



**CHANGED
FOR LIFE**

**Why Going Through An Agency
for Your Mission Trip is Important**



Working with an agency is one of the best ways that you can ensure that your team will “help without hurting.” Agencies have established long-term relationships with trusted partners on the field. These relationships mean that we know the people who we are working with, as well as the needs of the community, and are able to design a trip that allows for the maximum amount of impact on all involved. Partnering with an agency may be the most significant step that a team can take toward serving the community that you go to well.

Agencies like World Renew, RCA Global Mission, and Christian Reformed World Missions exist to serve you and your group, and want to be a resource to you. It is our goal to use our knowledge, gifts, skills, and resources to walk alongside you as you follow God’s call, wherever that call may take you. As churches and global communities, we are called to walk together to build the kingdom of God. When all strands work together, we resemble the Trinity...each bringing our gifts and resources. We invite you to partner with us in the building of God’s kingdom!

Below are a few benefits that we’ve identified for groups & individuals to partner with a CRCNA agency:

- ✦ We place a high priority on the **safety** of our volunteers. In the event of a crisis or emergency, our organizations have a well-defined protocol and Crisis Management Teams that will work around the clock to ensure the safety of your team. When teams work with us, we hold emergency contacts and passport information, making it possible for us to respond swiftly in the event of an emergency.
- ✦ **Prayer** is vital to the success of any team. We are organizations committed to prayer! Each morning, our staff gathers to pray for needs around the world, which means that you will be covered in prayer as you travel and as specific challenges arise.
- ✦ We work to stay current on **trends and resources** in short-term missions, and have years of experience in leading and organizing hundreds of teams. Our agencies are associate members of the Standards of Excellence in Short-term Missions (SOE) and practice and implement the seven standards (www.soe.org). If you want new resources or just need to bounce a question off someone, we are here for you!
- ✦ In addition to the dedicated staff we have in both Canada and the United States who are there to provide **logistical support** to you and your team, we also have staff in the country that you are traveling to. This helps to ensure that your experience is safe, well-planned, and serves both The needs of your team and the people in the communities that you travel to.

Short-term missions requires a great deal of time and coordination. RCA and CRCNA agencies assist in pre-field, on-field and post-field details such as equipping materials, orientation and training for both you individually and your team. Here's what partnering with one of our agencies looks like:

- ✦ We offer logistical support for planning a short-term mission trip-- arranging airline tickets, visas, immunization and health recommendations, and insurance.
- ✦ We promote the identification, training and mentoring of leaders.
- ✦ We handle all the finances, including budget creation and in-country arrangements in partnership with our staff and host communities.
- ✦ We practice careful stewardship and fiscal responsibility, keeping overhead costs to the lowest levels possible. You may also qualify to receive tax receipts for project and trip donations.
- ✦ We provide both Canadian/American and Global Field Staff to host and work with you on-site.
- ✦ Our on-field program approach is holistic by working through local churches and partners to build skills, capacity and sustainability through education, leadership training, church planting, global relief, and community development programs.
- ✦ We have a team, facilitated by a Crisis Management Consultant, that monitors security around the world.
- ✦ We provide debriefing resources that can be tailored for individuals and groups upon return.

Your church would also have the opportunity to join our Global Partnership Program which seeks to facilitate the forming of relationships between a church or group in North America (NA) and a church or community elsewhere (usually outside NA) with the following goals:

- ✦ to deepen our connections as Christians,
- ✦ to better educate each other about what life is like in a different country/culture, and
- ✦ to become involved in each other's efforts to make our communities closer to the vision that God has for us.

If you are interested in partnering with a sending agency, or if you have any questions, please contact any of the following people.

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