

**Calvary Baptist Church**

**Short-Term Missions Trip Guide**

**Rose of Sharon Orphanage**

**Dominican Republic**

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## **Mission Statements**

### **For missions at Calvary Baptist Church (from the website at [www.calvarysc.org](http://www.calvarysc.org))**

We believe it is the Master's Plan that Calvary actively join Him, pursuing in love those 'not-yet-believers' who don't know Him.

Because 'building up the body of Christ' involves bringing not-yet-believers into the body, we will develop and maintain an outward focus.

A church which sees not-yet-believers effectively reached will encourage:

...a heart for people. Lost people must matter to us, not as people to be won, or as potential church attendees and workers, but simply because they matter.

...passion for reaching out to not-yet-believers. Outreach cannot be viewed as a chore, or merely a responsibility, but our passion. Passion can be developed through the contagious presence of our passionate God, through working with God, and through the celebration of His successes.

...the equipping of individuals to build relationships and share their faith.

...prayer. Evangelism puts us on the front lines of the battle. We join God in what He is doing but only He can do what needs to be done. Prayer will be the power behind our outreach.

### **For the Rose of Sharon Orphanage in San Juan de la Maguana, Dominican Republic**

The Rose of Sharon Orphanage in the Dominican Republic is home to approximately 60 boys and girls from some of the poorest areas of the country. For over ten years Calvary Baptist Church in State College, PA has partnered with Full Gospel World Ministries in North Carolina to serve the children residing at this orphanage. Recognizing that sustenance, sanitation, education and religious instruction are key components in raising up servants of Christ, we focus our projects on feeding the children, ensuring quality education for each child, teaching the children independent living skills and modeling the behaviors a servant of Christ should display. Therefore we choose yearly work projects that will effectively use the team's skills & monies to best fulfill these objectives. In addition, we strive to bless and encourage the housemothers, teachers, cooks, pastors and other support staff, recognizing that their service is instrumental in the daily operations of the orphanage and in the consistent modeling of a servant striving to model Christ's life & love to the children.

In the past, work project have included: building school rooms, new kitchens & cafeteria; laying sidewalks; installing septic & water systems; painting; distributing clothing & shoes; taking the boys on field trips; doing crafts; playing games; singing; worshipping; & dispensing countless hugs.

## Trip Overview

As a team you will:

- Travel from Calvary to the airport of departure.
- Fly from the States into Santo Domingo, the capital of the Dominican Republic (4 hour flight).
- Arrive at the airport, clear immigration, pick up luggage, clear customs, exchange money, load luggage on the trucks/buses & then eat at Burger King.
- Travel by bus approx. 4 hours to San Juan de la Maguana, stopping once for a bathroom break.
- Arrive at the hotel, check in, carry luggage upstairs & settle in for the evening (it is a LONG day of travel!)
- Sunday is never a work day—Sunday School at the orphanage, visits around town, church in the evening etc. will fill the day.

Monday begins the work week & Mon.-Fri. feature the following schedule:

6:30 a.m.	Wake-up
7:00 a.m.	Breakfast
7:30 a.m.	Devotions
8:00 a.m.	Team assignments
8:30 a.m.	Shopping & preparation for the day
9:00-9:30 a.m.	Arrive at Orphanage, begin workday
Noon	Lunch team begins preparations
12:30 p.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Back to tasks
6:00 p.m. (or so)	return to hotel, shower etc.
7:00 p.m.	dinner out at local restaurant
8:30 p.m.	free time
10:00 p.m.	ALL team members must be in their hotel room

If Saturday is not a travel day the team will either have a regular work day or will plan special activities. Team will travel back to Santo Domingo and back to Calvary together.

Work projects for this trip will include: (tentative) Painting, installing fencing, games & crafts with the children.

## Basic Information

### Country information

**Time difference:** The Dominican Republic is one hour ahead of Eastern Standard Time, therefore if it is 8 a.m. in the States, it is 9 a.m. in the DR. They do NOT honor daylight savings time so during those months there is no time difference.

**Hotel:** Hotel el Detallista, San Juan de la Maguana, Dominican Republic

**Phone:** Hotel el Detallista—809-557-1200 (no country code is necessary when calling from the US). The desk clerks do not, on average, speak English. Phone cards from the States will NOT work in the DR. If you need to call home plan to buy a calling card at the hotel desk.

## Geostats:

Language-Spanish. English and French are both taught in all Dominican schools.  
Religion- 95% Roman Catholic  
Population-Approximately 9,000,000  
Capital-Santo Domingo with the airport 45 minutes to the East of center city  
Government-Representative democracy  
Currency - Peso (RD\$) current exchange rates can be found on line at <http://www.xe.com/ucc/>  
Average Daytime Temperature-91 degrees  
Average Nighttime Temperature-70 degrees  
Climate is considered Tropical, but other types exist on the island  
Hurricane season is generally August to October  
Electricity - 110 volts  
Tipping-10% is normally included on bill  
Tipping of taxi drivers is not customary  
Tourism is the largest industry in recent years with agriculture second  
The Dominican is the second most visited Caribbean location

## Cultural Differences

You will be visiting an evangelical mission in a country where norms are different than in your community. As such, group and individual behavior may need to be more conservative than that of your customary life style. Activities and behavior that may be acceptable among Christians in your area may not be as well accepted by local Dominicans and could lead to problems. Therefore, you are encouraged to maintain a high level of personal behavior while serving as a missionary.

While occasionally a way for men to signal women, many times when people want to get your attention they hiss loudly.

Latin men tend to be very open with their remarks about women in public areas. Please try not to respond rather than give this conduct more attention.

Don't take pictures of people or their homes without their permission. Usually they are very excited about the idea and put on a big smile. Never take pictures of a fort or military location except in the Zona Colonial.

Expect to see extreme poverty. As a result of the poverty, people can be quite assertive when trying to earn (or hustle) money: from beggars on the street to pickpockets, from aggressive baggage handlers at the airport to men washing the windows of vehicles at intersections, from shoeshine boys to ladies of the evening. These situations can be confusing & overwhelming & you'll want to know how to respond appropriately. Talk about these different issues with your team leaders in order to gain perspective & guidance on how best to face these situations. **Always keep a tight reign on your passport, money & valuables, particularly in the airport, parks & markets!**

When giving compliments keep it simple or they will give you the item, when you only intended to say it looked nice.

Dominican women wear dresses or pants when they go out, and almost always wear dresses for church.

Dominican men rarely wear shorts as slacks are seen as a sign of maturity. You may feel more comfortable bringing one nice outfit for dinners & church.

Dominicans highly value clean shoes and, as a result, you will often see shoeshine boys on the streets. They do a great job cleaning shoes, even sneakers, for just a few pesos so don't hesitate to use their services. This is a great way to foster financial independence in a country with so much poverty.

Baseball is a passion here, many US clubs maintain camps in the DR. If you're lucky you may be able to catch a game at the ball field near the hotel.

You will experience many new, exciting & sometimes off-putting sights & sounds. There are lots of motorcycles, dogs & roosters, so you may want to bring ear plugs. People live very close to one another with little easy access to water & sanitation. They cook outside & often use the streets as their garbage pail. Try to avoid the water in the gutters!

Power outages are very common. Having a flashlight handy will make bathroom breaks & walking after dark much easier!

Try to remember that, although Dominicans may approach tasks differently than we do, our ways are not always better, just different. Americans have the reputation of being rich, pushy, rude & always in a hurry—try to avoid falling into these categories.

## Health concerns

Some basic guidelines for staying well:

**Do NOT drink the water** in the hotel rooms or water or ice in any home we may visit. The hotel provides bottled water in the lobby for you to drink & use for brushing your teeth. The restaurants we visit as a team serve us purified water & ice, but if you go anywhere on your own (NOT recommended) you should avoid the water & ice. The team will provide bottled water to drink at the orphanage & soda for lunch. If you'd like something else to drink (Gatorade, etc.) you can purchase it with personal money in the grocery store.

**Use insect repellent** on exposed skin. DEET 25% or above is recommended.

**Use plenty of sunscreen** & stay well hydrated to avoid sunburn & sunstroke.

**Avoid fruits & vegetables that cannot be peeled, or are already peeled.** The vegetables at the restaurants we visit as a team will be properly prepared. Only buy fruits & vegetables you can peel yourself & wash your hands thoroughly before doing so.

**Do NOT eat foods prepared by the street vendors.** It is difficult for food to be kept safe & sanitary under the street preparation conditions.

**Don't handle animals of any kind** (including dogs & cats), they can transmit serious diseases even without biting.

**Do not swim or wade in any water** (pools, streams, etc.) unless approved by the team leaders.

**Shoes must be worn at all times.** There are various parasites in the ground that can cause serious health problems.

**Use hand sanitizer frequently.** You'll be exposed to germs your body does not have natural immunity to. By keeping your hands clean you significantly reduce the chance of illness.

## Safety

While the area around the hotel & orphanage are quite safe, basic precautions are always important. Do not go anywhere by yourself. You must always have at least one other person AND one male over 20 years old.

## Dress

**Dress:** The DR is a warm climate so you can get by with 2-3pairs of shorts or pants & 3-4 tee shirts. One nicer outfit for church & dinners is recommended. You may also want a sweater or jacket for cool evenings. With the warm climate you can wash clothing in the sink or tub in the hotel & hang them to dry in your room—what is washed in the evening is often dry by morning! You will probably want at least two sets of shoes: sneakers or work boots for the work site & sandals or other shoes for the evening. With the hot weather, having two pairs of shoes so that one can air out is highly recommended. Gold Bond powder also helps to keep the feet dry & fungus free!

Clothing **MUST** be modest. **NO** tank tops, halter tops, bare midriffs, short shorts, etc. Tee-shirts & slightly longer shorts (or pants) should be the primary mode of dress. If you wouldn't wear it in front of your grandmother or pastor don't bother bringing it! You **WILL** be required to change before going to the orphanage if your manner if dress is deemed in any way inappropriate.

## Trip Costs

### Base cost

The **base cost** of the trip will be approx. \$1400.00. This covers air fare, hotel, meals, transportation, and project supplies. You are responsible for raising this amount in order to fully fund your share of the trip. This can be done either by:

**Self-supporting**—Please make checks payable to Calvary Baptist Church & indicate in the memo line that your check is for “DR trip for (last name).” **All payments must be turned in to the designated team leader** (see application). You can mail them to the leader, put them in the DR mailbox at the church (by Kid's Connection entrance) or turn them in at a team meeting. Please adhere to the payment schedule on the “Important Team Information” document. We ask that everyone self-supporting form a prayer team of at least five people.

**Raising support**—This can be done in many different & creative ways. Some people have sold handmade cards or jewelry, some have organized fund raisers, some have gotten a part-time job to support their trip, and many have sent support letters. However you choose to meet your monetary commitment is up to you. There are examples of sample support letters at the back of the manual (page). You will need to send enough support letters to fully fund your trip, **or** you will need to plan to make up the difference personally.

**If you send support letters you MUST request that donors make their checks payable to “Calvary Baptist Church” but send their support monies to you.** You are responsible for tracking the money you have raised so that you know when you have reached or exceeded your goal. **CALVARY DOES NOT TRACK MONIES SENT IN FOR YOU!!** Calvary will send an acknowledgement of the donation to the donor at the end of the year for tax purposes.

Once you have made a note of your donors & the amounts (this is important so that you can track your funds & so that you can later thank your donors!) you will then put those monies into an envelope clearly marked “For DR trip” and **turn it in to the designated team leader** (indicated on the “Important Team Information” document.)

You can mail the checks to the leader, put them in the DR mailbox near the Kid's Connection entrance at the church, or turn them in at a team meeting.

*Please be sure that you send your letters out early enough & that you inform your possible donors of the date by which you need the monies so that you can meet the payment schedule outlined on the application—if you simply inform them of the date you are leaving, the funds may not be sent until you are past the payment deadlines. YOU are ultimately responsible for adhering to the payment schedule.*

## **Other affiliated costs (NOT included in base cost or provided by team monies)**

### **Passport**

You must have a current passport\* in order to travel to the Dominican Republic. If you need a passport pick up an application at the post office. Not all post offices have and/or process the applications. Current passport fees are \$100.00 (\$75.00 application fee & \$25.00 execution fee) for people over 16 & \$85.00 (\$60.00 application/\$25.00 execution) for children under 16. You can get more information on the passport process at [http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport\\_1738.html](http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html). As this can be a lengthy process, do not delay getting started if you need a passport!

\*Note that the "Passport Card" cannot be used for air travel, you MUST have the "Passport Book."

### **Medical expenses**

You should plan to see a doctor before leaving on the trip. In addition, you will need a prescription for an anti-malarial, and prescriptions or inoculations are recommended for typhoid & Hepatitis A & B. Other inoculations (particularly tetanus) should also be up to date. Most insurance plans do NOT cover travel related medications & inoculations. You may want to check with your doctor & insurance provider before committing to this trip if finances are a concern. You can access all recommended prescriptions & inoculations at [www.cdc.gov/destinationdominicanrepublic.aspx#vaccines](http://www.cdc.gov/destinationdominicanrepublic.aspx#vaccines)

Some inoculations may be obtained for free or at a reduced cost at:

Centre-Huntingdon Tapestry of Health  
240 Match Factory Place  
Bellefonte, PA 16823  
814-355-2762

### **Spending Money**

You'll need money while in the Dominican Republic for the following:

\$10.00 (US dollars) for an entrance visa. You will pay this upon arriving at the airport in Santo Domingo. Plan to have a ten dollar bill ready for this.

Two lunches at the Santo Domingo airport—when we arrive and when we depart. We normally eat at Burger King & the cost is comparable to the States. All other meals will be covered by team money.

Snacks during the week. There is a grocery store on the bottom floor of the hotel where you can buy just about any kind of snacks & drinks you may want. If you are someone who likes snacks mid-morning, mid-afternoon or in the evening, please bring these along with you or plan to buy them with personal money.

Souvenirs—we normally have some time to shop at the market in Santo Domingo before we fly home. This is a nice place to pick up some relatively inexpensive gifts & souvenirs.

Phone cards—calling cards from the US do not generally work in the DR. If you plan to call home you'll need to buy a phone card at the hotel desk. Cost is approx. 250 pesos (about \$8.00 US) for 29 minutes (shorter ones are also available).

**Most people find that between \$50.00 & \$100.00 (US) sufficient for all of the above.**

VISA and MasterCard are accepted some places & ATM machines are available but usage/acceptance is NOT guaranteed—power outages, communications glitches, etc. have often caused problems. Cash is never an issue & we therefore recommend planning to use cash whenever possible.

### **Breakfast items**

Because of increasing costs of breakfast cereals, we ask EACH PERSON to bring enough cereal and/or other breakfast items (cereal bars, pop-tarts, etc.) to last you the ENTIRE week. The team will provide milk & juice each morning. If you prefer, you can buy cereal or other breakfast items with your *personal* money in the grocery store below the hotel, but note that it is MUCH more expensive than in the states.

### **Packing Lists**

**Luggage restrictions, weights, conditions will be reviewed & revised according to regulations of the airline the team will be utilizing. As such, these guidelines are subject to change at any time!**

Because we try to take as much as we can for the children: clothing, school & art supplies, games, etc., we ask that you try to pack as much as you can in your carry-on. We've found that most people can get a week's worth of items easily into a backpack or duffle bag that meets airline carry-on guidelines. Toiletries that exceed the 3.4 oz. limit can be put into zip lock baggies (to prevent leakage) and put in team supply suitcases if you'd like (please notify team leaders in advance of this intent). Do NOT plan to take more than one check-on suitcase without the permission of team leaders!

Weight limit on **checked bags** is 50 pounds & not to exceed 62 inches when you total length plus width plus height. If you exceed these limitations you will be responsible for associated fees.

Weight limit for **carry-on bags** is 40 pounds & not to exceed 45 inches when you total length plus width plus height. It must fit in an overhead bin or under the seat in front of you.

**You are permitted one carry-on bag AND one personal item.** Personal items can be any of the following: male or female purse, briefcase, laptop (all laptops **MUST** be carried aboard), camera case, diaper bag, and all items of a similar or smaller size as these, such as portable electronic devices.

Additional items are okay to carry on and don't count towards your allowance: food items for immediate consumption, assistive devices such as wheelchairs or crutches, provided passenger is dependent on them, one box or bag of duty free merchandise, coat or jacket, umbrella, one item of reading material.

**At the airport in the US you will be given a 2<sup>nd</sup> suitcase filled with team supplies.** Be sure to take note of this suitcase as you will need to claim it in Santo Domingo & will need to be able to describe it if it is lost. You must, if asked, tell the airport security people that you have packed the suitcase, so feel free to open & examine its contents before proceeding to the airline check-in desk.

### **TSA regulations for carry-on bags:**

**All liquids/gels must be limited to a maximum container size of 3.4 oz/100ml**

Examples of liquids/gels include, but are not limited to:

Beverages                      Creams                      Hair gel                      Hair spray                      Shampoo

Suntan lotion                      Toothpaste                      Deodorant

Other items of similar consistency

Do not pack or carry any empty containers.

**Place all such items in a quart-size, clear plastic, zip-top bag.**

**You are limited to ONE bag & it must close completely.**

Special provisions are usually made for necessary items such as medications and baby formula.

If you are traveling with a carry-on only, you can pack your larger liquids & gels in gallon size zip-top bags & we will put them in supply suitcases for you. Be sure to clearly label the bag with your name.

### **This packing list should cover all the items you'll need to live comfortably for a week:**

**Work clothes** (3 to 4 outfits of loose fitting T-shirts, jeans, shorts are OK if they are long enough - just above the knee, no Spandex, etc.). The more pockets the better. Because we are working at a boys' orphanage, females are expected to dress modestly (no tank tops/tube tops & modest shorts). You'll be glad for colors that don't show dirt. We will NOT have laundry facilities available, but packing some laundry detergent will allow you to wash in the sink & hang clothes out to dry (they dry very quickly in the Caribbean air!) Although not a team requirement, Dominican women normally wear dresses to church & to restaurants, so you may be more comfortable bringing a **dress or skirt** for evenings.

**Sweater or jacket** for cooler evenings. Note that cotton clothing is much cooler than other fabrics.

**Athletic shoes or boots for work** (not new ones because of blisters, ouch!) Good shoes or sandals for dress if you like. Two pairs of footwear are recommended—one to wear, one to air!

**Leatherwork gloves or cotton gloves** depending on your project and a **work hat**.

**Leave your valuables at home** (jewelry).

**Breakfast cereal or other breakfast food for the entire week.**

**Snacks for mid-morning or afternoon if desired.**

**Sleepwear** (you'll most likely be sharing sleeping quarters)

## Undergarments & socks

### Other items:

Passport  
Airline tickets  
Medications (prescriptions should be in their original bottles)  
Insect repellent (anything with DEET- 25%+)  
Kleenex & TP (1 roll per week)  
Suntan lotion, Sun Screen, Sunglasses & Hat  
Hand sanitizer—small to keep with you & a larger to refill with  
Shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, soap  
Toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, mouthwash  
Minimal make-up and shaving gear  
Brush/comb (Ladies: ways to tie your long hair up)  
Contact wearers bring extras and plenty of cleaning solution  
Fanny Packs are handy  
Washcloth—the hotel does have towels, but does not have washcloths  
Feminine hygiene products—there is truth that when women share close quarters their cycles synch!  
Electricity is 110 volts. You can find outlets for razors and hair dryers etc., may need an adapter for grounded plugs.  
Alarm clock or watch with alarm.  
Water bottle (insulated is best)  
Ear plugs  
Bible, pens & journal  
Camera, batteries, memory cards or film  
Flashlight & batteries  
Laundry detergent, hangers, clothes pins & line  
Umbrella  
First Aid items—band aids, antibiotic ointment, allergy/cold/pain medication etc.

If you're taking both a checked bag & a carry-on, these items should be in your carry-on so that if your luggage is lost you have enough items for the 2-3 days it may take to get your bag.

flashlight & batteries

Bible

sunglasses / hat

camera, batteries, memory card (or film)

personal medications in original bottles

notebook/journal/pens

toiletries (note TSA restrictions above)

ear plugs

pajamas

airline ticket

change of clothes/underwear

sense of humor

passport

## **Code of Conduct Agreement**

**Before joining us on a trip all team members must sign a commitment to this code  
(included with the trip application)**

We have tried to outline both the rules and the reasoning behind them in order for you to understand the heart, focus & direction of the mission. We don't want to be all about "dos & don'ts" but we jeopardize our effectiveness in ministry & witness if our behavior does not reflect our purpose.

**Recognizing that while serving at the Rose of Sharon Orphanage we are servants of Christ, guests of Full Gospel Ministries, and missionaries representing Calvary Baptist Church, we commit ourselves to adhere to the following guidelines. Furthermore, we agree to seek permission from the team leaders BEFORE undertaking any activities that are not already approved for the trip.**

### **Poverty**

While in the DR you will encounter great poverty and you may feel led to give money, clothing, food etc. to the boys or people in the local communities. We are sensitive to the vast needs, but we strive to answer these needs in ways that foster independence & personal responsibility rather than begging & dependence upon us or other organizations. Americans have the reputation of being wealthy to the point of excess (by the world's standards we are!) and, as a result we must be sensitive & cautious as to how we display this wealth. We cause the boys to stumble in their faith when we encourage covetousness, either on purpose or by accident.

Therefore:

Do NOT throw things (toys, snacks, candy) from the vehicles or the balcony at the orphanage.

Leave your valuables (jewelry, electronics, etc.) at home or in the hotel. Digital cameras, etc., that are a legitimate part of your trip are fine, but iPods, fancy cell phones & other similar items are discouraged.

If you would like to hand out snacks to the children, please coordinate this with the team leaders so that the children are not overloaded with sweets. We have the capacity to cook & bake at the orphanage and homemade cookies & brownies are always appreciated. Please coordinate this as a team, however, so that there is not too much of a good thing. Pooling monies together to buy meat, fruits or vegetables at the market is an even better idea!

Please coordinate ALL gift giving, including toys & clothing, with the team leaders. We try to plan times throughout the year when ALL of the children get clothing/shoes etc. There are places to store donated items until such appropriate times. We strive to be as fair as possible to all of the boys. If you see someone who seems to be in need of a specific item (shoes that are too small, etc.), please address that with a team leader & a determination of need can be made.

Do not bring ANY toys for the children that require batteries. We have had children removed from the orphanage as a direct result of their quest for batteries for a toy that a well meaning American left for them. We have a few “learning activity” toys that require batteries & we put these toys away at the end of each day to ensure that we don’t contribute to this problem. If you have a toy of this type you would like to donate, please discuss this with a team leader.

## **Health**

Staying healthy is a vital part of being an effective servant.

Therefore:

Prior to the trip you should have the following inoculations/medications, as recommended by the Center for Disease Control (<http://www.cdc.gov/travel/destinationDominicanRepublic.aspx#vaccines>):

Hepatitis A & B, Typhoid, all routine vaccinations (tetanus, etc.) and an anti-malarial. You should make an appointment to meet with your family doctor WELL in advance of the departure date to ensure that all necessary procedures will be completed in time for travel.

Do NOT use the water in the hotel room for drinking or brushing teeth. Free bottled water is available in the lobby for this purpose. Be sure to bring a water bottle along so that you will always have safe drinking water available.

Do NOT eat any food prepared by street vendors. Fruits & vegetables that YOU peel are safe.

Eating at restaurants NOT part of the team itinerary is discouraged. The establishments we patronize understand & respect our meal preparation requirements, other places may not and you might be rewarded with severe gastrointestinal issues for dessert.

Sunscreen is a MUST when working outside for any length of time. Hats & sunglasses are also encouraged. Sunburn, sunstroke & dehydration are not uncommon but can be easily avoided.

Any concerns about food & water safety should be directed to team leaders BEFORE you partake of anything questionable!

## **Personal Conduct**

Recognizing that this is a mission that serves boys & girls, many of whom are adolescents, we ask that you strive to be beyond reproach in all manners of behavior. We must model Christ in everything we do as the children look to us as examples of God’s love in action.

Therefore:

Clothing **MUST** be modest. **NO** tank tops, halter tops, bare midriffs, short shorts, etc. Tee-shirts & slightly longer shorts (or pants) should be the primary mode of dress. If you wouldn't wear it in front of your grandmother or pastor don't bother bringing it! You **WILL** be required to change before going to the orphanage if your manner of dress is deemed in any way inappropriate.

Physical contact should be demonstrated with sensitivity to the fact that most of the children are in their teen years & are, therefore, in the throes of puberty. While sometimes smaller in stature than their American counterparts (and therefore appearing younger), these children have the same thoughts & desires that adolescents the world around do. Behaviors that are inappropriate in the states are equally inappropriate at the orphanage: hand holding, arms around one another etc. is simply not acceptable behavior between boys & girls over the age of 9. What can seem perfectly innocent can be misinterpreted quite easily by orphans who are in search of love & acceptance on many different levels.

Do **NOT** write on your bodies, or those of the children. Do not allow them to write on you. The children find the practice of tattoos fascinating & have tried to emulate that by cutting & scarring themselves. We do not want to reinforce or encourage that behavior in any way.

It is fun to have the children sign a t-shirt to take home as a souvenir. Sharpie markers work well for this project. Do **NOT**, however, allow them to write on **ANY** article of clothing that is on your body at the time. Plan to take an extra shirt one day for this purpose.

Please refrain from using alcohol & tobacco products during any team activities (travel, meals, day trips, etc.). No illegal substances are permitted at any time.

Minors will **NOT** be permitted to change tickets/flights traveling either to or from the DR. Team leaders reserve the right to restrict other ticket changes that may affect prior team travel arrangements.

All team members are required to serve a minimum 5 hour shift each work day. This can be a combination of work projects (painting, building, etc.) and craft/game projects. If you have physical needs that would require adjustment to that schedule, you **MUST** see a team leader ASAP so that arrangements can be made to ensure that all ministry/mission goals can be met.

Do **NOT** go **ANYWHERE** outside of the orphanage or hotel areas without: at least **ONE** male over 20, two or more people **AND** someone else within the group knowing where you are going. Personal safety is extremely important and caution is a **MUST**.

Be in your room by 10 p.m. every evening. All personal business outside your room should be completed by that time.

While you will no doubt fall in love with many, if not all, of the children, please do NOT, under any circumstances even mention the DESIRE (much less the intent) to adopt or take them home to the United States. Innocent sounding comments such as: “I wish I could take you home with me,” “Maybe I’ll stick you in my suitcase,” “I’ll ask my parents if you can come live with us,” etc. can be easily misunderstood by the boys as promises to take them to America. As a result, a kind word quickly becomes cruel. The government of the Dominican Republic makes it virtually impossible for Americans to adopt Dominicans. Furthermore, it is the desire of Full Gospel Ministries to raise these children to become church & community leaders and, as such, to then affect the lives of their fellow country men & women in a way they could never do in the United States. As guests of the ministry, we must help to realize the goals they have for the boys: ensuring safe & healthy living situations; encouraging a solid education, either academically or vocationally; teaching & reflecting a relationship with a personal & loving God; and modeling family values so that the children will grow in all that God has in store for them.

### Finally

Following these seemingly common sense guidelines should help to make your time at the orphanage a healthy, memorable & fulfilling experience. By adhering to these simple rules, we ensure that we remain welcome guests of the ministry and that our mission to the children can continue for many years to follow. Please do not hesitate to address ANY questions or concerns you may have to the team leaders.

### SO...

**Having read & understood this “Code of Conduct,” I commit to following it in its entirety while serving at the Rose of Sharon Orphanage in the Dominican Republic. I understand that my refusal or inability to abide by this document may result in my being asked to return to the States immediately, and that I will be responsible for all fees associated with my return trip.**

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Sign here

Date here

Note: You will sign & keep this copy as a *personal* reminder of your commitment to these guidelines. You will ALSO sign a commitment on your trip application agreeing to the same conditions.

## Important Trip Information

(Please keep this sheet readily available for future reference)

**Note that, while some of this information will change according to the trip, each participant will be required to sign a commitment— included with the application—agreeing to these conditions.**

### Support Raising:

While we recognize that raising support may be the least enjoyable aspect of the trip—no one likes asking people for money—it is one of the most important. All missionaries, whether career or short-term, must learn to raise BOTH prayer and financial support. Without the needed funds the mission cannot be effective. We need monies not only to cover our expenses (travel, hotel, meals, etc.) but also to cover project supplies (paint, cement, etc.). Furthermore, we strive to have extra monies to bless the mission. For instance, the children normally only have meat once a month. When Calvary sends teams we strive to have enough money to provide meat every day we are there. We aim to be a blessing, not a burden.

### Therefore:

**ALL team members are responsible for raising their share of the trip funds: \$1400.00**

You can do this in many different & creative ways—some people have sold handmade cards or jewelry, some have organized fund raisers, some have gotten a part-time job to support their trip, and many have sent support letters. However you choose to meet your monetary commitment is up to you. There are examples of sample support letters at the back of the DR manual. You will need to send enough support letters to fully fund your trip, or you will need to plan to make up the difference personally.

**If you send support letters you MUST request that donors send their support monies to you, not to Calvary.**

You are responsible for tracking the money you have raised so that you know when you have reached or exceeded your goal. **CALVARY DOES NOT TRACK MONIES SENT IN FOR YOU !!** Calvary will send an acknowledgement of the donation to the donor at the end of the year for tax purposes.

Once you have made a note of your donors & the amounts (this is important so that you can later thank your donors!) you will then put those monies into an envelope clearly marked “For DR trip” **and turn it in to the designated team leader** (indicated on the “Important Team Information” document).

*Please be sure to send your letters out early enough & to inform your possible donors of the date by which you need the monies so that you can meet the payment schedule below—if you simply inform them of the date you are leaving, the funds may not be sent until you are past the payment deadlines. YOU are ultimately responsible for adhering to the payment schedule.*

**If you self-support, please turn your monies in to the designated team leader** (indicated on the “Important Team Information” document) in an envelope clearly marked “for DR trip.” Please form a prayer team of *at least* five people who will keep you & the team in prayer during the trip. This is a vital part of the effectiveness of our ministry.

**In order for us to meet payment deadlines for the air fare, and to have the monies available for travel (we can't spend what isn't in the church account!), you are responsible for submitting funds according to the following schedule:**

Application, \$200.00 deposit, copy of support letter &  
Copy of passport OR passport application mailed to  
Beckie Romig.\*\*

**YOUR SPACE WILL NOT BE HELD UNTIL YOUR COMPLETED APPLICATION AND DEPOSIT ARE RECEIVED!**

\$600.00 additional funds due: January 16, 2011

Balance of funds (\$600.00) due: February 13, 2011

**Please note: The \$200.00 deposit is non-refundable.**

Any monies raised above your goal will be put into the DR trip account for either special projects or as seed money for the next trip (dependent upon when funds are available). Those monies will go directly to the Orphanage mission.

\*\* Beckie Romig, 525 South Pugh Street, State College, PA 16801

### **Team building:**

Working as a team is another vital aspect of mission work. Getting to know one another and experiencing one another's gifts and talents helps us to model God's blessings of uniqueness to those we serve. Understanding the mission, the goals & the expectations for the trip also helps us to function better as a team.

Therefore:

There will be **two MANDATORY meetings** at Calvary (room 16/18 unless otherwise notified) at 1:00 p.m:

Informational meeting: January 16, 2011

Final team meeting: February 13, 2011

If you cannot attend you **MUST** notify a team leader as soon as possible. Because you are responsible for all information presented at each meeting you should arrange for someone to attend in your absence.

**\*\*\*\*ANY EXCEPTIONS TO EITHER THE PAYMENT OR MEETING SCHEDULE MUST BE APPROVED IN ADVANCE BY A TEAM LEADER\*\*\*\***

## Basic Spanish Phrases

Good day	Bwen-ohz Dee-ahs	Buenos dias
Good evening	Bwen-ahs No-chez	Buenas noches
How are you?	Ko-moh es-Tah oo-sted	Como esta usted?
My name is...	may Yah-moh.....	Me llamo...
What is your name?	Koh-moh say Yah-mah	Como se llama?
Please	por fah-Vor	Por favor
Thank you	grahs-yahs	Gracias
Excuse me	pair-Doh-nay-may	Perdonneme
Goodbye	ah-dee Yos	Adios
Do you speak English?	Ah-blah oo-sted eenglays	Habla usted ingles?
Sit down	see-Ehn-tah say	Sientese
See you later	Ah-stah Lway-go	Hasta luego
You have been very kind too much	ah See-do moo-ee ah Mah-blay d-Mah-see Ah-do	Ha sido muy amable demasiado
What time? tomorrow evening	ah-kay oruh mahn-Ya-nah lah No-chey	A que hora? manana la noche

## Sample Support Letters

Dear,

In one respect, I'm glad to be using this computer to correspond with family and friends, rather than for business. On the other hand, I'm not very good at asking people for help or for money and that is the purpose of this letter. I'm writing to you and to about 25 other family members and friends to ask for money to support a trip I'm taking in March.

I have decided to join a mission trip to assist the people of the Dominican Republic. The Dominican Republic is a Spanish-speaking country of about six million people. It shares the mountainous island of Hispanola with Haiti and together they comprise the poorest area in the Western hemisphere. Unemployment is 55% and infant mortality and illiteracy are so high that of every 100 children born, only 60 start school, only 40 make it to third grade, only 15 will finish high school and only 1 will go beyond high school.

Our mission group will be serving at the Rose of Sharon Orphanage, a home for approx. 60 children (mostly boys) in San Juan de la Maguana, a four hour bus ride from the capital in Santo Domingo.

I am often asked why I do this. More than ever, Carol and I realize just how blessed we are- with financial resources, a warm home, good health, terrific family and friends, and on and on. We believe God has provided all of this to us-as undeserving as we are-and that we are called in turn to give our blessings and talents to others in need.

My trip will cost \$1250 for transportation, hotel, meals & supplies for the team projects. Instead of paying for the trip ourselves, we are encouraged to ask others for financial support-to give others, like yourselves, the opportunity to be part of the mission project. Asking you for money certainly makes me a bit uncomfortable. But I know from experience that our mission team will find great strength in knowing that as many as two hundred supporters are, in a way, along on the mission. And besides, if you ever wanted to give to an overseas charity but hesitated because you didn't know if the money would be used wisely, here's a pretty good charitable investment. I'll see to it!!

Please make checks payable to Calvary Baptist Church, and send them to me at:

We will leave on our trip on \_\_\_\_\_, but in order to cover our expenses we need to turn monies in by \_\_\_\_\_, so please send donations to me to arrive by that time.

Please don't feel compelled because I've asked. I know as well as anyone that there are hundreds of requests each year and that this particular project may not be high on the priority list. Either way, I ask for your prayers and best wishes.

Thank you for your consideration.

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Dear

As you know, I write fund raising letters for a living, but none are as challenging as this one. This is quite different since today I'm writing to you and 25 other family members and friends to ask for money to support a trip I'll soon be taking.

*Say what?*

That's right, Leslie and I would like to experience Paris in the spring time. And knowing that you want only the best for us, we're asking you to help finance our dream come true. Checks may be made out to "Saftig" and mailed to:

Second Honeymoon, Box 898, State College, PA 16801.

No way to Paris? Well, how about the Dominican Republic?

I have decided to join 14 Christian colleagues on a two week mid-March mission trip to assist the people of the Dominican Republic. Our group will be working at the Rose of Sharon Orphanage, a home to about 60 children (mostly boys).

Apparently this will not be an easy trip. Living conditions are simple, local water is potentially life-threatening to Americans, and the poverty makes a lasting impression. Cement is still mixed by hand, the heat can be unbearable, and malaria pills are a must.

Want to come along?

I am asked why I've decided to do this. More than ever, Leslie and I realize just how blessed we are - with financial resources, a warm home, good health, terrific families and friends, and on and on. We believe God has provided all of this to us - as undeserving as we are - and that we're called, in turn, to give our blessings and talents to others in need. Okay, so swinging a hammer may not be a talent of mine (hardware stores frighten me). But I hope that whatever I can provide - a freshly painted wall, a smile to a little kid - can help brighten what appears to be a pretty dark corner of the world.

My trip will cost \$1,250. This includes transportation, room and board, supplies, and construction materials. Instead of paying for the mission trip ourselves, we are encouraged to ask others for financial support - to give others, like yourselves, the opportunity to be part of the mission project. Asking you for money certainly makes me a bit uncomfortable. But I am guessing that our mission team will find great strength in knowing that as many as two hundred trip supporters are, in a way, along on the mission. And besides, if you've ever wanted to give to an overseas charity but hesitated because you didn't know if the money would be used wisely, here's a pretty good charitable investment. I'll see to it.

Please make checks payable to Calvary Baptist Church, and send them to me at: We will leave on our trip on , but in order to cover our expenses we need to turn monies in by , so please send donations to me to arrive by that time.

Please don't feel compelled because I've asked. I know as well as anyone that there are hundreds of requests each year and that this particular project may not be high on the priority list. Either way, I ask for your prayers and best wishes. I will keep you informed of this adventure since I plan to keep a journal.

The enclosed fact sheet gives you more details on the project. I think you'll find it quite interesting.

Thanks for your consideration.

