



VILLAGE CHURCH INTERNATIONAL MISSION TRIP COVID POLICY

The safety of our trip participants is our top priority. Village Presbyterian Church (“VPC”) works with healthcare professionals to stay current with CDC recommendations as well as the status of public health in the destination country. There are also ongoing discussions with our partners on the ground to determine the level of risk due to COVID-19. If at any point it is determined to be unsafe, the trip will be canceled, and VPC will refund your trip in full.

To the extent possible, trip participants must agree to follow current COVID-19 safety protocols such as wearing masks and social distancing while in the country (based on CDC recommendations and in-country requirements). However, participants may be in close contact with their teammates without masks, so ultimately it is the decision of each participant to determine their comfort level with any risk and to visit with his/her personal physician for guidance.

PRIOR TO DEPARTURE

- All trip participants must be fully vaccinated as we will be working with vulnerable populations who do not have access to quality health care. Please email your COVID card to lora.garrison@villagepres.org.
- All participants must take a PCR (polymerase chain reaction) molecular test on either Sun., Nov. 14th or Mon., Nov. 15th and email their results to lora.garrison@villagepres.org before we depart on Fri., Nov. 19th. You will not be allowed to board the plane unless you send the results of your PCR test that was taken on one of those two dates. You do not need to quarantine after your test, but we ask that you commit to limiting contacts and refraining from high-risk activities.
 - If you test positive for COVID, your trip funds will be reimbursed in full.
 - If you are unable to present test results, you will not be able to participate, and trip fees will not be refunded.

PRIOR TO RETURN

- To return to the U.S., you will take a PCR test on Sun., Nov. 21st (cost is already worked into your trip fees).
- If a trip participant tests positive while in the DR, they would be required to quarantine for two weeks in-country. Our Dominican healthcare partners, Light A Candle Foundation, will help with the logistics of lodging, food, transportation and medical care, if needed. VPC will purchase Gallagher Insurance (secondary insurance to your primary insurance) on your behalf to help cover most, if not all, of costs incurred due to COVID-19. Any expenses not covered by insurance will be the responsibility of the participant.

AFTER RETURN

- The CDC recommends taking a PCR test 3-5 days after you return from the DR.