



# Participant Packet

Hispaniola Mountain Ministries  
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**HAITI**

**&**

**DOMINICAN  
REPUBLIC**

# About Haiti

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Haiti is a Caribbean country occupying the western one third of the island of Hispaniola, sharing the island with the Dominican Republic. It is about the size of the state of Maryland, 50 miles from Cuba, and 600 miles from Miami, Florida. Haiti, the first independent black republic, has historically been poverty stricken due to a variety of factors such as war and war debt, occupations and dictatorships, isolation and racism. These factors are still impacting Haiti today along with current economic and environmental factors such as international aid sanctions, internal political conflict, and deforestation that leads to soil erosion and flooding, hurricanes, etc.

The average Haitian earns less than \$3 a day, and survives on a mere \$1 per day. There have been estimates that 1 percent of the country's estimated 10 million people control nearly half its wealth. More than half of the population lacks access to clean water or sanitation. Fifty percent of the population is undernourished, with one in five children underweight or under-height for their age. Twelve percent of Haitian children die before their first birthday, and one third do not make it to their fifth. According to a 2004 U.N. report, Haiti ranks with Afghanistan and Somalia as one of three countries of the world with the worst daily caloric deficit per person with 2.4 million Haitians unable to afford the minimum 2,240 daily calories recommended by the World Health Organization. In addition, only one in every 10,000 Haitians has access to a physician. Today most Haitians are Christian and 50-60 percent Roman Catholic. The number of Protestants has been growing steadily, although Baptist and Pentecostal are the largest registered denominations, many others are represented. Many Haitians continue to practice Voodoo or incorporate Voodoo into Christianity as has been done for several hundred years.

Even with all the struggles that Haiti faces, there remain a people with open arms and smiling faces. It is a culture rich in music, art, and storytelling. The land is graced with beautiful beaches and breathtaking mountains. Some positive things Haiti is known for include: Haiti is said to have the best beach in the Caribbean, they were the first Caribbean country to ever qualify for the soccer World Cup finals, artists in Haiti produce nearly all the crafts sold for tourism in the Caribbean, and it is the second largest exporter of Mangos to the U.S. ( Arthur, 2004, pp.19-20 ) . A trip to Haiti is truly a life changing experience full of beauty and sorrow it will give you a better appreciation for the strength of these amazing people.

# About the Dominican Republic

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**The Dominican Republic** was one of Columbus's first discoveries in 1492. It is situated with the Caribbean Sea to the south and the Atlantic Ocean to the north, and is roughly twice the size of New Hampshire.

Historically, the Dominican economy has been driven by the production of sugar, coffee and tobacco. These cash crops are still very important, but recently tourism has become a major component of the economy. According to the latest official poverty data, more than a third of the country's total population lives in poverty, and almost 20 per cent are living in extreme poverty. In rural areas poor people constitute half of the population. The poorest of the poor include Dominicans of Haitian origin living in the border areas. They are particularly vulnerable, and they suffer not only from low incomes and poor living conditions but also from social exclusion. In all groups, women who are heads of households and children are extremely vulnerable. Because they are without proper documentation such as birth certificates and identity papers, about 20 per cent of the poorest Dominican families do not benefit from most types of social assistance programs. The highest incidences of poverty and extreme poverty occur in the Dominican-Haitian border regions and particularly in the mountainous areas and also in the lower valleys where there is a high concentration of slums, called bateys, settled by extremely poor Dominicans of Haitian origin and migrant seasonal workers from Haiti who work on the sugar cane plantations.

The people of the Dominican Republic are surely some of the friendliest people in the Caribbean, if not the world. This country hosts a multi-racial and multi-cultural society of over eight and a half million people, with three quarters of mixed origin and the other quarter of either European or African descent.

The Dominican Republic is 68.9% Roman Catholic, 18.2% Evangelical, 10.6% with no religion, and 2.3% other.

The Dominicans have a very on and off job possibilities. One of the most common jobs as far as "regular work" will be in construction where they would make about 400 pesos per day. A man making the blocks may make 800-1000 pesos a day. The only problem with construction work is that it is few and far between. They may get lucky and find construction work for one week out of two to three months. The construction is done little by little when they get a little money from the USA or Europe. There is another job called Moto taxi (concho) that a person may make between 100-350 pesos per day. You will see them everywhere like ants. There will be other jobs for women like cleaning a house and washing clothes. The pay will depend on how much and how long every day/week/month. They don't have the luxury of three meals a day – they are lucky to get three meals a week sometimes.

# Planning

## **Arrival in the Dominican Republic or Haiti**

While in route to Santa Domingo or Anse-a-Pitres, you will be given two forms to fill out. Please keep these forms with you. You will need to show them several times at the airport once you are off the plane.

Given Name: this is your first name

Family Name: this is your last name

Address: Prong. C. de la Rosa 7, Barahona Rep. Dominicana

Purpose for your visit: Leisure/Pleasure

Your Dominican Republic address will be: Prong. C. de la Rosa 7, Barahona Rep. Dominicana

**Use this address even if you are going to Haiti.**

Have your passport out because you will need your passport number.

When filling out the white form, write "0" in all applicable places, since you will have nothing to declare, and sign your name. DO NOT mention personal medication on the form - this does not apply.

### **VISITORS CARD - DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**

A visitors card must be purchased for each person upon entry into the Dominican Republic. This is purchased before immigration and surrendered before immigration. The cost of the card is \$10 per person. Let each individual stand in line to purchase his/her visitor's card. It is recommended that each person bring a \$10 bill specifically for this purchase.

### **IMMIGRATION**

Arriving at the airport – Here they will need your passport and the forms that you filled out on the plane. The officer will stamp your passport and the form. They will give you some forms back.

### **BAGGAGE CLAIM**

Your next stop will be baggage claim. Baggage carts will be available if you need one. Many bags look alike (it may help to tie a colored ribbon or do something to your bag so you will be able to find it easily). On the chance that your bag is lost, go to the baggage desk on the far wall and fill out a claim form. Without this form, your bag may never be located. Have your baggage claim checks handy, as these will be collected just before customs check.

### **DO NOT LEAVE YOUR BAGS UNATTENDED**

### **CUSTOMS**

Once your bags are collected, move up to the customs inspector as a group. Be prepared for an inspection or just allowed to walk through. You received a white duty form on the plane to fill out.

Give this form to appropriate customs agent. After you are through customs head out the door to the outside as a group. Go on out of the way and wait for the rest of your group.

The bus driver and HMM representative will be waiting for you with a HMM sign at the exit of the airport. Make sure you keep your hands on your luggage at all times.

If for some reason you are not met by your designated pick up person

***(THIS SHOULD NOT EVER HAPPEN – BUT JUST IN CASE),***

wait at least two hours at the airport before making alternate plans.

First try to reach try to contact Scott Wilson (601) 896-3050 or Cheryl Hodges (662) 315-1538 . If you are unable to reach anyone and have given ample time in case there was a traffic delay, you can choose to remain at airport or take a taxi to the Quality Inn (English speaking hotel that HMM has a partnership with) by the airport and wait for information and help. The number for Quality Inn is (809) 549-2525.

## **Medical & Age Requirements for Team Members**

### **MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS**

There are no medical requirements to enter the country. If you choose, you can take medication to prevent malaria. It must be started before you leave the United States and be continued after your return. You can receive shots to prevent hepatitis. It is a good idea to have a tetanus booster if you are overdue. Please check with your physician or local health department for any recommendations and make your own decision. You can also go to [www.cdc.gov/travel](http://www.cdc.gov/travel) to see the recommended immunizations, medical precautions, as well as handling any prescription medications you may be bringing with you.

### **MEDICATIONS**

If you are on a prescription medication during your trip, please inform your team leader and make sure it is listed on your form. Medications should be in its prescribed container with the prescription number, your name, name of your physician, and name of medication on it. Pills in unlabeled containers could be confiscated at customs.

### **AGE**

We recommend that all team members be at least 16 years of age. Persons under the age of 16 should be accompanied by his or her parent.

### **ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE**

Please plan to arrive at SDQ before 3PM. If you are unable to do so, you may be charged an additional \$50 per person for hotel room in Santo Domingo.

Please plan to depart no earlier than noon from SDQ. If you are unable to do so, you may be charged an additional \$50 per person for hotel room in Santo Domingo.

## Helpful Packing Information

1. Please check your airline's baggage allowances before packing. Also, the carry-on has to meet certain size requirements for overhead storage. **Tying a bright colored ribbon or attaching another eye catching item makes bags easier to pick out.**
2. Make sure that you put at least one set of clothes and items you REQUIRE daily in your carry-on just in case your luggage does not make it.
3. Remember that there are size requirements that you cannot exceed for liquid contents in your carryon bags. Please check current TSA regulations. Larger sizes may be put in your checked luggage.
4. Put some snacks in your carry-on – the first day traveling is long, the airlines don't supply much, and you do not stop for lunch. You can't take your own drinks on the plane in your possession or carryon because they exceed the size limit. You can put drinks in your checked luggage. HMM will have water for you on the bus.
5. One time during your stay your team will be allowed to wash clothes so it is not necessary to carry too many clothes.
6. Sheets, blankets, and pillows are provided.
7. You will need to take your own towels/wash cloths and personal items
8. We will have orientation when we get to the mission base and get settled.
9. Summer clothing is appropriate with the high temperatures and humidity. Please choose modest clothing that is comfortable, loose fitting, lightweight and washable.
10. Make sure that you pack a pair of comfortable walking shoes.
11. You will want to bring sunscreen and a hat. Long sleeves may be necessary if you are sensitive to the sun or for night trips down the mountain.
12. Swimwear will be necessary if time permits and you plan on swimming. Please be modest when deciding on what swimwear to pack. It is recommended to wear some sort of footwear to avoid stepping on sea urchins.
13. Flip flops of some type should be worn for showers and around the mission house.
14. Ladies will want to pack a small roll of tissues and hand sanitizer for the trip in and when you are in route to other places.
15. You will want to use unscented items if at all possible to help cut down on the bug attractions.
16. DRESS CODE for HAITI:  
Women – No braless tops, halters, tube tops, tank tops, or anything that show your underclothing  
Men – No muscle shirts, watch pictures and writing on t-shirts/hats, and shirts must be worn at all times.
17. **Take plenty of patience and flexibility – except interruptions, delays, snags and headaches**

# Special Items To Pack

- Flashlight and batteries
- Sunscreen / hat
- Hand wipes and antibacterial gel
- Bars of soap
- Bible and journal
- Snacks – especially for trip in and out
- Medication and personal items you need
- Towels and wash clothes
- Flip flops for shower
- Light jacket for nights – will need when you go up in the mountains
- Imodium
- Tylenol / ibuprofen
- Insect repellent – wipes work great for sticking in a zip lock and putting in pocket
- Spending money for souvenirs and soft drinks
- Snack foods
- Anything else that you know you have to have – it may not be available in DR
- Phone and other chargers (electrical outlets are the same as in the states)
- **Hair dryers, curling irons, & straighteners are on limited use due to the power they use**

## Hispaniola Mountain Ministries Guidelines

We at HMM are delighted that you will be sharing some time with us on the mission field in Haiti and/or the Dominican Republic.

We make every attempt to make your trip accident and incident free. Therefore, we have listed some rules that you **MUST** follow. The rules are simple and are implemented for your safety. Remember, you will be in a foreign country.

### WHILE IN HAITI OR THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC.....

- NEVER give your address, phone number, or e-mail to ANYONE (if you do, you will start receiving collect calls to your home and you will get all types of requests).
- NEVER promise or give a hint of a promise to anyone that you are not prepared to back up immediately. The ones on the field will be the ones who have to pick up the pieces if you fail to follow through on your word.
- Never leave the mission base area alone. NO ONE should be outside the mission base after dark (unless going somewhere with a group).
- Always ask the permission of the one being photographed before taking a photo. Women prefer to have their hair done and a nice dress on first. Kids generally don't care at all, and may even hound you to take their photo. We never pay for photos. Please understand that there will be some people who are offended even at the idea that you want to take their photo. Don't take it personally.
- STAY HEALTHY by not drinking water from the faucet or eating food that may be unsafe. Drink only bottled water.
- REMEMBER to keep your passport in a safe place. You will need it to leave the country. These can be locked in the safe if you would like.
- CULTURE SHOCK – try to understand that you will always be a novelty during your stay. You will attract attention and draw a crowd almost wherever you are and whatever you do. People will enjoy standing around watching you as much as you will be watching them. To the people of the DR and Haiti, you are a “rich American” and may be constantly asked for money (one dollar) and many other things. **The general policy is not to give handouts.** If you would like to give something to someone, please check with the missionary so that it can be channeled properly. This is an issue you will probably struggle with at some time (if not all the time) during your stay.
- EVERYONE is expected at all meals
- STAY SAFE by behaving appropriately in vehicles so as to secure your own safety and the safety of others.

## While staying at a HMM Facility or Hotel...

- Please do not go out in the community alone. We are in a safe community but we ask everyone to stay in groups when walking beyond the walls of the mission base.
- Please do not invite/allow any guest into walls of the mission base. We have many friends in the community but we ask that no one outside of the team you traveled to the island will be invited/allowed in the walls of the mission base. Special exceptions can be made but must be approved by HMM Staff.
- Please do not invite anyone to join your group for a meal.
- No adult is to be alone with any child (except his/her own child) at anytime.
- Please do not set thermostats below 65 (18 C). Units will freeze and cease to work. It is hot even with fans and air-condition running.
- Please turn lights off when leaving a room.
- Please place ALL toilet paper in wastebaskets. Flushing paper or other products will damage the plumbing / sewer system.
- HMM Mission Base is an alcohol free facility – no exceptions.
- Please do not take any HMM mattresses, pillows, sheets, etc. to the roof. You may sleep on the roof but only if you use your personal bedding – no exceptions. (Barahona location)
- Please do not throw items from the roof or balcony. (Barahona location)
- Please return dishes to the kitchen after each meal.
- If under the age of 18 yrs old, you must have parental consent to ride any vehicle other than the HMM truck or transportation provided by HMM. (No motorcycles)
- Please ask for permission before using the kitchen or items found in the kitchen. The exception is the coffee pot. It is there for your use.
- Please keep personal snack items in plastic bags in the rooms.
- Please reuse towels when possible.
- Please reuse water bottles when possible.
- If you set something down outside the mission house, it will disappear. Keep items in sight or on you at all times.

**WARNING!**

# Travel Advisory

With today's new security regulations for the flying public, we all must be more careful of how we conduct ourselves at airports and on the aircraft.

Since September 11th, we have been on dozens of airplanes with no problem at all but there are certain things that you can and cannot do.

Be at your departing airport at least two hours prior to take-off.

Do not take photos in the airport, near immigrations or customs areas.

Never joke about or mention the words: knives, guns, bombs, terrorists or such things. If you do, you will be pulled out of line and possibly arrested. Once on the plane do not use these words. Everything is taken seriously. NO JOKES.

Do not carry-on your person or in your carry-on luggage any of the following: pocketknife, nail file or clippers, knitting needles, or anything that is sharp and could be classified as a weapon. If you do, it will be confiscated and you will not get it back.

When you do pass through security, place your carry-on luggage on the x-ray belt. Empty your pockets of any metal items: keys, coins, foil wrapped candy, wallet, etc. and place them in the provided plastic trays. Then place your jacket on the belt.

Walk through the metal detector. If the alarm sounds, they will do a body scan to see what tripped the alarm (such as watches, metal glasses, coins, some shoes will do this). Follow the instructions of the people in charge. No joking at all.

After you clear, claim your other items on the belt and let them open and inspect your carry-on bag if they request. Once you are cleared, proceed to your departure gate.

**DO NOT ever leave your carry-on or other luggage unattended at ANY TIME!!!!**

When they load the plane you may have to show a photo ID, passport or driver's license.

**HAITIAN CREOLE**

**&**

**SPANISH**

## Basic Haitian Word List

It is fun to learn something new. Many Creole words are easy to learn. Below you will find several words along with the English translation. Get together with other team members and have some fun.

### COURTESY

hello (a.m.)...	bonjou
hello (p.m.)...	bonswa
goodbye...	orevwa, babay
please ...	souple
thank you...	mesi
you're welcome..	padikwa
excuse me...	eskize-m, padon

### CONVERSATIONAL SENTENCES

How are you?.....	Kouman ou ye?
What is your name?...	Konman ou rele?
My name is _____.	Mwen rele _____.
How old are you?...	Ki laj ou Gen?
I am fine....	Mw en bien
How much is that?...	Konbien sa?
I don't understand...	Mwen pa konprann
Where do you live...	Kote ou rele
Do you know Jesus?...	Eske ou konne Jezu
Jesus loves you...	Jezu renmen ou.
I will pray for you...	Ma prie pou ou
God bless you...	Bon-Die beni ou
Praise the Lord...	Beni swa léternel
How do you say _____?...	Douman ou di _____?

## Basic Spanish Word List

It is fun to learn something new. Below you will find several words along with the English translation. Get together with other team members and have some fun.

### COURTESY

hello (a.m.)...	Hola
hello (p.m.)...	Hola
goodbye...	adiós
please ...	por favor
thank you...	gracias
you're welcome..	de nada
excuse me...	perdón

### CONVERSATIONAL SENTENCES

How are you?.....	¿Cómo está usted?
What is your name?...	¿Cuál es tu nombre?
My name is _____.	Mi nombre es _____.
How old are you?...	¿Cuántos años tienes?
I am fine....	Yo estoy bien
How much is that?...	¿Cuánto es eso?
I don't understand...	No lo entiendo
Where do you live...	¿Dónde vive usted?
Do you know Jesus?...	¿Conoces a Jesús ?
Jesus loves you...	Jesús te ama
I will pray for you...	Rezaré por usted
God bless you...	Que Dios los bendiga
Praise the Lord...	Alabado sea el Señor
How do you say _____?...	¿Cómo se dice _____?...

# **MISSION TRIP FORMS**

# PARTICIPANT INFORMATION FORM

(One form required per participant)

Date of Trip: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Print your name as it appears on your passport: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport #: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Issue: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to you: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

## MEDICAL INFORMATION:

What medications do you regularly take, prescription or over the counter:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

Do you have any medical conditions, medical problems or recent surgeries? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, describe: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of physician: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

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

# RELEASE, WAIVER OF LIABILITY, AND ARBITRATION AGREEMENT

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

In consideration of Hispaniola Mountain Ministries (HMM) acceptance of my participation in any Mission Trip, taken during the calendar year this document is executed and taken during any future years, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged I, the undersigned, execute this Release and Waiver of Liability (the "Release) in favor of HMM, the directors, officers, representatives, members, agents, employees, staff and volunteers of HMM and their respective affiliates (hereinafter collectively "Releasees"). I., the undersigned, desire to participate in the mission trips for Hispaniola Mountain Ministries ("Mission Trip") and engage in the activities related to participating in the Mission Trip ("Activities"). I understand that my Activities may include, but are not limited to, the following: working in Haiti; traveling to and from worksites, towns, cities or countries; consuming food available or provided; living in housing provided for volunteers; constructing residential buildings; other construction-related activities; working on residential water wells and supply; and other humanitarian and healthcare related activities. I, the undersigned, hereby freely, voluntarily and without duress execute this Release under the following terms:

## 1. RELEASE AND WAIVER.

I, the undersigned, do hereby release and forever discharge and hold harmless Releasees and their successors and assigns from any and all liability, claims and demands of whatever kind or nature, either in law or in equity, which arise or may hereafter arise from my Activities with the Mission Trip. I understand and acknowledge that this Release discharges Releasees from any liability or claim that I may have against Releasees with respect to any bodily injury, personal injury, illness, death or property damage that may result from my Activities on the Mission Trip, whether caused by Releasees or their officers, directors, employees, agents or otherwise. I also understand that Releasees do not assume any responsibility for or obligation to provide financial assistance or other assistance, including but not limited to medical, health or disability insurance in the event of injury, illness, death or property damage. It is the policy of HMM that children under the age of 16 not be allowed on a Mission Trip. It is further the policy of HMM that, while children between the ages of 16 and 18 may be allowed to participate in construction work, certain activities, including but not limited to using equipment and power tools, is not permitted by anyone under the age of 18.

I, the undersigned hereby release and forever discharge Releasees from any claim which arises or may hereafter arise on account of any first aid, treatment or service rendered in connection with my activities with Mission Trip, or in the case of a minor child, with the decision by any representative or agent of HMM to exercise the power of consent to medical or dental treatment as such power may be granted and authorized in the Medical Authorization and Parental Authorization for Treatment of a Minor Child.

## 2. INDEMNIFICATION.

I, the undersigned, agree to indemnify and hold harmless Releasees from and against any losses, costs, damages and expenses resulting from any claims for bodily injury or property damage arising out of my Activities. If the participant is less than 18 years of age (a "minor"), the participant and the parents having legal custody and/or the legal guardians of the participant (the "Guardians") hereby agree to indemnify and hold harmless Releasees for and against any losses, costs, damages and expenses resulting from any claims for bodily injury or property damage to the minor participant and arising out of the participant's Activities with the Mission Trip.

### **3. MEDICAL TREATMENT RELEASE/AUTHORIZATION TO HEALTH CARE DECISIONS.**

I, the undersigned, do hereby release and forever discharge Releasees from any claim or action whatsoever which arises or may hereafter arise on account of any first aid, treatment or service rendered in connection with my Activities with the Mission Trip. I, the undersigned, acknowledge and agree that participation in this mission trip subjects me to the possibility of physical illness, injury (minimal, serious, catastrophic and/ or death), and loss, that there is no assurance of access to medical care or adequate medical facilities, and that I, acknowledge I am assuming the risk of such illness or injury by participating in the Mission Trip. In the event of such illness or injury, I authorize HMM to obtain necessary medical treatment for me (including but not limited to hospitalization, injections, medication, anesthesia, and surgery) by any physician, dentist or other health care provider selected by the authorized representative of HMM and hereby, release and hold harmless Releasees in the exercise of this authority. I further acknowledge and understand that I will be responsible for any and all medical and related bills (including but not limited to all costs and expenses related to medical evacuation) that may be incurred on my behalf for any illness, injury, or loss that I may sustain during the Mission Trip and while traveling to and from the site for the Mission Trip whether or not the Mission Trip actually occurs. I further acknowledge that HMM shall act as the personal representative for me for purposes of the HIPAA privacy rule, for the purpose of making any health care decisions and for purposes of access to protected health information necessary in relation to the Mission Trip. If the participant is less than 18 years of age (a "minor"), the participant and the Guardians also hereby release and forever discharge Releasees from any claim whatsoever which arises or may hereafter arise on account of the decision by the authorized representative selected by HMM to exercise the power to consent to medical or dental treatment as such power may be granted and authorized in a Parental Authorization for Treatment of a Minor Child.

I, the undersigned understand that, except as otherwise agreed to by HMM in writing, HMM does not carry or maintain health, medical or disability insurance coverage for any participant. Each participant is expected and encouraged to obtain his or her own medical or health insurance coverage.

### **4. ASSUMPTION OF THE RISK.**

I, the undersigned, understand that my Activities may include work that may be hazardous to me, including, but not limited to, the following: construction; operating equipment; loading and unloading supplies and building materials; and travel to and from the work sites for the Mission Trip. I also understand and recognize that the activities and travel inherent in the Mission Trip involve danger, injury, loss, risk of violent crime, and lack of access to medical care and adequate medical facilities. I am aware that the Department of State has advised that U.S. citizens, non-governmental organization workers and missionaries may be subject to serious risk and dangers, including but not limited to the risk of violent crime. I further understand and recognize that there is inherent risk in consuming local foods and living in local accommodations in the city(ies) or country(ies) involved with participation in the Mission Trip. I further understand I may be traveling to and from locations where there is a risk of terrorism, war, insurrection, criminal activities, inclement weather or other circumstances that could threaten my health or safety. I also understand Releasees are under no obligation to pay ransom or make any other payments to secure the release of hostages. I hereby expressly and specifically assume the risk of injury, harm and/or loss in the Activities and release Releasees from all liability for any loss, cost, expense, injury, illness, death or property damage resulting directly or indirectly from the Activities.

### **5. INSURANCE.**

I, the undersigned, understand that, except as otherwise agreed to by HMM in writing, HMM is under no obligation to provide, carry, or maintain health, medical, travel, disability, or other insurance coverage for any participant. Each participant is expected and encouraged to obtain his or her own health, medical, travel, disability or other insurance coverage.

**6. PHOTOGRAPHIC RELEASE.**

I, the undersigned, do hereby grant and convey unto HMM all right, title and interest in any and all photographic images and video or audio recordings made by HMM during my Activities on the Mission Trip, including, but not limited to, any royalties, proceeds or other benefits derived from such photographs or recordings.

**7. ARBITRATION AGREEMENT.**

I, the undersigned expressly acknowledge and understand that, by signing this Arbitration Agreement, I am agreeing to substitute one legitimate forum (arbitration) for another (litigation), and thereby am waiving my right to have any disputes resolved in court. This substitution involves no surrender, by either party, of any other substantive statutory or common law benefit, protection or defense. As such, either party may submit any dispute arising from this agreement or from any participation in the Mission Trip to binding arbitration to be conducted in Jackson, MS, under the auspice and rules of the American Arbitration Association.

**8. OTHER.**

I, the undersigned, expressly agree that this Release is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Mississippi, USA, and that this Release shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the State of Mississippi, USA. I further agree that in the event any clause or provision of this Release shall be held to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity of such clause or provision shall not otherwise affect the remaining clauses or provisions of this Release, which shall continue to be enforceable. Further, a waiver of a right under this Release does not prevent the exercise of any other right.

Participant Name (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

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

(Skip this section if you are 18 or older.)

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**IF YOU ARE UNDER 18 YEARS OLD, you are considered a minor and this release must be signed by BOTH PARENTS and/or GUARDIANS (and spouse, if minor is married).**

Please check if only one parent is signing and you have sole custody or if the other parent is deceased.

**Name(s) of Parent(s) or Legal Guardian(s) :**

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Minor’s Parent (or Guardian) #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Minor’s Parent (or Guardian) #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the Minor’s Spouse if the Minor is Married: \_\_\_\_\_