

## Real Hope For Haiti Volunteer Application

We are grateful for your interest in serving the Haitian people in our community. Our RHFH staff needs the support and encouragement that volunteers can provide. However, we do have a limited space with which to host visitors so we would like to ensure your involvement with the work here would be a good fit. We are a faith-based organization and our priority is to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with those we serve. The primary work we do is our clinic and rescue center, although there is a place for those without medical training.

Haiti is a unique place that provides unique challenges for visitors. In some regards, conditions will be better than you expect, and in other regards, it will be worse than you expect. However, we are convinced your time in Haiti, sharing life with the Haitian people will have the capacity of impacting your life in a powerful way.

In order to help cover the costs for travel expenses within the country, food, and lodging, RHFH asks each visitor to pay \$50 per night. If you seek to spend longer than 1 month with us, please indicate that and further information will be required. You will have clean water, indoor toilets/showers available to you, although the showers do not have hot water. There is typically electricity provided by generator/ inverter 24 hours per day. You will need to purchase your plane ticket, have a valid Passport, and update your vaccines (especially tetanus). You can also check the CDC website to see what other precautionary measures they are recommending for Haiti. Please scan and send the first three pages to [volunteer@realhopeforhaiti.org](mailto:volunteer@realhopeforhaiti.org). We have included additional information starting on page 4.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation or year in school: \_\_\_\_\_

What dates would you like to visit RHFH? \_\_\_\_\_

Team Leader? \_\_\_\_\_

Are you a committed follower of Jesus Christ? If so, where are you attending church? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Have you traveled outside your home country? Where? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why do you desire to come to Haiti? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

What skills or talents do you have that would contribute to RHFH's mission in Haiti? \_\_\_\_\_

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Do you have any food allergies, dietary needs, medical needs/conditions, or any other accommodations required for your visit? (Please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

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**Emergency Contact**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_



Are you willing to work as a team, representing Christ, Real Hope for Haiti, and your church/organization, setting aside your own agenda for the benefit of the team?

Yes                      No

Are you willing to submit to the authority of the missionaries at Real Hope for Haiti?

Yes                      No

Are you willing to learn to appreciate your host country and refrain from expressing criticism of the local people, their culture, and methods in completing tasks?

Yes                      No

Do you believe you can be flexible and patient in difficult circumstances or living conditions?

Yes                      No

I agree to submit to the leadership and authority of the mission trip leader and will adhere to the standards set by that authority for this mission trip.

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

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## Release of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement

I understand that Real Hope For Haiti is a non-profit corporation operating a medical clinic in Cazale, Haiti. I understand that the clinic examines and treats hundreds of patients per week, some with infectious diseases like HIV/AIDS. I also understand that Haiti is a developing country with difficulties and dangers that may not be common in my own country.

I acknowledge that I am providing volunteer service for Real Hope For Haiti on my own volition and I assume all risk and danger associated with or incidental to such service. Those risks include, but may not be limited to, risk of serious bodily injury and risk of injury to or loss of personal property in travel to and from the site of the volunteer service or during the volunteer service.

I understand that I have the right to refuse any assignment that I think is unsafe or puts me at risk. In such cases, I understand that I must notify the clinic staff of my refusal to accept such an assignment as soon as reasonably possible.

I hereby agree to release, discharge and covenant not sue and to hold Real Hope For Haiti, including, but not limited to, its corporate officers and directors, clinic staff, employees and agents, harmless from and against any and all costs, expenses, losses, damages, claims, demands, or causes of action for damage to personal property, personal injury or death which may relate to or arise out of my participation in the volunteer service, including transportation to and from such participation.

I understand that if I am involved in an accident in the course of rendering service or any activity or travel related to the service, my insurer, and not that of Real Hope For Haiti, will be responsible for providing coverage.

I agree that this Agreement is intended to be broad and inclusive and that if any portion of the Agreement is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall continue in full legal force and effect.

I certify that I have no medical condition that would cause participation in any activities at the clinic to increase the risk of hazard to my health. In addition, I authorize Real Hope For Haiti to provide or cause to be provided such medical treatment that may be necessary or appropriate if I am injured while at the clinic.

Any dispute between the parties requiring judicial determination or action shall be resolved by the Institute For Christian Conciliation, a Division of Peacemaker Ministries, and the parties hereby agree to abide by the rule and procedures of the Institute For Christian Conciliation and the parties further agree that any arbitration award made shall be final and binding upon the parties and may be entered as a judgment in the Hamilton County Superior Court of Indiana.

I HAVE READ AND VOLUNTARILY SIGNED THIS AGREEMENT, and further agree that no oral representations, statements, or inducements apart from this Agreement have been made by Real Hope For Haiti or any of its agents with regard to the subject matter of this Agreement.

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Date

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Participant Signature

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Participant Name (Please Print)

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Participant Phone Number

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Participant Address

## **THE COUNTRY OF HAITI**

Here are some helpful link you can look at and research about Haiti and its history.

[Facts, map and flag of Haiti](#)

[88 facts about Haiti](#)

[History of Haiti](#)

[Basic Haitian Voodoo](#)

[National Anthem](#)

[Haitian Currency](#)

[More history of Haiti](#)

## **MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES**

There are many types of work that you can do during your trip to Haiti. We want your experiences to be positive ones. We hope that you can enjoy your work, benefit the Haitians, get a heart for missions, and go home with a new outlook on your life.

\*Child Care Team - You can come and care for malnourished and ill children in the Rescue Center. Feeding, diaper changes, playing, physical therapy, and loving on the children are just a few of the things that you could do. Plan crafts and games and bring materials with you in your luggage when you come. Maybe you could plan the week with a theme - colors, music, Bible characters/stories, animals, and ocean. Use your imagination and work as a team to make it a memorable week for both the kids and adults.

\*Medical Team - You could come observe or work in the clinic. Nurses and doctors will be put to work caring for patients. Non-medical team members can assist, count and bag up pills, file charts, and help pass out clothes and toys to patients. Dental and eye care teams are especially needed.

\*Evangelism - You could prepare a devotion or lesson that you would present to a small group of about 50 when they wait to be seen in the clinic. Kreyol Bibles and other literature can be purchased or are free in country. You could prepare a Bible lesson for a small group that would meet daily when you are here on your trip.

\*Vacation Bible School - Kids all over the world love stories and crafts. You would have to plan the week out very well and carry all the supplies in your luggage. Remember to keep it simple.

\*Teaching - You could teach a small group from your knowledge or skill that you have - medical, hygiene, child development, safety and prevention, etc. You could encourage a group of teen girls in self-esteem and worth in Christ. The possibilities are endless. Be creative.

\*Construction - Heavy equipment operators are occasionally needed as we excavate and prepare the new land. There are other construction needs and various jobs (painting, electrical, plumbing) as we move forward with building projects.

## **HOW TO SCHEDULE A VISIT**

You should read through these guidelines and instructions to make sure that this trip is right for you. Fill out the first three pages and sign. Scan and email (as a PDF file) to [volunteer@realhopeforhaiti.org](mailto:volunteer@realhopeforhaiti.org) or mail it to RHFH, 15215 Endeavor Drive, Noblesville, IN 46060. Trips usually range from 1-2 weeks. First time visitors should plan to stay a week or less. If you have been here before and would like to stay over two weeks, a letter of request must be written and sent to the same email address above. The letter should explain your past experiences, current motivation and reasons for wanting to come longer, and possibly your future plans (college, further training, or more trips to Haiti). It is our hope that more details and explanations will help us in considering this possibility.

Once you are approved, you need to book your tickets. Airfare is usually cheaper on Tues, Wed, or Thurs, but not always. Check ticket prices to get the best dates for you and your team. Dates for your visit can be requested, but everyone should understand that they need to be flexible and the dates might need to be changed due to other previously scheduled activities at RHFH. It is recommended that you get trip insurance, as things can change rapidly here in Haiti. There is a \$10 entry fee when you arrive. It is best to have cash ready for this.

Plan to send \$50 per person per night for the length of your stay. These funds should be sent to RHFH, 15215 Endeavor Drive, Noblesville, IN 46060 at least two weeks prior to your trip. Make sure to include a note stating that it is for your "HAITI TRIP." These funds cover housing, food, water, electricity, and transportation to and from the airport. It does not cover translators, trips within the country, phone calls, souvenirs, immunizations, airfare, or passport fees.

## **A NOTE TO TEAM LEADERS**

If you plan to come with a group, you need to have a team leader. Some groups need someone to delegate and assign jobs to team members. You will need to assess each individual in your team to decide how to best unify and utilize them. Each person may have different levels of skills. Some may not be comfortable in front of crowds. Others may not be gifted to organize. Use the strengths of each and every person to make your team the best it can be. The more preparation you do, the better. Begin to plan, organize, delegate, pack, and pray as soon as your team forms.

Forming your team:

1. Find people committed to being a member of a work team to Haiti. Groups should have no more than 6 to 8 people. There are two guests rooms here, one for men, one for women. There are three bunkbeds in each room. Your group should be no more than 6 women and 6 men, or groups of women or men only. Explain the conditions, risks, culture and expectations to the team members. Answer the questions that you can. Make a list of those questions you can't answer and send them to us. We'll respond back to you and you can share them with your team. A team leader doesn't have to know everything. You just have to be willing to be an instrument in God's hand. Have each team member complete the Volunteer Application and Release of Liability and forward to RHFH.

2. Schedule dates of trip. As soon as you find people interested in taking a trip to Haiti, begin discussing possible dates for the trip. After you have been accepted and your travel plans have been finalized, send a copy of your itinerary to [volunteer@realhopeforhaiti.org](mailto:volunteer@realhopeforhaiti.org) Please confirm dates before purchasing your airline tickets.

3. Target ministry and set work goals. Each member must be in cooperation and unity in this area. Your group is not just coming to Haiti to take in the sights. Have your team read over the section “ministry opportunities” and discuss your purpose and goals as a group. When everyone is focused on the same objective, your group will be effective.

4. Schedule team meetings. You should start meeting several months in advance of your trip. Some groups have weekly meetings and others just meet when they all have the time. We encourage you to get together and plan together. Please help everyone to keep in mind they need to be flexible. Pray for each other and your upcoming trip. The team leader should facilitate these meetings, but everyone should participate for the team to function in unity. Keep in contact with the missionaries so that you are able to know what to expect each day. You need to plan knowing which days we work in clinic and if there is anything special going on during the time your group will be there. Plan the best you can but expect the unpredictability of life in Haiti. Remember that it is important for everyone to be flexible. If you are doing a conference, VBS or crusade, decide who will be speaking at each session and have an outlined prepared. If you would like lessons translated into Kreyol, please [use this link](#). Once the documents are translated you can send them to us through an email and we will have someone look them over for corrections. Please try and have this done 2 weeks before the trip. Remember to keep it simple and use examples that they can understand. Be culturally sensitive.

5. If you are bringing a medical team, your biggest area of preparation is packing. Please contact us to get a current needs list and meds that can be carried into country. Condense things as much as possible. Tape the lids of bottles of liquids such as shampoo, lotion, etc. and place in plastic Ziploc bags.

6. If you are bringing a construction team, please talk with the missionaries to see if there are any specific needed items at that time you will be there.

### **MEDICAL PREPARATIONS**

We encourage you to talk with your medical provider about any medical concerns while taking this trip 2-4 months before your planned trip. You may need this time to ensure that all vaccines can be given in their proper time. Haiti does not have required vaccines. RHFH recommends an updated tetanus. Please follow your doctor’s recommendations for preventative treatment.

Possible vaccines are tetanus, yellow fever, typhoid, rabies, cholera, polio, hepatitis A and B, measles, mumps, and rubella. Preventative medications for traveler’s diarrhea and malaria might be prescribed as well.

Make sure to arrange for appropriate health and accident insurance. If you have an existing medical condition or a history of drug allergies, speak to your doctor about special precautions you need to take. You should also discuss these issues with your team leaders and missionaries so that they are aware. Consider wearing a medical alert ID bracelet. Have a thorough dental checkup before departure. If you are leaving children behind, make sure to have a signed emergency treatment for on file for them with your hospital or school.

### **PACKING**

You need to check with the airlines that you are traveling on to see how many items of luggage you can carry in and the poundage allowed. We suggest that you pack your personal items in your carry-on as much as possible. Try to leave as much room as possible in your check in luggage to pack ministry supplies and items needed for the missionaries. Your team leader should guide you in organizing the packing.

Leave expensive jewelry at home. Do not bring any valuable with you. Consider that sometimes things can get lost or stolen.

When packing please secure all liquids in ziplock bags and tape the tops closed. It is good to also put any powdered material in ziplock bags as well.

Wear clothing and shoes that are comfortable. Haiti is warm year round, so wear lightweight & loose fitting clothing to stay cool. Shoes should be comfortable and practical for standing and walking on rough terrain if you go hiking. You should also bring a pair of sandals or flip-flops for the house and showers. All clothing should be conservative and not revealing. If there is a question in your mind that it may offend someone, please don't bring it.

Consider bringing copies of important medical records, prescription orders, or letters from your doctor stating the need for prescription medications or vital medical info, if applicable. Carry a supply of meds sufficient to last at least a few days longer than the length of your trip. Keep meds in the original container and pack them in your carry-on luggage to prevent problems if your luggage is lost or misrouted. Consider bringing an extra pair of glasses or contact lens and pack enough solution for the entire trip.

#### OTHER ITEMS TO BRING

- sunscreen, sunglasses, hat and sunburn treatment
- insect repellent and mosquito net
- flashlight with extra batteries
- Bible, notebook, journal
- personal hygiene items/toiletries – Suggestion: bring large bottles of shampoo or body wash for you team to share
- personal water bottle (we have limited ice so many freeze their water bottles each night before their work day)
- camera (we do limit picture taking)
- regular meds you think you might need (motion sickness pills, pepto-bismol, imodium)
- snacks for your trip
- swimsuit and beach towel

#### ITEMS TO NOT BRING

- alcoholic beverages
- cigarettes, tobacco
- weapons
- treasured jewelry, replace your wedding band for the trip with a cheap ring
- expensive electronics

#### ITEMS PROVIDED

- bed or cot, linens, pillows, and blanket if needed
- bath towels
- drinking water
- toilet paper, paper towels
- hand soap
- hand sanitizer
- ground transportation (to and from airport)
- translator, if desired (you pay the salary, recommended \$20 US per day)

#### TEAM ITEMS

- box of large garbage bags 40-45 gallon size
- box of sandwich-sized ziplock bags
- box of gallon-sized ziplock bags
- one container of powdered Gatorade
- two boxes of Velveeta cheese
- one foil-pack of tuna and salmon per team member (or more)
- one can of chicken and roast beef per team member (or more)
- items from the RHFH Needs list that you collect
- one large refill for handsanitizer

### **SAFETY WHILE TRAVELING**

Make sure that your luggage is labeled so that your name and address are not easily seen. Consider using a bright color string or tape on each piece to quickly identify them. Leave your planned itinerary with a responsible person. Carry a list of emergency names, address, and phone numbers. Carry a copy of your passport in a separate location from your real passport. Make a copy to give your team leader or missionary. Write down your passport number in a secure location in case it is lost or stolen. Carry a phone card. Sit near other people. Hold your bags in front of you.

### **SAFETY IN THE TRUCK**

Keep valuables secure. Store any bags away from windows. If you have a watch on, don't put that arm out of the window. Please make sure that it is safe before taking photos from the truck. Secure camera out of sight when not in use or put strap around your wrist. Lock your doors and roll up the windows if you are advised. If any situation arises, please stay calm. It is common to be stopped by police in a roadblock or checkpoint. We simply show them our papers and are usually let through. We want you to be informed about problems, but sometimes we might have to answer your questions afterwards. Roads are difficult in Haiti. Expect bumpy roads and long, hot rides. Traffic jams are common. Please be patient and carry your water bottle to avoid dehydration. Do not display jewelry, cash, keys or other valuables. Don't display bags, cameras or other valuable equipment. Don't be alarmed if you see heavily armed security.

### **SAFETY WITH THE PEOPLE**

Carry only the most essential items along with you. Be friendly. Make eye contact. If you can't communicate with words, use gestures and facial expressions. Smile often. Stay close with the group. Ask questions to the leader if you don't understand something. Don't pass out or give away anything without checking with the leader first. Handing out even a piece of candy can start a significant disturbance if you are in the wrong place at the wrong time. Be cautious, but not fearful. Remember that you are representing Jesus in your everyday actions and attitudes.

### **SAFETY AT THE HOUSE**

You will be sharing your space with many others. Be considerate. Try to keep your belonging in your area or under your bed. Do not leave valuables out in the open. Take away any temptation for theft by keeping items in drawers or in your suitcase. It is recommended that you give your passport, green exit card, tickets, and money to the missionaries to store in the safe. These should be placed in a ziploc or bag with your name on it. Please do not leave the gated property

without approval from the missionaries. If you want to go on a walk or hike, you must get approval and you must stay with at least one other person.

### **IF YOU BECOME ILL**

Please let us know as soon as possible. Don't try to stick it out or be embarrassed. We see that stomachache, diarrhea, fever, and vomiting are the most common illnesses. We have many medicines available in Haiti to easily treat these and other sicknesses. Please bring any of your regular meds with you.

### **PERSONAL PREPARATIONS**

Research Haiti. Look up information on Haiti before you come. Share this information with your team members.

#### *Learn a few words in Kreyol:*

Bonjour-Good Morning

Bonswa-Good Afternoon

Merci-Thank you

Jezu renmen ou-Jesus loves you

Vini-come

ale-go

chita-sit

kanpe-stand

manje-food

Don't be afraid to touch and hold the children. Ask someone responsible before holding those on IV or that are very sick if it is okay. This will be your main form of communication because of language barriers. Don't be afraid to help the nannies change diapers or care and feed the kids.

They welcome the extra hands to help with the work load. Be sensitive when taking pictures or filming. \*\*Please see picture taking policy for the RC and clinic. Some Haitians do not like to have their pictures taken. If in doubt about anything, just ask a missionary staff member.

We encourage everyone to keep a journal of your experiences and feelings. You can begin writing even before you get here. Write down your emotions, thoughts, prayers etc. This will be a great reminder of your trip and what you experienced and felt while you were here. We would be honored if you would take the time to write a guest post for the blog or newsletter. Perhaps you could share part of your journal entries for this purpose as well.

### **SPIRITUAL PREPARATIONS**

You need to be prepared to deal with the stresses and strains you will face while you are here.

You will be living and working outside your comfort zone. Your patience will be tested; you may even become angry and upset with things that you see. You may have fear. Please take some steps to ensure that you are spiritually prepared for the upcoming challenges on your trip.

**-Pray** - Do this individually and with your team. Have a core group of faithful people commit to daily praying for you and the group during the trip.

**-Read the Bible** - Allow God to speak through the scriptures. Be sensitive to passage about evangelism, carrying for the poor, and God's love to mankind.

**-Fast** - Make a sacrifice to fast (food, TV, internet etc) and use that extra time for seeking God. Humble yourself before Him and be open to His voice. Be watchful of all He wants to do in and through you.

**-Have a good attitude** - Exercise the fruit of the spirit. Remember that you are here in Haiti to serve and to be an example of Christ's love to the Haitians and the RHFH staff.

**-Be in unity with your team** - You will live, work, worship and pray with these people for several days. Your unity as a group will greatly determine how effective you will be while in Haiti. Try to meet together several times before your trip. You can learn about Haiti, pray, prepare, organize, have fund raisers, collect supplies and pack together. All of these things will bring you closer as a TEAM. Allow your team leader to plan and arrange these meetings, but make sure you are an active member. Don't forget to have a post trip debriefing meeting also. Feel free to share photos and feedback with RHFH. Maybe your team would want to meet about strategizing ways to help RHFH move forward with the work being done.

### **TRAVEL PREPARATIONS**

You must make and pay your own airline reservations into Port-au-Prince. Before you purchase your ticket you need to be approved to come and have your dates ok'ed with RHFH. Do not purchase tickets until RHFH have approved you and your dates for travel.

### **EXTRA MONEY NEEDED**

When you arrive you will be able to put extra cash, credit cards and valuables in out safe. You will need extra cash for souvenirs, personal items, snacks in the airport, etc. You will need to pay for any meals eaten out at a restaurant. Soft drinks can be purchased outside the compound.

### **PASSPORT**

A passport is required to enter and exit Haiti. You can pick up a passport application at your local post office. Please carry a copy of your passport with you in a different location than your original passport. Here are some helpful links:

- [Find the nearest place to apply for a passport near you](#)
- [For more information on how to apply and what you will need](#)
- [Fees for the passports](#)
- [Frequently asked questions about passports](#)

### **CUSTOMS AND IMMIGRATION FORMS**

You will need to know the following information to put on the customs form while on the plane. Remember to have it accessible on the flight coming into Haiti.

**Address where you will be staying:** Gate #7, Cazale, Commune Cabaret, West Dept.

**Phone numbers:** Zach – 3761-9462, Licia – 3761-9464, Lori – 3782-7316, Casey – 3729-3385, Jody 3866-1069 (just one is fine.)



REPUBLIQUE D'HAITI

REPUBLIC OF HAITI

MINISTERE DE L'INTERIEUR ET DES COLLECTIVITES TERRITORIALES

MINISTERE DE L'INTERIEUR ET DES COLLECTIVITES TERRITORIALES

DIRECTION DE L'IMMIGRATION ET DE L'EMIGRATION

DIRECTION OF IMMIGRATION AND EMIGRATION

Formulaire d'Arrivée / Départ

Form of Arrival / Departure

Bienvenue en Haïti

Welcome to Haiti

Remplir ce formulaire en caractères d'imprimerie. Les informations doivent être identiques à celles contenues dans le passeport.

Fill this form in capital letters. Information must match data in your passport.

Arrivée / Arrival

M04342787



1. Nom / Last name

LASTNAME

2. Prénom(s) / First name(s)

FIRSTNAME

3. Date de naissance (JJ/MM/AAAA) / Date of birth (DDMM/YYYY)

25/2/1996

4. Sexe / Sex

CHECK ONE

Male / Masculin

Female / Féminin

5. Pays de naissance / Country of birth

USA

6. Nationalité / Nationality

USA

7. Numéro de passeport / Passport number

123456789

8. Port d'entrée / Port of entry

Air / Air

Mer / Sea

Terre / Land

9. Numéro du Transporteur / Carrier number

AA1438

10. But du voyage / Travel purpose

Affaires / Business

Vacances / Recreation

Autre / Other

11. Type et Numéro de l'autorisation d'entrée (si nécessaire) / Type and number of entry authorization (if required)

Visa

Permis Séjour

12. Lieu d'émission / Issued from

13. Adresse de résidence / Residence address

Rue / Street

123 MAIN

Ville / City

CHICAGO

Pays / Country

USA

14. Adresse en Haïti / Address in Haiti

Rue / Street

GATE 7 CAZALE RD

Ville / City

CAZALE COMMUNE CABARET

Telephone / Phone

50937619462

WEST DIST

Utilisation officielle / Official Use

Signature / Signature

Départ / Departure

M04342787



1. Nom / Last name

LASTNAME

2. Prénom(s) / First name(s)

FIRSTNAME

3. Date de naissance (JJ/MM/AAAA) / Date of birth (DDMM/YYYY)

25/2/1996

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USA

6. Nationalité / Nationality

USA

7. Numéro de passeport / Passport number

123456789

8. Port d'entrée / Port of entry

Air / Air

Mer / Sea

Terre / Land

Conservez ce document. Il vous sera demandé lors de votre départ. Retain this document. You must present it when you leave Haiti.

Signature / Signature

*“Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.” –Colossians 3:12*

**Dress Code:** Dress conservatively...

Shirts: No cleavage, mid-drift. It is not socially acceptable for men to take off their shirts in our community. No **tank tops or sleeveless shirts** of any kind please.

Bottoms: Shorts or skirts must reach the knee. Remember you are representing both Christ and RHFH in your presentation to the community. Please try to cover up tattoos if possible for cultural reasons.

**Internet:** We have limited access and a monthly limit to how much Internet we have. A large portion of our fundraising and communication is online so we ask that you keep your Internet usage to nights from 6-9pm and wait until you are home to upload the majority of your pictures.

We do not have enough Internet bandwidth to Skype, download/stream music or videos so please refrain from doing any of those while you are here. There is currently a phone at the guesthouse with internet access to send quick emails or messages – although the internet is very slow. Please limit access to essentials. You might consider getting an international call & data plan from your US provider to use here. We are finding that that is sometimes faster than our local service.

**Meals:** We provide 2 meals a day, lunch and dinner. There are basic breakfast items (coffee, eggs, milk, bread, cereal, peanut butter, butter, yogurt, etc.) or you are welcome to bring granola bars, instant coffee and juice mixes etc. Please be conscious of the fact that the imported American food provided is more expensive and should be used moderately and not wasted. We pay a staff to wash dishes and sweep when necessary, but think of the house you are living in as your own - clean up after yourself, take dirty dishes to the kitchen and help clear off the food dishes.

**Water:** The water in our pipes is for washing hands and bathing in only. There is separate filtered water for drinking and brushing your teeth in the diningroom. . Please do NOT drink any water from the faucets. Please conserve water and shower quickly. Ice is rare here so bring a water bottle and freeze it overnight for the next day.

**Electricity:** Electricity is another rarity so please be conscious of turning off lights and fans when you leave a room. No hairdryers, straighteners, curling irons, or other small appliances are allowed. Be prepared for power outages during the night and no fans. You can bring small battery fans to keep you cool when the power is out.

**Respecting the culture:** Please remember that everyone you come in contact with sees you as a representation of Christ. It is not unusual for volunteers to see things that make you uncomfortable or are shocking in context of your culture. Everyone around you sees the reactions you have to the things you encounter. The less judgmental you are, the more comfortable people will be around you, and you will earn the respect of those you are serving.

## **PHOTO POLICY**

**Rescue Center/ICU:** The RHFH staff would prefer that you ask permission before taking pictures of any of the staff or children. Each parent/guardian of children admitted into the Rescue Center are asked permission to take pictures of their children. Most of them are okay, but from time to time we do have parents that request we do not take pictures. We ask that you respect their wishes. Most of the nannies do not mind you taking their pictures, but a few do not approve. It is

better that a RHFH staff member explains to them who you are and your purpose for taking pictures. Any children that have not been previously posted on the RHFH facebook page or blog should not be posted by you or your team. If a child has died here at RHFH please do not post pictures or the name of the child without special permission from the RHFH staff. There are many people that are members of the Cazale community here in Haiti and around the world that follow and check our FB page and blog. We do not want a family member to see a child they know, or hear of their death through careless posting by RHFH or anyone visiting us. We want to be respectful of both that child and their family. Please do not take pictures of the children nude, while getting a diaper changed or during bath time. Please do not take pictures or gruesome wounds, cuts, burns, or illnesses of any of the children to post on the internet without the permission of the RHFH staff.

**Clinic:** Group pictures of the line, under the shelter, on the benches, and on the porch can be taken, but please be aware and respectful of the group's attitude towards your picture taking. If someone says or signals that they don't want the picture taken, don't take it. No picture is worth making someone upset and leaving before they get treatment. Pictures of individual patients can only be taken with their permission. You must have permission from our clinic director (Lori) to use and post photos. Pictures taken of nudity will not be tolerated. Pictures of wounds, burns, deformities, or other major illnesses should only be taken by medical professionals for the purpose of education or to find further treatment for the patient.

**Cholera hospital:** There should be no pictures of any patients taken in the CTC. You must ask permission from our CTC director (Lori) to take, use, and post photos of the buildings, equipment, and staff.

**Outside in the village of Cazale:** Please be respectful to those that we serve here in Cazale and the surrounding communities. Most people are used to having their picture taken, but some are not. If someone says "no," then please respect their wishes and do not take a picture of them. You should not to take pictures of those bathing in the river or those bathing at their houses.

### **FAQ**

#### ***Will I be able to contact family and friends while I am at RHFH?***

Yes, we have internet connection with limited bandwidth available in the office. You should be able to email, but not skype or upload photos or videos. The US staff has phones that you can use to call back home. We must purchase minutes to put on the phone prior to calling. You will need to reimburse us for this cost. For example, twenty minutes will cost \$2.50.

#### ***Are the children in the Rescue Center orphans?***

No, we only have a few children over the years we have been here that have been abandoned in front of our gate or in the yard. We make every effort to find these abandoned children's families and reunite them. All other children that are admitted into the Rescue Center have family

#### ***If I am a medical professional, do I need to bring my copy of my license with me?***

Yes, though you might not be asked, it is always good to have a copy with you.

#### ***Are we allowed to leave the property at RHFH and walk around by ourselves?***

You need to ask one of the long-term staff if it is a good time for that and let them know where you will be going. You will not be allowed to go by yourself. You must have a foreign volunteer or Haitian

staff member with you. You should not be out after dark. You must remember to carry plenty of drinking water and wear sunscreen and/or a hat.

***Can I randomly hand out money or items to anyone I want?***

This is not a good idea as it could cause confusion and problems if done at inappropriate times and places. If you would like to give someone a gift, ask one of the US staff how would be the best way to do this.

***What should I do if someone asks me for my contact info, phone number etc?***

Do not give it to them. It would be wiser to have them contact the RHFH staff if they wanted to send you a letter or message.

***Can I bring food for myself?***

Yes, please do. We want you to be comfortable and understand that you might have special dietary needs. Please feel free to bring snacks or whatever you would like. Good snacks are trail mix, granola bars, fruit bars/snacks, dried fruit, cheese and crackers, etc. If you are a coffee drinker, there is a french press that you can use to make your own coffee. We will have Haitian coffee, but feel free to bring your favorite kind. You can also bring Orvia or other instant coffee.

***Is it safe to travel to Haiti?***

This is a difficult question to answer because the situation changes frequently. If you are concerned about safety, please watch for updates on the [US Dept of State website](#). We do not have a security guard that travels with volunteers in the vehicles.

***Do you offer travelers insurance?***

No, we don't, but you can check out the following links below for more info on this.

[Talent Trust Consultants](#)

[International Medical Group \(IMG\)](#)

[Seven Corners](#)

[Allianz Travel Insurance](#)

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**THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING SERVING WITH RHFH IN CAZALE!**