

Values & Expectations of Short-Term Teams

The Long-Term Vision:

As global mission expands to the unreached places of the world, the face of how North American churches and mission fields interact evolves as well. Short-term teams sent from churches now revolve less around physical improvement projects (renovation & construction of schools and churches) and community service opportunities and more around prayer, vision casting, and meeting both the tangible and spiritual needs of a community.

What a Short-Term Trip IS:

- **An opportunity to introduce people to overseas missions.** We view this as a chance to inspire people to long-term work and ongoing service.
- **An exposure to how God is moving in other parts of the world.** Churches here will look and act differently than in your city or town. You will be challenged to see the Body of Christ in a new light and in the context of a new culture.
- **An invitation to be a missions advocate in your local church.** We invite you to communicate what God is doing around the world to your larger church family and to inspire other people as well. You can help bridge the gap between overseas and your hometown.
- **A way to provide support for the long-term missionaries.** Hearing how God is working in your lives can be such an encouragement to long-term workers!
- **A chance to be a learner.** Bring all your questions and an open mind while absorbing everything going on around you during your trip. Be prepared to be flexible in the schedule and in your expectations.
- **Less about what you will be *doing*, and more about what you will be *experiencing*.** The difference may sound subtle, but the attitude of the latter will set you up for a positive, healthy experience! Not every short-term mission experience will have a tangible, finished product.

