

Short-Term Mission Policy

I. Purpose

The goal of the Meadowvale CRC Short-Term Mission Policy is to provide the basis by which members of Meadowvale CRC may become involved in approved and supported missions. Further, this policy is intended to:

- examine eligibility potential;
- review the criterion for financial assistance; and
- outline the responsibilities of applicants to the Missions Team and Meadowvale CRC.

We as a team believe that Meadowvale CRC is a sending church, and it is our desire that every member of Meadowvale CRC become involved in missions, whether it be directly or indirectly.

II. Eligibility

For the purposes of this policy, eligibility is limited to those who are active participants at Meadowvale CRC, and the individual must (as determined by the Missions Team, Council or Pastor):

- a. Be involved in some form of ministry or administration within at Meadowvale CRC;
- OR
- b. Have maintained regular attendance at Meadowvale CRC for a period of 2 years or more.

III. Determination of Short-Term Mission (Time)

For the purposes of this policy, a short-term mission will be defined as a trip lasting no less than 5 days and not more than 12 months. Applicants who intend to participate in a mission trip that will last longer than 12 months should make separate written application to the Missions Team, using the Long-Term Mission Application form.

IV. Application

We encourage anyone considering participating in a mission trip to complete the Meadowvale CRC Missions Application, regardless of financial need. It is our desire as the Missions Team to have the opportunity to offer not only financial, but also prayer support and words of encouragement.

To assist the Missions Team in the understanding the scope of ongoing mission work, all eligible candidates are asked to complete the Meadowvale CRC Missions Application and submit it to the Missions Team a minimum of 8 (eight) weeks prior to the scheduled departure date. Upon review and acceptance of the application, the Applicant will be contacted with an information package to aid them in their preparations.

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As stewards of the Mission Budget, the Missions Team is accountable to the Council and members of Meadowvale CRC. All outlays of financial assistance by the Missions Team are carefully and prayerfully considered.

Application Forms are available on the Meadowvale CRC website at www.meadcrc.com, or from any member of the Missions Team.

V. Financial Support

Due to the variation in the length, location, and associated costs of mission trips, the Meadowvale CRC Missions Team has established the following guidelines for financial assistance.

a. Funding

- i. Applicants are always encouraged to cover a portion of the trip from their personal finances. However, a lack of finances should not inhibit participation in a trip that God has laid upon an applicant's heart.
- ii. Limited financial assistance is available through application to the Missions Team. The extent of financial assistance (if any) will be based upon apparent need and the availability of funding.
- iii. Applicants may approach other sponsors to raise financial support, however, the Meadowvale CRC Missions Team reserves the right to adjust funding agreements based on the success of other funding initiatives.
- iv. Approved applicants may utilize Meadowvale CRC as their sponsor for donations, and tax receipts will be provided. However, any donations or support using Meadowvale CRC as the sponsor must adhere to the following guidelines:
 - Donations or support monies directed to applicants must be placed in Donation / Budget envelopes (which are available at Meadowvale CRC).
 - The Donation / Budget envelope must be completed with the following information:
 - Full Name and Address Information of the individual making the donation (if applicable).
 - Name of Mission Trip and Intended Recipient, with the respective donation value also indicated.

b. Fundraising letters and activities

- i. Fundraising activities are encouraged, however, any fundraising activities that will take place at Meadowvale CRC, should be approved by the Meadowvale CRC Missions Team prior to the activities taking place.

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- ii. Letters soliciting support should be sent to family members, friends, targeted church members, as well as those outside of your normal “church scope” such as people who are part of your work, or sport communities.
- iii. The Missions Team must be informed upon the fundraising goal being achieved. Any excess in fundraising receipts over and above the cost of the trip will be allocated at the discretion of the Meadowvale CRC Missions Team.

VI. Prayer Support

The Missions Team and church body are committed to praying with you and for you throughout this application and preparation process, as well during and following the trip. To facilitate us upholding your needs, we need to hear from you and therefore request that for any trip in excess of 30 days, that the applicant provides a minimum of 1 written update per 30-day period. Written updates can be sent via email directly to your assigned contact from the Missions Team.

VII. Follow-Up Report

We would love for you to share your experiences with us upon your return. Thus, applicants will be asked to provide the Meadowvale CRC Missions Team with a written report following the short-term mission. This report should be submitted to the Missions Team no later than 2 weeks after returning from the trip, and will lead to:

- a. A short verbal update being given to the congregations at Meadowvale CRC; in addition to:
 - i. An information table set-up after a church service to provide the opportunity for questions and answers from the Meadowvale CRC community;
OR
 - ii. A presentation to the congregation at a Missions Event;
OR
 - iii. A one or two paragraph update in the Meadowvale CRC newsletter.