



# Guidelines for Good News Project Volunteers

Good News Project wants to ensure that you and the other group members of your group will have a productive and enjoyable volunteer experience with us. We request that you adhere to these guidelines for the duration of your trip with us, and trust that disciplinary action will not be necessary. Please read the following, sign your name in agreement, and return this document to us.

1. Please remember that the purpose of this trip is service, not evangelization. As a Rabbi friend told us, 'The purpose of mission is not to change someone else's faith, but to live out your own faith.' In the Christian tradition, St. Francis taught, "Preach the Gospel at all times and when necessary use words". Island leaders also ask that in an effort to continue our positive interactions with church and state, we don't evangelize.
2. The warm welcome you receive on the Islands is due to the good reputation earned by all the volunteers who have preceded you. Please protect this good reputation! As a Good News Project volunteer, you are very conspicuous, and your activities are closely watched by folks who see you working, traveling, praying, and enjoying free time. The message conveyed by the way you interact with other group members and the people of the host country is very powerful.
3. Please plan to be present for the evening meals and to work on each weekday, unless you are not feeling well or need to take a day or half day off. We will plan optional recreational activities on Saturday and Sunday of the 'middle' weekend. We always welcome new ideas for service or recreational activities. Discuss your suggestions with your group leaders.
4. You and your fellow group members will be tired at the end of the day. In fairness to others we ask you to keep TV, conversations, games etc. quiet after 10 PM.
5. Through our Island connections we occasionally encounter someone in need of a meal. Please check with your group leader before extending an invitation. Additionally, don't invite visitors into your sleeping quarters.
6. Please save the use of your blue polo shirt for air travel. Some also wear them for dress-up occasions, Church, photos, medical clinics, conferences, etc. NOT for carpentry or painting!
7. You will be expected to wear Good News Project t-shirts when doing service projects on the island. They will be available for everyone.
8. Your group leader will be responsible to issue Good News t-shirts to West Indian volunteers.
9. Over the past 34 years, Good News volunteers have served countless hours and in so doing, have built long standing relationships with our West Indian hosts and friends. Questionable behaviors, especially while under the influence of alcohol, can adversely affect those relationships. As a volunteer, you represent the face of the Good News organization. Please remember this as you enjoy your free time on the island. Use good judgement and refrain from excessive alcohol use. Refer to our alcohol policy for further information.
10. Unmarried couples will be assigned to separate rooms.
11. Smoking is not allowed within buildings, including sleeping quarters and dining places.

**Your signature and a date below indicate that you have read these Guidelines and intend to abide by them for the duration of your Good News Project trip experience.**

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Signature

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Date