



Shining Christ's light of HOPE in a broken and hurting world.

# Volunteer Mission Trip Information Packet

Hope Ministries 401 S. Pearl St. Elk Point, SD 57025 Phone: 712-204-6148 Email: <u>stro@iw.net</u> Hope Ministries is a nonprofit Christian family that cares for orphans, provides medical care and supplies, provides educational and spiritual support, and brings faith, hope and love to the people in Tanzania, Africa. If you have a heart for missions and helping people, Hope Ministries welcomes you to share in our mission and ministries.

This missionary trip will provide you with a life-changing, spirit-filled experience and will be led by a team leader who has been to Tanzania several times and values and loves the people of Tanzania.

Our Mission: Shining Christ's light of HOPE in a broken and hurting world

Core Values: (1 Corinthians 13:13)

- Faith in God.
- Hope for the future.
- Love as we have been loved.

<u>Purpose:</u> Provide opportunities that strengthen and enliven the Faith of those who are served as well as those who serve through a personal, hands-on mission experience that reflects Christ's Love and Hope to all.

#### <u>Goals:</u>

## HEALTHCARE

Improve the health of individuals that reside in the underserved communities.

## ORPHANS

Enhance living conditions for orphans.

## PROMOTE FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE

Encourage people to use their unique gifts to minister to others with Faith, Hope and Love.

## EDUCATION

Provide education that will enrich and enhance those we serve.

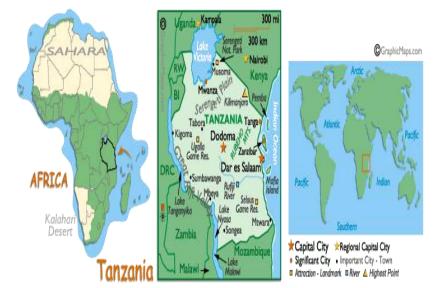


## ABOUT TANZANIA

Tanzania, Africa, is a land of amazing wildlife and incredible beauty. It is located in eastern Africa, bordering the Indian Ocean and is between Kenya and Mozambigue. The capital is Dodoma, and the main port city is Dar es Salaam. The population is 48 million, and the land mass is 2x the size of California. There are the endless plains of the Serengeti, beaches of the coastal islands and lush mountain slopes. It is a thirdworld country because of the vast amount of poverty due to lack of food, water, shelter, healthcare, and primary education. Many live below the poverty level.

The climate is tropical, and more than 80% of the country is rural. Their economy is based on agriculture and employs 75% of the workforce. The problem is the topography, and the climate limits cultivated crops to only 4% of the land area. They

have suffered periods of drought and famine in which many people have died. They can also have the heavy rains that wash out their crops, homes, and supplies. The average daily income in Tanzania is around a dollar a day. leaving everything from healthcare, education, safe drinking water, and electricity as luxuries that are simply not obtainable. The need is great!





Tanzania has been hit hard by HIV/AIDS, a disease that is crippling their country. The

death rate is growing and leaving millions of children without families. The average age expectancy is 53 years of age, and the leading causes of death in children are malaria, pneumonia, diarrhea, and HIV. These are diseases that, if there is an early diagnosis and treatment, they survive. But the reality is they have limited access to health care and due to poverty, can neither afford transportation to get healthcare nor the tests and treatments.

The people are very diverse, having over 120 ethnic groups. These include the

famous Bushman, Maasai, and Chagga and makes for an amazing array of customs, cultures, and languages.

Less than half of the children are able to attend school. Because of the high teacher-to-student ratios, the students do not get the necessary education they need to succeed in their National Exams. Many do not attend school because it is too far to travel, there is a lack of transportation, and they do not have the money to pay for school uniforms and supplies. There is a cost to attend secondary school, and they can barely afford food, so education is a luxury they are unable to afford. Many of these children work within the family unit to



help with daily chores or take on jobs to help feed and provide shelter for the family. But education needs to be supported and promoted to break the cycle of poverty.

Even with all the struggles that Tanzanians face, they are filled with amazing faith, generosity, and joy. They sing with so much love and joy, yet many do not know when or where they will receive their next meal. For many, God is their only light of hope, and He provides them with the strength to survive. Amid all these struggles, you will be greeted with loving and open arms and faces full of smiles. They are full of gratitude and love for anything and everything that you will be able to provide them. Maybe it will only be a hug, sharing a prayer, cuddling a child, but YOU will make a difference in these people's lives. Please join us and lend a hand to help these poor people. Together we can put smiles on their faces!





## APPLICATION PROCESS



Thank you for showing an interest in attending a mission trip to Tanzania, Africa, with Hope Ministries. Below are the steps to take if you are seriously considering going on a trip. Please feel free to contact Gayle at any time if you have any questions or concerns.

**Gayle Stroschein** 401 S. Pearl St. Elk Point, SD 57025 stro@iw.net 712-204-6148

- Step 1: Review the trip packet and travel dates and begin praying about this trip. Contact Gayle Stroschein to discuss the trip and get questions answered.
- Step 2: Complete the Mission Trip Application Form and Acknowledgement **Page**, and email or mail to the above address. Submit your application form as soon as possible because this reserves a place for you on the team. Make sure that you have an up-to-date passport (cannot expire within 6 months of travel). If not, you should start that process because it can take up to 6 weeks to complete.
- Step 3: Once your application has been received, the board will review it. Then you will be contacted regarding your acceptance to the team. You can start fundraising for your trip through a support letter. If you are interested, we can provide you with a letter template and process that you can give to family, friends, and employers to help with funding your trip. All donations are a tax-deductible gift to the extent allowed by Please notify us if you are interested in this. law.
- Step 4: Upon notification of acceptance, you will receive an email when the following documents are due:
  - 1. Liability Waiver & Release Form
  - 2. Emergency Contact Information Form
  - 3. Medical Information Form
- 8. Travel Insurance

7. Trip Payment Policy

- 9. Copy of current license 4. \$2,500 deposit (Make checks payable to Hope Ministries)
- 5. Passport (copy of photo page)
- 6. Copy of current licenses for nurses and physicians
- Step 5: We suggest that you do some reading about Tanzania and their culture, and suggest the book "A Daily Devotional Before You Go" by Jack Hempfling. It is a book about 40 days of preparation for a short-term mission trip. You will be contacted when there will be trip meetings and what balance is due for your trip.

# **Mission Trip Application**

<b>GENERAL INFORMATION:</b>			
Date of Trip:			
Full Name (as it appears on your passpo	ort):		
Address:			
City:	State:		Zip:
Cell Number:	Email: _		
Birth Date:	Age:	Sex:	
Passport #:	Pass	port Expiration Da	ate:
Marital Status:	Shii	t Size:	
Occupation:			
If a student, what year are you and wh	at is your majo	or:	
HEALTH:			
Please list any current medical problem	ns you have: _		
What prescription medications are you	currently on:		
Explain any limiting physical conditions could affect your performance:	s (back probler	ns, poor eyesight,	etc.) that

#### **MISSION TRIP INFORMATION:**

Have you traveled abroad or participated in any other mission trips? If yes, describe when, where, and what you did:

Please explain why you feel called to go on this mission trip:

What are your expectations for this mission trip?

What skills and abilities do you hope to use on this mission trip?



Date Received: \_\_\_\_\_

Board Approval: \_\_\_\_\_

## Acknowledgment Page

A mission trip can be a very rewarding experience. It is necessary for a volunteer going to a third-world country to prepare for this experience. It is vital that all volunteers read and acknowledge that they understand the risks, requirements, and expectations of travel to Tanzania.

The undersigned hereby acknowledges receiving this Mission packet and acknowledges having read and understood all requirements and expectations listed herein.

Name:
Signature:
Date Signed:
If a Minor: Parent/Guardian Signature:
Signature of Hope Ministries President:
Date Signed:

Date Approved by Board of Directors: \_\_\_\_\_



## HOPE MINISTRIES TRIP PAYMENT POLICY

### Trip payment requirements:

- Trip costs vary, but usually are in the \$4,500 \$5,000 range.
- An initial deposit of \$2500 is required to register for a trip. This deposit is non-refundable once the airline tickets are purchased.
- The balance of the trip payment will be due and payable four weeks prior to departure.
- No refund will be issued in the instance that an over-payment occurs due to participant fund-raising efforts.
- All over-payments will be applied only to HOPE projects/people in Tanzania. Monies will not be used for the administration of HOPE Ministries and cannot be transferred to other non-profits.
- Trip cancelation insurance is optional and available to all tripsters.

I have received a copy of the "HOPE Ministries Trip Payment Policy" and I am aware of the terms and conditions.

Signed:	 	 	 _
Printed Name:	 	 	 _
Date:			

## TRAVEL INFORMATION

#### WEATHER

Tanzania has a tropical climate. In the highlands, temperatures range between 50 - 68 °F during cold and hot seasons respectively. The rest of the country has temperatures rarely falling lower than 68 °F. The hottest period extends between November and February (77-87.8 °F), while the coldest period occurs between May and August (59-68 °F). You will want to bring a light jacket for the evenings.

Tanzania has 2 major rainy seasons October - December and March - May.

It also is about 4 degrees south of the equator, so will be exposed to more UV rays, and you can burn easily. Make sure to bring sunscreen, lip protection and a hat.



#### **ACCOMMODATIONS**

Lodging will vary in the areas that you will be working, but it will be safe. During your team meeting, you will be advised of the type of lodging you will have for your trip and any needed items. Typically, you will stay in a lodge or guest house, which is like a bed and breakfast. Sometimes you may be without electricity, but you will usually have running water and showers. Be ready for the unexpected!

#### TRANSPORTATION

The roads are not all developed and can be quite challenging at times. Vehicles will be rented as needed, and the drivers will assist you as guides and interpreters. A safari company will be contracted for the group safari.

#### FOOD

Diseases from food and water are the leading cause of illness in travelers and usually result in vomiting and diarrhea. Make sure to bring diarrhea medicine with you. The team leader will make sure that you only drink bottled water and eat at places where the food is safe to eat. Use bottled water to brush your teeth. Follow these tips for safe eating and drinking:

- Wash your hands before eating. If soap and water are not available, use antiseptic hand gel.
- Drink only bottled water or carbonated drinks in cans or bottles. Avoid tap water, fountain drinks, and ice cubes.
- Do not eat food purchased from street vendors.
- Avoid dairy products unless you know they have been pasteurized.

Bring some snacks with you for the plane ride and may need some when we are working and can't get to a place to eat. Make sure the food items are individually wrapped or in some type of a container. Suggested snacks are: energy bars, peanuts and other nuts, trail mix, pretzels, wrapped candy, beef sticks or jerky, and other such snacks.

#### **LUGGAGE**

You will be allowed one checked luggage that can be a suitcase or hockey bag that can weigh no more than 50 # and be no larger than 62 linear inches (width + height + length). Your other check-in bag will be a mission supply bag that will be packed by Hope Ministries and brought to the airport for you. It will have a bag tag with your contact information, and you are responsible for that bag until returning home. You will be allowed to pack souvenirs in the empty supply bags for the way home. You may also have a carry-on bag that can be luggage or a back pack. It cannot exceed 45 linear inches. In addition, you may carry a purse, briefcase or small backpack. This luggage requirement varies with each airline, and you will be advised if they are different than stated.

#### MONEY

All of your trip costs will be paid for before departure, so the only money you will need is for shopping and additional food and snacks you may want to buy. It is best to bring cash. Traveler's checks are difficult to exchange, and credit cards are only accepted in some places. The currency utilized is Tanzanian shillings (TSH). It best to exchange your money when you arrive and you can exchange it back to US dollars prior to departure. You receive the best exchange



rate for larger bills like 50's and 100's and if they are dated 2000 or newer. Bring some small bills in case you want to buy something on your flights.

Make sure to keep your money in a safe place. We suggest that you bring a neck wallet that hangs around your neck in which you can keep your passport and money. A small backpack or cross body bag will work, too. Keep these secure on your body so someone does not come along and grab your bag. Make sure that you have your camera in a case and secure on your body. Purses, cameras and phones are items that are targeted and stolen.

#### LANGUAGE

Tanzania has many tribal languages, but Swahili is seen as the unifying country language. The children in primary school speak Swahili, and then they are taught English in Secondary school. If they attend university, they speak English. But most of the small children and adults that you will meet on the streets will not speak English. There will be a person along with each group that will be able to interpret for you. Most medical personnel will speak English.

#### PASSPORT

It is required that you have a passport that is valid for at least 6 months after your return date. It can take up to 6 weeks to apply for a passport. You should make a colored copy and leave it with your family. The team leader will carry copies of all necessary paperwork for each of the team members.

You can apply for a passport on-line and at the Post Office. You will need to bring a copy of your birth certificate and 2 passport photos. Make sure to sign your passport upon receiving it.

#### VISA APPLICATION

You will need to apply on-line for your visitor's visa or pay upon entering the airport



in Africa. The team leader will assist you with this process.

#### **TRIP COSTS**

The total cost of the trip can vary with each trip. The total cost is around \$4,500 - \$5,000. The total cost will include international and in-country airline tickets, emergency evacuation insurance, administrative fee, ground transportation and fuel, lodging, food, bottled water, volunteer visa, t-shirt, 3-day safari and miscellaneous expenses.

You will be asked to submit a \$2,500 deposit so that monies are available for the team leader to buy the airline tickets when the prices are the best. Once your flight is booked, the deposit is nonrefundable.

Please inform the team leader if you want to buy flight insurance. That will be optional and an additional cost. You will be given the balance due and due date for payment after the team leader has made reservations and calculated the total costs.

If you are interested in fundraising for your trip, contact the team leader, and you will be given instructions and a letter template that you can give to family, friends, employers, etc. All donations are a tax-deductible gift. All checks that are donated on your behalf should be made out to Hope Ministries with your name written on the check.

#### **CLOTHING**

It is important that our dress is respectful of the Tanzanian culture, so when we are out in public, women should make sure their knees and shoulders are covered. Please wear modest clothing and no low-cut blouses or tops. We will be wearing skirts or dresses that cover our knees for events such as church or meetings. We suggest that you wear lightweight clothing that is easily washed and dried. There may be laundry services available, depending on where we will be staying. Your team leader will advise you at your team meeting. Here are some suggestions on what to pack for clothing.



#### Medical Personnel:

- Scrubs or shirt and slacks with a lab coat
- Tennis shoes

#### Women's Clothing:

- One dress or long skirt and blouse that covers knees & shoulders for church
- Capris or slacks
- Knit tops or blouses
- Shorts (long) and tops for safari
- Conservative lounge wear for evenings at lodge
- Comfortable shoes for walking (tennis shoes) and sandals or flip flops
- Conservative sleepwear
- Jacket or sweatshirt
- Modest make-up
- Do not bring jewelry that is expensive or has sentimental value
- Old clothes and gloves for projects

#### Men's Clothing:

- One dress shirt and slacks for church and meetings
- Shorts and shirts for safari
- Lightweight slacks and walking shorts
- Shirts or t-shirts

- Tennis shoes and sandals or flip flops
- Conservative sleepwear
- Jacket or sweatshirt
- Old clothes and gloves for projects

#### **GENERAL ITEMS TO PACK**

- Cash
- Neck wallet to carry passport and cash
- Passport (bring an extra colored copy)
- Your E-ticket for airlines
- Immunization card
- Any e-mail addresses or phone numbers you may need
- Cell phones-- Check with your wireless provider on usage and costs.
- Laptops-we suggest you not bring
- Glasses and contacts
- Sunglasses
- Sunscreen and lip protectant
- Hat for safari
- Camera & memory cards
- Flashlight and batteries
- Journal and pens
- Electrical convertor and plug adaptors for Africa
- Bug spray
- Devotional book
- Cards, reading material
- Gum
- Snacks (trail mix, granola bars, crystal light, peanuts, protein bars, etc.)
- Wrapped candy
- Bandaids
- The team leader will provide ideas for gifts and things that you can bring for the children at the orphanages.

Medications: (These should all be packed in your carry-on)

- All prescription meds
- Anti-malarial meds
- Dramamine, if needed
- Prescription antibiotic (Cipro)
- Anti-diarrheal
- Topical antibiotic and Benadryl



- Allergy medications, if needed (Benadryl)
- Neosporin and hydrocortisone cream
- Meds for constipation
- Sleep meds
- Pepto Bismol tablets

#### **Hygiene Products:**

- Antibacterial hand gel
- Wet wipes
- Toilet paper or kleenex
- Soap
- Hair products
- Toothbrush & toothpaste (bring 2)
- Any personal items you will need

#### **EXPECTED BEHAVIORS:**

- 1. Work hard and have fun!!!!
- 2. Remember, we are guests, and we are there to serve. Be respectful of the people that we serve.
- 3. Be obedient to all who are in authority, like team leaders and directors.
- 4. Do not allow disagreement or offense to become a source of strife.
- 5. Be respectful to the local culture and customs at all times. Strive to learn how to conduct yourself in a culturally sensitive and inoffensive manner. Always strive to walk in love and be considerate toward all, including your team members.
- 6. If you have a problem or concern, bring it to the team leader.
- 7. Be respectful and thankful for the food that you are served.
- 8. Walk in faith at all times.
- 9. Participate in all the team activities. See yourself as an integral part of the ministry team and show respect to all the members of the team.
- 10. Do God's work in Tanzania, and leave personal agendas at home. God is our guiding light.
- 11. Do not be distracted or become a distraction by getting involved in any level of romantic relationship with any member of the team or anyone else. This includes flirting or consistently spending time with an individual. If this should occur, the team leader will have a discussion with the individuals involved.
- 12. Obey all local laws and ordinances pertaining to use of drugs and alcohol by minors.
- 13. You will be given an itinerary for your trip but be prepared for changes. Tanzanian culture is not rigid with time and schedules, so remain flexible.



Immunizations are not required to be admitted into Tanzania; however, we suggest the following immunizations that are recommended by CDC (<u>www.cdc.gov/travel</u>). These immunizations are typically available at your County Health Department or any Travel Clinic. You should contact your family physician for further recommendations on which vaccines to receive. The public health department will issue a yellow immunization record booklet. We recommend you keep this with your passport. To have the most benefit, we suggest you get these 4-6 weeks before your trip to allow time for your vaccines to take effect.

#### **DIPTHERIA/TETANUS (TD)**

Tetanus, also known as lockjaw, is a disease caused by bacterial infection that is present in soil and in the intestines of humans and animals. The infection can enter the body via cuts, after which the bacteria produces a toxin affecting the motor nerve cells in the spinal cord. You need to have an updated tetanus shot within the last 10 years. You can also obtain a DTaP (diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis).

#### **HEPATITIS A**

This is also called infectious hepatitis and is basically an inflammation of the liver caused by a virus that is picked up from contaminated food and water. The vaccine is a series of 2 injections. The first injection needs to be administered at least 2 weeks prior to departure. The second should be scheduled 6-12 months after the first; then you have lifetime immunity. There is also a combination Hepatitis A & B injection.

#### HEPATITIS B

Exposure might occur through exposure to blood or body fluids. This is a series of 3 injections, which should be started 6 months prior to departure. This provides lifetime immunity.

#### **TYPHOID**

Typhoid or enteric fever is caused by an infection that is passed from infected water, milk, food, or by infected people preparing food and drink. You can be immunized orally or by injection. The injection (**Typhim Vi**) needs to be administered at least 2 weeks prior to departure date. This is good for 2 years. The oral (you need a prescription from your physician) is called **vivotif**. You will need 4 caps, taking one every other day. Complete one week prior to departure. This is a live virus, so it needs to be completed prior to starting anti-malaria medication. This is good for 5 years.

#### YELLOW FEVER

This is an infection caused by a virus carried by monkeys, transmitted through mosquitoes that carry the virus from the monkey to humans. The vaccine should be given 10 days before travel and is good for 10 years.

#### <u>POLIO</u>

This is an infection caused by a virus that affects the motor neuron cells in the spinal cord. It is recommended that anyone over the age of 18 years receive a booster. This provides lifetime immunity.

#### MENINGOCOCCAL

This is a bacterial infection that causes meningitis. It is an injection and provides immunity for 3 years. There is also an injection called *Menactra*, which can be given between 11 - 55 years of age, and the immunity is good for 5-9 years.

#### MALARIA

Malaria is transmitted by the bite of an infected female mosquito. You will need to discuss with your doctor the ways to prevent malaria, which include the following:

- Use insect repellent and wear long pants and sleeves to prevent mosquito bites, especially in the evenings.
- Sleep in air-conditioned or well-screened rooms and use bed nets.



- Take a prescription antimalarial drug. Here are some recommendations by CDC:
  - 1. *Atovaquone-proguanil (Malarone):* Take an oral pill one time per day in the AM with food. Start taking 1-2 days before you leave. Take daily while you are there and continue for 7 days after you return home.
  - 2. *Mefloquine (Lariam):* Start one week before you leave and take with food and water. Then take once a week on the same day of the week for up to 4 weeks then every other week, while you are in Tanzania, and then 2 doses after you arrive home.
  - 3. **Doxycycline**: This is a tetracycline. You need to take daily with food and water. Be careful because it causes photosensitivity.
  - 4. *Cloroquine* is **NOT** an effective antimalarial drug in Tanzania.

# Medical Information Form

Please provide us with the following medical information in case of an emergency
Name:
Existing Medical Conditions and Required Treatments:
Allergies:
Any Current Medications (Name, dose, time and any special instructions):
Insurance Information (Check if covers out-of-country expenses):
Any additional information that would be helpful in a medical emergency:

## **Emergency Contact Information Form**

Please provide us with the name and contact information of the person we should contact in case of an emergency.

Name:
Relationship:
Daytime Phone Number:
Evening Phone Number:
Home Address:
Email Address:
Additional Information:

## Liability Waiver & Release Form

In consideration of being allowed to participate in the trip sponsored by Hope Ministries, I hereby release Hope Ministries from all claims, and liabilities of any kind, whether known or unknown, which arise from or are connected in any way with my participation in the trip.

I recognize that the conditions in some of the places to which I will travel are not of the same standard as the conditions to which I am accustomed. I realize that there are certain health risks, as well as other risks, which could affect me personally or to my property, and I enter into participation in this trip and agree to the participation with knowledge of those risks. If for any reason I am unable to complete the planned stay on the mission trip, I will assume full responsibility for any additional expenses incurred for my return home.

In the event of an emergency, I hereby authorize a leader of this trip, as an agent for me to consent to any assessments, diagnostic tests, and treatments advised and supervised by a physician. I expect my family to be contacted as soon as possible.

I certify that I am of lawful age and competent to sign the Release and have done so voluntarily.

I understand that this document constitutes a full and complete waiver of all possible claims for any act of omission, including claims for negligence regarding injury or damages arising out of my participation in the trip.

I understand that this release applies to, covers, and includes unknown, unforeseen, unanticipated, and unsuspected damages, losses, or liabilities and the consequences thereof, which result from the matters hereinbefore inferred to, as well as those now disclosed and known to exist.

Name:	
Signature:	
Date:	
If a minor:	Parent/Guardian Signature:

## MISSIONARY TRAVEL INSURANCE

Volunteer Missionary Travel Insurance will be purchased for each participant through Gallagher Charitable International Insurance Services. The benefits can be found on the web page <u>www.gallaghercharitable.com</u>. To complete the purchase of this insurance, we will need the following information.

Your Name:
Your Beneficiary:
Relationship:
Sign:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Here is a list of possible contacts while you are in Tanzania. Remember that Tanzania is 8 hours ahead of Central Standard Time. It is suggested that if your family wants to talk to you and you are not available, the person answering the phone will give them a time to call back. If the person does not answer, tell them to try to call back.

If the team member wants to purchase some phone minutes, a phone will be available for calling home. It is advisable to call Gayle's phone first, then Julius's phone number. There will be opportunities for email as well.

Leave these phone numbers with your family, and I advise that you carry them with you during the trip.

Gayle Stroschein, MS, RN - President and Founder TZ Phone #: 011-255-785-260-525 US Cell #: 712-204-6148 <u>stro@iw.net</u>

Julius Solomon (Assistant in Tanzania) 011-255-757-900-910 or 011-255-785-065-255

