Congratulations! You are to be commended for your desire to participate in a Home Building Work Trip that will ultimately change the life of a family in need. This preparation packet is designed to assist you as you prepare for your upcoming trip. This packet should answer most of the normal questions asked by a participant, but if you have any questions that are not answered by this packet, please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here to facilitate your planning and preparation, and we look forward to helping you however we can!

GETTING STARTED

As you begin planning and preparing for your work trip, remember that you don’t have to do it all on your own! Involve your whole church; your team of supporters consists of anyone who can assist with preparation details, raising the necessary funds, or praying for your trip.

Here is a quick to-do list to help guide you in planning your trip:

1. Register for your trip by following the link that your group leader sends you.
   a. The total cost to participate in a Home Building Work Trip (including registration fee) is $620 USD.
   b. You can pay via check, credit card or via your online payment option.
   c. Always check with your Group Leader before making a deposit payment.
3. Confirm you have a valid U.S. Passport/Passport Card or submit an application to get one.
4. Create a fundraising plan.
   a. You can fundraise in a variety of ways, including personal solicitation letters, support presentations, or creative fundraising events.
   b. Use the link in your personal portal to fundraise on social media.
5. Arrange for transportation to San Diego.
   a. Will you be driving or flying? Please speak with your Group Leader regarding ground transportation for the week.
6. Complete the Work Trip Participant Forms packet entirely.
   a. To complete your forms, log in to your trip portal and download your documents.
8. Read this entire packet thoroughly from beginning to end.
9. Pack appropriately for your trip and make sure to reference our handy Packing List.
10. Come and build a house with us!

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ORGANIZING YOUR TRIP
Age Requirements
To participate as an individual volunteer, you must be 18 years or older.
- Children ages 14 – 17 require written parental consent and an adult chaperone.
- Children ages 13 or under require an accompanying Parent or Legal Guardian.

Border Crossing Documentation

***A valid U.S. Passport/Passport Card is REQUIRED for re-entry into the United States. A driver’s license is not accepted as a valid border crossing document.***

- Due to processing wait times, we recommend applying for a passport as soon as possible if you do not yet have one! Typically, it takes two to three months to receive a passport, so do not delay.
- A less expensive U.S. Passport Card (valid only for land and sea crossings into the U.S. from Canada, Mexico, or the Caribbean) is now available; ask about it when applying for your passport.
- Legal Permanent Residents of the U.S. must bring their green cards and a valid passport.

Medical Precautions

Both the home building work sites and the orphanage can be very dusty so please plan accordingly if you have allergies or if you wear contact lenses. We also provide a complete first-aid kit at the orphanage and at each build site and every precaution is taken to ensure the safety of our work trip participants. In the event of a medical emergency, we have a specific emergency protocol in place which may call for taking injured or sick participants to a hospital in the U.S.

Immunizations

While there are no specific immunizations required by the U.S. or the Mexican Governments for travel between the U.S. and Mexico, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend that ALL travelers, regardless of destination, be up to date on the following normal childhood immunizations:

- Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR Vaccine)
- Polio (OPV)
- Diphtheria/Tetanus/Pertussis (DTP Vaccine)
- Haemophilus Influenza B (HbCV Vaccine)

The Typhoid and Hepatitis A vaccinations are recommended for travel to Mexico, but be aware that the Hepatitis A vaccination requires multiple shots with time between each dose.

Deposits and Payments

As we strive to serve families in need, a considerable amount of planning and preparation is required as early as nine months prior to the beginning of our home building season. These preparations include, but are not limited to: the identification of deserving families, the recruiting of home building staff, the upkeep of program grounds, facilities and equipment, as well as the purchase of printed materials, merchandise and home building materials from international and local vendors.

(continued on next page…)

When group deposits or payments are delayed, it puts a significant financial burden on our ministry and its beneficiaries. Additionally, when groups cancel their trips entirely, it is very difficult to find new groups to fill their spots unless a like-sized group is on our waiting list. These terms and conditions are
provided so that we can deliver a memorable and lasting experience for you and your group. Please read the following conditions regarding your upcoming work trip.

1. The cost to participate in a Home Building Work Trip is $540 (USD) per participant.
2. The participant must pay a non-refundable deposit of $100 by January 31, 2017.
3. If your deposit is not paid by January 31st, you will lose your slot to someone on the Waiting List.
4. The balance of your payment is due by April 30, 2017 or you risk losing your deposit and slot.
5. Cancelations must be made, in writing, 60 days before the date of arrival in order to receive a voucher redeemable for participation in a Home Building Work Trip in 2018.
6. Participants ages 14-17 must be accompanied by an adult chaperone and Project Mexico requires a 1 adult to 5 minors (1:5) ratio for all groups during build weeks.
7. Participants, ages 13 and under, must be accompanied by their legal parent or guardian.

When making a payment, please identify the Group Leader’s name and the Build Week dates.

BUILD WEEK DESCRIPTION

We generally have two types of home building weeks to choose from. There are benefits to both, depending on the needs of your group. Please contact us with any questions regarding the types of build weeks available, and please note specific details regarding each of these weeks throughout this packet.

**Double/Triple Groups**

During Double/Triple Group weeks, teams of 25 participants each, will usually build two/three homes within the local community. Our participants will camp in tents on the orphanage property. In the evenings, participants will have time to spend with the boys of St. Innocent Orphanage. Our maximum capacity for a Double Group is 50 people, and for a Triple Group it is 75 people. These counts include Group Leaders and clergy.

**Orthodox Basic Training (OBT)**

During OBT weeks, anywhere from 100-125 participants will build four to five homes within the local community. Participants will camp in tents on the orphanage property and meals as well as church services will take place in our outdoor pavilion. OBTs are a great way to meet and fellowship with other Orthodox Christians from a variety of jurisdictions across North America. We will host guest speakers during these weeks and also have a Sports Day with the boys on Sunday.

**ARRANGING TRANSPORTATION**
You and/or your group are responsible for arranging all transportation to San Diego and for coordinating with Project Mexico staff in advance regarding ground transportation during your trip. Depending on the logistics of the week and the number of individual volunteers we are hosting, we may recommend that you rent a vehicle in conjunction with another team or other individuals.

**Booking Flights**

Please arrive at the San Diego International Airport **NO LATER THAN 1:00 p.m.** Please schedule your departure from the San Diego Airport **AFTER 2:00 p.m.** on the date of your departure. If you have trouble meeting either of these timeframes, please speak with Project Mexico staff **prior** to buying your plane ticket! These times are provided to allow for crossing the border in and out of the U.S. The border crossing lines can be long and are very unpredictable.

**You are expected to arrive at the Project Mexico Office at 2:00 PM sharp for check-in!**

**Personal Vehicles**

If you plan to drive your own personal vehicle, be sure that the vehicle has current registration license plate stickers and that a copy of the current registration is printed and physically in the vehicle. You will not be permitted to cross the Mexico border without these items.

**Vehicle Rental Agencies**

This list is provided in case a vehicle rental is necessary for your trip. There are many rental agencies available near the airport and prices vary according to the time of year and the type of vehicle. When reserving a vehicle, mention Project Mexico and that your rental is for a mission trip in Mexico. Our preferred vendor, Readivan will provide a discount, assistance with Mexican Insurance, and great service as well. **Make sure that you reserve your vehicle at least four weeks ahead of your arrival date.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Web Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Readivan</strong></td>
<td><strong>877-917-3234</strong></td>
<td><a href="http://www.readivan.com">www.readivan.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sun Diego Car Rental</td>
<td>619-298-5990</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sundiegocarrental.com">www.sundiegocarrental.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Diego Airport</td>
<td>619-400-2404</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alamo</td>
<td>800-992-9823/888-826-6893</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avis</td>
<td>800-331-1212/619-688-5000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>California Baja Rent-a-Car</td>
<td>619-470-7368</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dollar</td>
<td>866-434-2226</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprise</td>
<td>619-294-3313</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hertz</td>
<td>800-654-3131/619-767-5700</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Mexican Driving Insurance**
All drivers must purchase Mexican liability insurance with legal services. Without this, drivers are not only in violation of Mexican law, but are taking extremely serious legal and financial risks. Uninsured drivers may have their vehicles impounded in the event of an accident or traffic violation until the driver is able to pay any fines or the guilty party is determined. The police will not guarantee the presence of the vehicle after any litigation is finished. Even more serious, a driver without Mexican insurance can be held in jail indefinitely, even if injured following an accident.

**If you are renting a vehicle**, be sure that the rental company knows you will be driving in Mexico, and ask how to insure your vehicle. Most rental agencies offer and require purchase of Mexican insurance at the time of rental. **If driving your own vehicle**, you will need to purchase insurance online in advance of your trip. We recommend [www.bajabound.com](http://www.bajabound.com); please **print** your proof of insurance and have it with you at all times during your visit. Vehicles must be insured for the entire time they will be in Mexico (6 days).

**Awareness**

Driving in Mexico should not be taken lightly. Only responsible, experienced, and insured drivers should drive in Mexico. Traffic laws are similar to the United States and Canada, but driving habits are very different. Careful attention is required. All vehicles will caravan into Mexico led by a Project Mexico vehicle and staff member. The caravan should stay together at all times!

**Crossing the Border**

Project Mexico staff will lead you across the border in both directions. Generally, you will be waved into Mexico by the Border Guard without questions. Upon returning to the U.S., you will be asked to show your documents, disclose the nature of your trip, and declare all of the items you acquired in Mexico. Best practice is to say to the Border Guard that you were visiting an orphanage in Rosarito.

**FUNDRAISING**

**Involve Your Whole Church**

It is important that others participate in this trip with you through prayer and financial support. Start with your parish priest. He knows you and will be more than willing to help by approaching your parish for support. You might ask your priest for his permission to speak to your congregation after Divine Liturgy on a Sunday. You can ask parish organizations such as the ladies' group, the parish council, or teen and young adult groups to allow you the opportunity to give a presentation and ask for support. Your priest can also help you appeal to other local parishes and charitable organizations.

You may decide to write a letter asking relatives, friends, and other parishes in your area for support. Letters should be brief and invite others to pray for your missionary endeavor. Provide a self-addressed return envelope with each letter. **We have provided a sample fundraising letter below for your use if desired.**

Note: If you are able to raise extra funds that can be donated to help meet the ongoing needs of the orphanage, this is of course greatly appreciated!
Follow-up

The trip is not over when you return home! After the trip, we encourage you to write a summary of your experience to send to your supporters. You may also select a date with your priest to offer a follow-up presentation to your home parish. This is an extremely important way to thank them for their support and help them see what was accomplished!

*Personal Fund Request Sample Letter*

(Date, year)

Dear (name),

From (date - date, year), I will have the privilege of traveling to Tijuana, Mexico to participate in a Home Building Work Trip with Project Mexico & St. Innocent Orphanage. During this trip, our primary goal will be to construct a home for a needy family in Tijuana. We will also have the opportunity to spend time with the local people, sharing our faith.

In order for me to participate in the mission trip, I will need to raise $(amount), which will pay for my transportation, food and lodging, supplies, and materials needed for my work trip. Would you prayerfully consider helping to support this endeavor to serve those in need in Mexico?

If you generously choose to support my work trip, checks should be made payable to (your home parish)*. Please write my name on the memo line of the check. All donations must be raised by (date). I have enclosed a self-addressed return envelope for your convenience, as well as some information on Project Mexico & St. Innocent Orphanage**. Their web site is www.projectmexico.org. Anything you can contribute in support of this important ministry of hope will be greatly appreciated.

In order to participate in this work trip, I will need both your spiritual and financial support. Please keep me in your prayers as I prepare for this trip, as well as while I'm there. I thank you for your prayers and for any financial help you might be able to offer. When I return, I would like to share my experience with you.

Thank you for your support.

In Christ,

(name)

*Make sure that you coordinate this effort with your priest before you begin to send these letters to your community. Individual checks should be collected through your local parish. Only one check for your total fees should be sent to Project Mexico.

**Additional information is available from the Project Mexico office upon request.

SPIRITUAL PREPARATION
Spiritual preparation is an integral part of your mission trip. Ask your priest for direction in this regard. We heartily recommend reading “The Life of St. Innocent” (the patron saint of our orphanage) or “Go Forth” by Fr. Luke Veronis (available through Light and Life Publishing).

Prayer

It has been said that without prayer, any missionary endeavor is merely social work. Please pray before, during, and after your trip that God will work through you to show others His love and that He will teach you during your week of service. While you are praying about your upcoming trip, please also pray for us! Pray for our staff, for the boys of St. Innocent Orphanage, and for all of the volunteers working alongside us - for strength and grace to allow God to dwell within us and to work through us. Here is a specific prayer you might want to use:

**Prayer for Missions**

God of truth and love, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, hear our prayer for those who do not know You, that they may come to a saving knowledge of the truth and that Your name may be praised among all peoples of the world.

Sustain, inspire, and enlighten Your servants who bring them the Gospel. Bring fresh vigor to wavering faith; sustain our faith when it is still fragile.

Continually renew missionary zeal in ourselves and in the Church, and raise up new missionaries who will follow You to the ends of the world.

Make us witnesses to Your goodness, full of love, of strength and of faith, for Your glory and for the salvation of the entire world.

Through the prayers of St. Paul, St. Fotini, Sts. Cyril and Methodios, St. Kosmas Aitolos, St. Innocent of Alaska, St. Nicholas of Japan and all missionary saints, have mercy on us and save us.

Amen.

Mental Preparation

When we approach our work with an attitude of service and humility, we are always more open to growth, learning, and teamwork. During your week, you will be a guest in a foreign country and an ambassador for Christ. When visiting a foreign country and entering a foreign culture, it is important to be sensitive to your surroundings and to the local people. Also, be aware of the needs of your team, and you will receive a huge blessing from this experience.

We also ask that you be sensitive to the need for a stable and peaceful environment at St. Innocent Orphanage. The orphanage staff and boys host many volunteers each year as guests in their home, and they are happy and blessed to do it. In any home, however, a multitude of houseguests can be disruptive to daily life and the daily routine. We do our best to have the Home Building Program adjust to the needs of the orphanage rather than to have them adjust to us. We hope that you will join us in respecting the smooth and uninterrupted operations of our orphanage to make it a memorable visit for everyone!

Flexibility and Patience
It is often said that "even the best-laid plans go awry." This is never truer than when one is working in a developing country in a missionary environment! Because of poor infrastructure, lack of modern technologies, and a very different culture, things in Mexico don’t run as smoothly as they do in the U.S. But by God’s grace, things always fall into place. Therefore, we encourage you to maintain a positive attitude, a desire to serve in whatever way is needed, and an ongoing willingness to be flexible!

**WHAT TO EXPECT ON YOUR TRIP**

**Build Week Overview**

The homes that we construct are simple and built according to the standards of the local community. Our projects do not require specific skills and previous experience is not necessary. Additionally, ministry to the people of Mexico is much more than merely building a home! We encourage you to make a conscious effort to spend time with the family, neighbors, and children who are present at the work site, as well as the boys of St. Innocent Orphanage. Interaction with all of these people is a big part of the experience!

When things don’t happen as we plan for them to, we also ask for your flexibility and a go-with-the-flow attitude. We do our best to have things well organized ahead of time for you!

**Typical Daily Schedule**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Morning Prayers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Quiet Time (you may want to bring a Bible, journal, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Load Truck/Clean Kitchen/Clean Bathrooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Depart for worksite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Construction (lunch at worksite)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Arrive back at the ranch (free time for showers, soccer, and fellowship)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6:30 pm</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:30 pm</td>
<td>Evening Prayers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Evening Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 pm</td>
<td>Lights Out (everyone goes to their tents)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**On the Work Site**

Participants often want to bring gifts of some sort for the neighborhood children. This is wonderful! Simple games or arts and crafts supplies, jump ropes, bubbles, balls, ring toss, marbles, crayons, colored pencils, paper, glue sticks, children's scissors, etc. all go over very well.

**Sleeping Accommodations**

You should expect to sleep in a tent on the orphanage property. Plan to bring your own tent, air mattress, pillow, sleeping bag, and pillow. Our bathhouse has sinks, mirrors, toilets, and showers. We do have a limited number of tents, air mattresses, and sleeping bags on hand as well so if you would like to borrow something for the week please contact us beforehand. Our supplies are well-used, and so, not always in perfect condition.
Meals

Breakfast and dinner are provided at the orphanage, and we eat lunch at the work site. The food is usually in the Mexican style. Due to our limited cooking staff and resources, our kitchen is not equipped to accommodate food allergies of any kind.

**If you have food allergies - specifically to nuts, gluten, fish, eggs, or any other large food category - you will need to bring some food supplies as well! Contact us ahead of time with questions.**

A full-time cooking staff at the orphanage will be in charge of food preparation for your group. We will also ask for your help with clean-up so that the burden doesn’t all fall on our cook. Meals and church services take place in our outdoor pavilion.

Water

Our orphanage property is supplied with water via our underground wells. We have two separate water systems so not all of the taps on the property produce water that is suitable for drinking. When you arrive you will be shown where to access pure drinking water from our well.

Phone Numbers

Phone service at the orphanage in Mexico is unreliable. In case of an emergency, contact Erik Swanson, the Project Mexico Work Trip Coordinator, at 619-852-7406. If the call does not go through to Erik, please contact John Cosby, Director of Mexico Operations, at 619-952-0406.

Daily Worship Schedule

Each day will begin and end with prayers. Great Vespers is on Saturday evenings and Matins and Divine Liturgy are celebrated on Sunday mornings. We welcome everyone to participate in these services.

Evening Curfew

We ask that everyone be settled in their housing or tents by **10:30pm**. This is to help maintain a sense of order for the orphanage and comply with guidelines set forth by the Mexican social services. Please help us in this respect! **We ask our Adult Chaperones and Group Leaders to enforce the curfew for the members of their group for the duration of the week.**
### PACKING LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Work Site Gear (4 Work Days)</th>
<th>Bathroom</th>
<th>Other</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• T-shirts</td>
<td>• Personal Toiletries</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Long Pants</td>
<td>• Shower Sandals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Socks/Underwear</td>
<td>• Towels</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Durable Shoes or Boots</td>
<td>• One-Piece Swimsuit or Shorts for showering</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Work Gloves</td>
<td>• Water Bottle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Water Bottle</td>
<td>• Chap Stick</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Chap Stick</td>
<td>• Sunscreen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Sunscreen</td>
<td>• Clothing (Evening &amp; Church)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| • T-Shirts                  | • Personal Toiletries |
| • Pants/Capris             | • Shower Sandals |
| Church appropriate clothing | • Towels |
| Sneakers/Casual shoes     | • One-Piece Swimsuit or Shorts for showering |
| Warm Jacket                | • Water Bottle |
| Heavy Sweatshirt           | • Chap Stick |

**Bathroom**

• Personal Toiletries
• Shower Sandals
• Towels
• One-Piece Swimsuit or Shorts for showering

**Documents**

• Passport (Primary)
• Picture ID (Secondary)

**Sleeping**

• Tent
• Warm Sleeping Bag
• Pillow
• Bed Roll or Air Mattress (Twin)

**Other**

• Tools (optional)
• Flashlights

**Optional:**

• Alarm clock
• Camera
• Cash (shopping)
• Hat/Bandana
• Bible
• Notebook
• Bug spray
• Batteries
• First Aid Items

If coming during Fall thru Spring

• Heavy rain coat
• Rain boots

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**Tools** - All tools for home building are provided. Some people prefer to bring their own work gloves.

**Temperature** - IT GETS COLD ALL YEAR ROUND AT NIGHT, especially if you are staying in a tent. Summer nighttime temperatures can be in the 40's F. The ocean breeze makes it feel even colder! Bring a warm sleeping bag and jacket – even in the summer!

**Donations** - A needs list for our ministry is available on our website “Get Involved” page. If you bring donations, these items will need to be dropped off at the Project Mexico home office for processing. We ask that your team does not give anything directly to the orphanage staff or boys.

*If you would like to leave tents or air mattresses behind to be used by future volunteers, they will be graciously accepted and added to our inventory! Tool donations are also welcomed!*

**Money** - Your team will probably want to have some cash on hand during the week. American currency is generally accepted in Tijuana, but you will not have the opportunity to exchange money for pesos so please plan accordingly by bringing smaller bills that can easily be changed. Our “Tiendita” (store) offers both Project Mexico apparel and other goods and creature comforts to enjoy.

**Do Not Bring**

• Any clothing that is not in accordance with our dress code, especially leggings and short shorts.
• Alcohol, drugs, weapons or firecrackers.
• Laptops, iPods, curling irons, or blow dryers.
DRESS CODE
Because of our proximity to the orphanage and for many other reasons, we ask each of our work trip volunteers to dress modestly for the length of their visit. Please review the guidelines below and prepare accordingly. Additionally, we suggest wearing older/work clothing that you aren’t afraid of getting dirty or torn.

- **Shirts:** Shirts must have sleeves. Please do not wear tight-fitting shirts, shirts with low-cut or scoop necklines, or short shirts that reveal your stomach or back when bending over to work.
- **Pants:** Pants are most appropriate and provide the most protection during work/projects. Capris and shorts are fine to wear, but must go past the knee. *Leggings, yoga pants, bicycle shorts, or any other tight fitting bottoms are not allowed.*
- **Shoes:** Sturdy, closed-toe shoes are the best option for your work trip. We recommend sneakers or tennis shoes. The orphanage is dusty and you will most likely be walking on uneven terrain and grass/dirt at the orphanage.
- **Sweaters:** We recommend bringing a sweater or jacket for the evening. The orphanage is near the ocean and it does get cold and breezy once the sun sets.
- **Vespers:** We encourage head coverings for the ladies, but they’re not required. Long pants, dresses, or skirts are all acceptable for the ladies and long pants are required for the men; no shorts, please.

Our staff will be very appreciative to have your cooperation! Please be mission-minded and conservative when choosing what to wear and bring.

PERSONAL CONDUCT
We ask that you consider your responsibility as a role model for the boys of our orphanage. They are all very special to us and the following guidelines and rules are provided in order to achieve a peaceful and gratifying visit for you and our Project Mexico & St. Innocent Orphanage Family.

As a participant on a work trip, I agree that I will seek to glorify God by:

- Sharing God's love for all of us, in both word and deed
- Exhibiting a servant's attitude at all times and in all things
- Showing love and acceptance for all others who may be different from me
- Demonstrating selflessness through loving acts of generosity
- Working joyfully without complaining
- Being ready and willing to do whatever is asked
- Showing teamwork in all I do
- Sharing problems I may encounter with someone who can help me solve them constructively

I also agree to comply with the Project Mexico rules of conduct by:

- Wearing modest clothing appropriate for being around children, fellow participants and clergy
- Staying away from and out of restricted areas on the orphanage property
Never being alone with any of the orphanage boys at any time
- Obeying the nightly curfew and respecting the needs of others
- Completing assigned tasks with a positive attitude
- Avoiding all use of alcohol, drugs, weapons, and firecrackers for the duration of my trip
- Being careful and culturally sensitive in my interactions with the opposite sex

Alcohol, Drugs, Weapons, and Firecrackers
Alcohol, drugs, weapons, and firecrackers are strictly prohibited at all times! Possession of these items could result in police involvement, arrest, as well as indefinite incarceration.

Interaction with the Opposite Sex
Mexican culture makes assumptions much more quickly than ours does. If a man and a woman are alone together, it is generally assumed that something is going on. We ask that volunteers do not separate from the rest of the group with just one person of the opposite sex, especially one of our boys. Also, we ask couples to refrain from PDA (Public Display of Affection) beyond handholding.

Group Leaders and Chaperones
Our Project Mexico staff, while very concerned for your safety as well as a memorable experience, is not responsible for maintaining the discipline of work trip participants. We ask that all Group Leaders and Chaperones arrive ready to monitor the activities of their group participants and work with our staff in any situation that might require our intervention.

Consequences
If, for any reason, a participant is unable to comply with the guidelines above or if their presence becomes a distraction from our mission of serving others, that individual may be escorted off of the orphanage property and could be prevented from returning in the future.