickname: \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_  
Cell # \_\_\_\_\_  
Street / Box \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Complete Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_

## I would like to register for the following project:

\_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to use frequent flyer miles or make your own arrangements? Yes,  
\_\_\_\_\_ No, \_\_\_\_\_

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the Team Guidelines contained in this application. I also understand once I sign up for a project, send in my deposit and ticket deadlines pass, that I am obligated to pay for the complete ticket cost in the event I am unable to go for any reason.

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Applicant's Signature**

Please complete this form and attach with the non-refundable deposit, passport copy (international trip) or drivers license copy (domestic project), and mail/give to:

[WEAG Missions Department](#)  
[401 N. Parham Road, Henrico, VA 23229](#)

If you have questions about any of our projects - **before turning in your application**, please call Cindy Johnson in the Mission department at (804) 754-0701.

## Application Checklist:

- ✓ Completed Application
- ✓ Copy of the first page of my passport for a foreign trip OR
- ✓ Copy of my Current Virginia Drivers License for domestic project
- ✓ Completed copy of my Medical Form
- ✓ My Deposit for the trip
- ✓ Ask yourself if you can live with the qualifications of a team member
- ✓ Make certain you can get the time off before you sign up