

Behavioral Guidelines for FCM Mission Team Members

Your week on the mission field will pass very quickly, It will be a week of great importance and impact in your life. Please remember that you are an ambassador for Christ. The perception of most Hondurans concerning North Americans is that we are rich, powerful and morally loose people. Most Honduran Christians are very conservative in their behavior.

1. No body piercings except for women's earrings are permitted. Men will not be allowed to wear earrings. Tattoos are one of the main marks of the Honduran gang members. We ask that all tattoos be covered if possible and for certain, not shown with a sense of pride.
2. The use and/or purchase of all tobacco products, the use and/or purchase of all alcoholic beverages and illegal drugs is prohibited. Foul language, vulgar slang and off colored jokes will not be permitted.
3. Dress is generally casual with modesty always being the guide. Teams will attend one or two worship services in a local church. Slacks and a shirt for men and a modest dress or slacks and dress blouse for women are appropriate. Ladies may wear capris.(note NO gym shorts are permitted) Jeans, t-shirts, scrubs for medical teams and casual wear are all acceptable. However, T-shirts must not have inappropriate messages or logos. Preachers should wear a dress shirt and tie when preaching.
4. You will be provided with three meals a day by FCM and our cooks are some of the best. It is important that each team member show respect by being on time for the meal time prayers.
5. All team members are required to be in their rooms at 10:00 each night. Lights must be turned off by 11:00. It is very important to respect the needs of each team member and getting proper respect is absolutely vital to having a blessed week. Any exceptions must be cleared with the team leader and FCM's North American representative.
6. All team members are subject to the decisions made by the team leader and FCM representative. Any changes to travel plans, such as staying extra days in Honduras, must be approved by the leadership of FCM before the team departure date.
7. Anyone joining a mission team who has a felony conviction must share this with your team leader before completing the team application form. The team leader must share this information with FCM and a decision will be made concerning the person's eligibility. All team members are subject to background checks.
8. Initiating or becoming involved in inappropriate personal relationships with other team members, staff, translators or someone you meet, will not be allowed. This type of distraction can affect the whole team and can be used by Satan to thwart the purpose of God for the team and also His blessings.

9. Team members must refrain from showing excessive affection to the older boys (13 years and older) in the ministry. At no time is holding hands, kissing on the cheek or having arms around any of our older boys permitted. Team members are also prohibited from being alone with any boy in the ministry, even with a translator. All one on one conversations must take place in open areas within sight of other team members and FCM staff. First violation of this guideline will result in a warning. A second violation will result in loss of the privilege of serving with a team in Honduras.

10. Giving money directly to any child in the ministry is strictly prohibited. Giving money directly to translators, staff members or any person to whom we minister is prohibited. This can create resentment and cause confusion. Opportunities to give will be made available, but must be done through the direction of FCM's representative on the field. Also, bringing gifts from a sponsor or giving any material gifts directly to the children is prohibited. Anyone, including sponsors, desiring to give anything directly to a child **must** have that cleared in advance by the FCM office in Chattanooga or through our field director, Bryan Arthur. Team members or sponsors bringing gifts to sponsored children This **must** be done through our FCM representative or missionary on the field.

11. As our older boys and girls enter high school and college they have access to the internet and cell phones. Calling or receiving calls from any boy or girl in the ministry is prohibited. emailing the boys and girls directly is prohibited. Emails may be sent to boys and girls through our sponsorship coordinator Lori Womack. All letters and cards sent to the boys and girls are screened and inappropriate letters will not be given to them. *Violation of this guideline will result in the loss of the privilege of serving with a mission team in Honduras.*

These guidelines were approved by the Board of Directors of FCM and are to be understood as very serious with real consequences.

NOTE: *The leadership of FCM reserves the right to decline any application for team membership or deny any participation of a team member on the field for any reason, including, but not limited to, theological differences or personal behavior deemed incompatible with its ministry and/or testimony.*

*****Keep this copy for your own reference*****