
Covenant for Mission Participants (Continued)

BECAUSE OF THIS I HAVE AGREED TO:

1. Represent Jesus Christ, my church youth group and ThereforeGo Ministries while on this mission trip and conduct myself appropriately at all times.
2. Cheerfully participate in all assignments and activities and abide by the decisions and schedules set by the ThereforeGo SERVE Host Team.
3. Recognize the value of others' life stories and reflections and take the opportunity to listen and learn from other students, leaders, and the people of this community as we work together.
4. Show respect for authority and refrain from abusive or offensive language, manipulative behaviors and violations of site policies. Failure to comply with behavioral expectations may result in my being sent home at my expense. I understand that any use or possession of alcohol, firearms, weapons or drugs (not prescribed by a physician) will automatically result in my being sent home at my expense.

Responsibilities & Expectations of Leaders

Please review the Leader Expectations and Resources section and the Leader Prep Videos section of the Resource Box on the ThereforeGo Ministries website. You can find these under the SERVE drop down by clicking "SERVE Resources." Also, be sure to thoroughly review your *Spiritual Life Guide: Leader Edition* as this will have valuable and important information for you to know.

What to Pack

Bring modest clothes and work clothing you don't mind getting dirty. Short shorts, sports bras worn without a shirt overtop, spaghetti straps, bare midriffs or shirts that promote anti-Christian messages (alcohol, drugs, etc.) are not acceptable at any time. Bathing suits must be modest. Bring towels, personal items and your Bible. **Enclosed footwear (i.e. tennis shoes) and unaltered t-shirts (i.e. no sleeves cut off) are required on the worksites.** You will receive further guidelines in the Welcome Letter from your Site.

What NOT to Pack

Do not bring weapons, firearms, alcohol, drugs, etc. If you have prescription medication, please make sure the host team is aware of it by noting it in your online registration.

CONCERNS AND COLLABORATION:

If you have a concern or complaint while on SERVE, please take it directly to the Host Team Coordinator. Please do not discuss your concern with others—either adults or teens. Please be solutions-oriented and collaborate.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

If you have any questions or comments regarding your upcoming mission experience, please feel free to contact ThereforeGo Ministries at 616.241.5616 or SERVE@ThereforeGo.com.

Please review the ThereforeGo Ministries website for insurance information, background check policy, and information about crossing the border. It is your responsibility to have the correct documentation if you are crossing the border.



SERVE

ADULT LEADER HANDBOOK



Welcome and Thank You!

Thank you for your participation in SERVE. You are playing a significant role in the lives of students, and your role is also vital in helping the Host Team. Please read this handbook information carefully. One of the greatest blessings at a SERVE experience is when the adult leaders are all on the same page and work together with the Host Team. You will need to abide by the decisions and schedules set by the ThereforeGo SERVE Host Team.

These are the general rules that apply to all sites. These rules are outlined here and are expanded on further in the *Spiritual Life Guide: Leader Edition* you will be receiving. Each site will also be providing additional guidelines, both in their Welcome Letter and when you arrive at their Site.



Mission Standards

PUNCTUALITY:

Please arrive and depart at the times stated in your confirmation letter as activities are planned from the time you arrive to the time you leave. If you have questions about this, please contact the site Host Team Coordinator.

VISITORS:

Visits from family and friends while onsite are discouraged since they disrupt the continuity of the experience.

USE OF ELECTRONICS:

The use of electronics is discouraged since they can distract from what's important for the week (i.e. working and growing in Christ together). Some SERVE Sites allow you to use some electronics during free time. Others ask that you turn off or even turn in your electronics for the week. Typically, if sites have students turn off or turn in their cellphones, they allow adult leaders to keep their cellphones. Be sure you see the Welcome Letter and understand their rules before you go.

ThereforeGo Ministries is not responsible for personal items that are lost, stolen or damaged. Ask the Host Team Coordinator for a secure place to store valuables.

FREE TIME:

Free time, while limited, is scheduled into the daily experience. There will also be a half or whole-day away planned.

COMPARISON:

Please do not compare one mission experience to another. All projects are different in locations, worksites, ministries, structures, speakers, and participants. Come prepared for a new experience.

LODGING AND MEALS:

At a SERVE Site you will typically be housed and eat in a local church or school. Unless told otherwise by the Host Team, bring a sleeping bag and a single foam/air mattress.

Remember, you are a guest. Do not assume open access to the entire facility. You will be expected to keep your area neat and clean and be considerate of others.

Adults will share living quarters with students of the same gender. It is your responsibility to help get the teens into the sleeping quarters with lights out by 11:00 PM each night. The days are full of work and activities, and it is important that everyone gets proper rest.

NON-SMOKING SITES:

Smoking/vaping is prohibited. This means there will be no smoking/vaping at the worksites, at the church/school where you are staying, in the car/van while traveling to/from worksites or on the day away. This applies to both students and adults.

DISCIPLINE:

Students or adults demonstrating an uncooperative attitude or violating rules may be removed from SERVE and sent home at their own expense.

Covenant for Mission Participants

As a participant in this experience I realize that this is a privilege and a responsibility. While SERVE is an enjoyable experience for those who participate, it is also a Christian service ministry where work and team cooperation are needed.