



# Georgetown Christian Reformed Church

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## INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER INFORMED CONSENT & LIABILITY WAIVER

I hereby release, waive, and discharge Georgetown Christian Reformed Church ("GCRC"), its board, officers, independent contractors, affiliates, employees, representatives, successors, assigns, and partner organizations from any and all liabilities, claims, demands, actions, and causes of action whatsoever, directly arising out of or related to any loss, damage, injury, or death that may be sustained by me, arise from, or are connected in any way to my and/or my child's/dependent's participation in a GCRC international volunteer program (including but not limited to partner organizations and their programs such as EduDeo's Co-Impact international volunteer program) to:

Short-term Mission Trip destination: \_\_\_\_\_

Departure Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Return Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**1. Informed consent of risks associated with international travel:** International travel and volunteer activities associated with international travel (including but not limited to volunteer construction opportunities) pose certain medical, climate, and/or personal safety risks. Air carriers, hotels, ground transportation, and other locations necessary for travel may also be settings where I and/or my child/dependent are exposed to certain risks. Risks could include but are not limited to increased risk of food and water borne illness or other illness, injury, death, limited access to adequate medical attention or facilities, natural disasters, increased exposure to criminal activity (including but not limited to kidnapping, theft, and harm), political demonstrations, reduced compliance with traffic laws, or substandard safety expectations at locations where construction is occurring.

- a. I acknowledge that GCRC cannot guarantee that I and/or my child/dependent will not face certain risks that are beyond the control of GCRC when volunteering in an international country.
- b. I acknowledge that GCRC cannot guarantee that I and/or my child/dependent will not become ill or exposed to a contagious illness while participating in an international volunteer opportunity.
- c. I acknowledge that GCRC cannot guarantee that I and/or my child/dependent may not be exposed to injury beyond GCRC's control while participating in an international volunteer opportunity.
- d. I acknowledge that I and/or my child/ dependent have met with a family physician to review if my/ their medical history and/or pre-existing conditions will prevent me/ them from travelling internationally, and I acknowledge that if I and/or my child/ dependent choose to travel against the advice of a family physician, I assume full and complete responsibility for the risks associated with such travel. Furthermore, I acknowledge it is my sole responsibility to discuss recommended and/or mandatory immunizations related to travelling to a certain country with a family physician and decide whether I and/or my child/dependent will receive them. I understand that GCRC will not provide instruction to me and/or my child/dependent on required

and/or recommended immunizations, or provide medical advice before, during, or after travel.

- e. I acknowledge that I have read the Government of Canada's Travel Advice and Advisories by destination for the specific country/ countries I will be travelling to, and understand the detailed advisories and risks as identified by the Government of Canada. The Government of Canada's Travel Advice and Advisories by destination can be found at <https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories>

**2. Local governments:** I acknowledge that local governments and/or industries related to international travel may enforce their own requirements for travel and that by not following these requirements I and/ or my child/dependent may be denied entry to a certain country. I agree that I and/or my child/ dependent will abide by the requirements of these bodies, which may include but are not limited to obtaining visas, receiving immunizations, performing testing to confirm certain illnesses, or being required to isolate due to exposure to or confirmation of an illness.

**3. Financial liability & cancellation:** I acknowledge that by Canadian charitable law, GCRC is unable to refund donations for any reason (this includes any and all donations made to fund the project work team). Based on the law, a donation is a gift that transfers ownership from the donor to the charity. Once the transfer is made, a charity is required by law to use the gift in carrying out its charitable purposes. GCRC accepts funds designated to particular projects on the understanding that if the project is fully funded, or the project cannot be carried out for whatever reason, or for any other reason determined by GCRC, that GCRC maintains the authority and right to re-allocate those funds to its other charitable projects and activities of a similar nature.

Furthermore, I acknowledge that costs incurred to me and/or my child/dependent as a result of illness, exposure to illness, and/or injury in country are my responsibility. This includes costs associated with having to travel home early as a result of the illness/injury, and/or costs associated with having to remain in country for longer than anticipated, such as costs associated with additional lodging, food, transportation, and other reasonable expenses.

Additionally, I acknowledge that illness, exposure to illness, and/or injury experienced prior to travelling may prevent me and/or my child/dependent from participating in an international volunteer program. I acknowledge that other concerns or situations may arise where I and/or my child/dependent can no longer travel as expected. As GCRC cannot refund donations made, I acknowledge that GCRC maintains the authority and right to re-allocate those funds to its other charitable projects and activities of a similar nature.

Finally, I acknowledge that the Government of Canada advises on the risk associated with travel to international countries (<https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/advisories>). If the Government of Canada advises against non-essential travel and/or all travel to a specific country, GCRC will decide to postpone/cancel a volunteer team's project. If circumstances require this, GCRC will consider the feasibility of a new project for the volunteer team, and/or will carefully consider how the raised funds will be used to advance ministry goals more generally.

**YOUTH TEAM MEMBER (17 YEARS OF AGE AND YOUNGER) AND PARENT/GUARDIAN**

**YOUTH TEAM MEMBER**

I acknowledge GCRC's Informed Consent & Liability Waiver. I recognize the potential risks associated with international travel and the responsibility I have to abide by requirements outlined by local governments. I acknowledge GCRC's Financial Liability & Cancellation policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*NAME OF YOUTH TEAM MEMBER*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*DATE*

\_\_\_\_\_  
***SIGNATURE OF YOUTH TEAM MEMBER***

**PARENT/GUARDIAN**

I acknowledge GCRC's Informed Consent & Liability Waiver. I recognize the potential risks associated with my child/dependent's international travel and the responsibility I and my child/dependent have to abide by requirements outlined by local governments. I acknowledge GCRC's Financial Liability & Cancellation policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*NAME OF PARENT/GUARDIAN*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*DATE*

\_\_\_\_\_  
***SIGNATURE OF PARENT/ GUARDIAN***

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**ADULT TEAM MEMBER (18 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER)**

I acknowledge GCRC's Informed Consent & Liability Waiver. I recognize the potential risks associated with international travel and the responsibility I have to abide by requirements outlined by local governments. I acknowledge GCRC's Financial Liability & Cancellation policy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*NAME OF ADULT TEAM MEMBER*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*DATE*

\_\_\_\_\_  
***SIGNATURE OF ADULT TEAM MEMBER***