



INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH APPLICATION PACKET

Thank you for your interest in being a part of Life Church Buffalo International Outreaches and joining one of our teams! We believe that these types of international serving opportunities are a foundational tool that God uses in helping Christ followers grow in their commitment to Jesus. We will be praying for you as you discern if this is an opportunity that God is inviting you into. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us or go to our website at: lifechurchbuffalo.com/outreach.

For His glory,

Steve Valerio
Outreach Director
steve@lifechurchbuffalo.com

What is required to be a part of the team?

First, you must consider Life Church Buffalo your church home and regularly attend Sunday worship services. Second, you must complete all application paperwork and participate in an application interview. Finally, you must commit to attend 5-6 meetings before leaving and 1-2 debrief meetings **AFTER** returning from the outreach. ***All training and debrief meetings are MANDATORY.***

How can I apply to be a part of the team?

Download the International Outreach Application packet from the Life Church Buffalo website at: lifechurchbuffalo.com/outreach.

Submit your completed application electronically to: steve@lifechurchbuffalo.com; *OR*

Submit a hardcopy of your application to:

Life Church Buffalo
Attn: Outreach Ministries
4928 Seneca Street
West Seneca, NY 14224

ALL of the following items must be submitted for your application to be considered complete:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Completed Life Church Buffalo International Outreach Application (pp. 2-4) | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 Completed Reference Forms by a Life Church Buffalo Staff Member or Lay Leader (p. 9-10) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Responses to Supplemental Questions (p. 5) | <input type="checkbox"/> Signed copy of the Passport and Immunizations information document (p. 11) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Signed Medical Information; Waiver and Release of Liability (p. 6) | <input type="checkbox"/> Copy of a valid US passport (if you do not have a passport, please share your plan to get one) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Signed copy of the Life Church Buffalo International Outreach Team Covenant (pp. 7-8) | |



INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH APPLICATION

Life Church Buffalo Outreach Ministries plans and leads several international outreach trips each year to different destinations worldwide. Please take time to complete this application so that we can consider if this opportunity is a good fit for you. We encourage you to always seek God's will first and to prayerfully consider any desire to do outreach work.

Which team would you like to be considered for?	<input type="checkbox"/> Ciudad Juárez, Mexico <input type="checkbox"/> Ramón Santana, Dominican Republic <input type="checkbox"/> Iași, Romania
--	--

PERSONAL INFORMATION	
Name on passport:	
Street Address:	
City/State/Zip:	
Phone: (H)	(W)
(M)	
Email:	
Are you a U.S. citizen? Yes ___ No ___ If not, country of citizenship:	
Date of Birth:	Gender: Male _____ Female _____
Marital Status:	Single Engaged Married Separated Divorced Widowed
Employer/School:	Position/Grade:

CHURCH INFORMATION
Do you regularly attend worship services at Life Church Buffalo? Yes ___ No ___
When did you start attending (month/year)?
Are you part of a Life Group? Yes ___ No ___ If so, which one:
Previous church background prior to attending Life Church Buffalo:

MINISTRY INFORMATION

Briefly list your current and previous ministry and outreach involvements at Life Church Buffalo:

SPECIALIZED SKILLS

Specialized skills are not necessary for consideration for an international outreach team, but awareness of any skills can help us to properly tailor a trip and a team. Please list all specialized skills that you have developed and are able to use:
(for example: medical, teaching, music, drama, organizational, graphics, bricklaying, carpentry, electrical, electronics, computers, athletics, etc.)

First Aid / CPR Training:

Foreign Language(s) (and fluency):

CHARACTER REFERENCES

LCB Reference 1: Length Known:

LCB Reference 2: Length Known:

Life Group Leader: Length Known:

Other Reference: Length Known:

Context Known: Phone:

SPIRITUAL LIFE

Do you consider yourself a Christ follower? Yes ___ No ___

If you consider yourself a Christ follower and have accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, please indicate where in your faith development you consider yourself to be:

New Believer _____ Growing Believer _____ Maturing Believer _____

Briefly explain why you answered as you did above:

SELF ASSESSMENT

Please rate how you see yourself regarding the items below by circling the response that applies to how you feel about each item. Circle N/A if it doesn't apply to you.

1. I have a consistent devotional life of Scripture reading, prayer, and worship.

Strongly disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree N/A

2. I feel comfortable speaking about my relationship with Jesus Christ in public settings.

Strongly disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree N/A

3. I have some experience and relationships with those who are poor and marginalized and understand both the challenges that they face as well as what I can learn from them.

Strongly disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree N/A

4. If asked to share a "devotional" with my team or others, I would feel comfortable coming up with something to share.

Strongly disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree N/A

5. I have a strong cultural intelligence and understand the dynamics of ministering cross-culturally.

Strongly disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree N/A

6. It would be able to articulate the basics of Christianity with a person who does not know much about Christian faith.

Strongly disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree N/A

7. I have worked through some my own healing journey and see how God can use it to help others.

Strongly disagree Disagree Neutral Agree Strongly Agree N/A

SUPPLEMENTAL QUESTIONS

On a separate sheet of paper, please answer the following questions:

1. Please describe your spiritual journey and relationship with Jesus.
2. Please share if you have any ministry experience (ministry in your sphere of influence, cross-cultural ministry, ministry among the poor/marginalized, etc.).
3. What are your reasons for wanting to join this outreach?
4. What personal expectations do you have for your involvement in this outreach?
5. How do you think this outreach would help shape your ability to live out God's Kingdom calling?

Life Church Buffalo -- Outreach Ministries
MEDICAL INFORMATION; WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

Participant's Name: _____

Birth Date: _____ / _____ / _____ Gender: Male _____ Female _____

Address: _____

City, State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ Mobile Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Email _____

Do you have any current medical needs/conditions we should be aware of? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, please describe:

Please list current prescription medications: _____

Do you have any allergies (food, medication, environmental, other)? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, please describe:

Emergency Contact: _____ Relationship: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____ Alternate Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Insurance Carrier Name: _____ Policy/ID Number: _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY

In consideration of Life Church Buffalo (LCB) organizing, arranging and permitting me to participate in this ministry, I hereby waive all rights that I may now have or that may accrue in the future against LCB, its employees, and its members, (collectively, the "LCB Representatives and Leaders"), and I hereby release LCB and the LCB Representatives from, and agree to indemnify and hold LCB and the LCB Representatives harmless from and against any and all liability for any and all actions, damages, suits, costs, losses, claims, and judgments (Collectively the "Losses and Claims") that I, my spouse, family members, children, heirs, executors, administrators, successors and assignees ever had, now have, or hereafter can, shall or may have resulting from or arising in connection with my travel to or participation in Life Church Buffalo outreaches, activities, programs and projects.

I acknowledge that no promises, representations, or affirmations of fact were made to me by LCB or any of its agents or representatives concerning the safety of the event, the security precautions taken in sponsoring the event, the relative safety or danger associated with traveling to the event or participating in any activity, event or outing associated with the event. I affirm that I have read and I understand the foregoing provisions of this waiver and release of liability and accept the terms and conditions of this waiver and release of liability as a condition of my participation in this event.

I HAVE READ THE ABOVE WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND AGREE TO ITS PROVISIONS. I ALSO GIVE CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY PERMISSION TO OBTAIN ANY MEDICAL TREATMENT NECESSARY FOR ME DURING THIS EVENT.

Signature of Participant

Date



INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH TEAM COVENANT

Becoming a member of an International Outreach team requires a certain level of sacrifice and commitment. In addition to completing the required training and orientation program, there are pre-trip events and post trip debriefings that will require your attendance. It is important that you acknowledge the fact that there will be cultural differences on these trips, and that you commit to doing your best to be a witness for Jesus Christ in the host culture without judging or condemning. Please read the following Team Covenant carefully and affirm your commitment by **initialing each statement and signing below**.

As a member of this team, I agree to the following (initial next to each statement):

_____ **Spiritual Growth:** I will be open to learn from the Holy Spirit in all situations. I will participate in and complete all spiritual growth assignments that are part of the training program. I will commit to investing in my relationship with the Lord through prayer, study of the Word, fellowship with other believers, and regular attendance at worship services at Life Church Buffalo.

_____ **Teamwork:** I commit to working for team unity at all times. I commit to strive to be a servant at all times to those on my team, forfeiting my personal desires and comfort for the best of the team. I commit to resolving any team conflict according to Biblical Principles (Matthew 18:15-17).

_____ **Team Meetings (Pre-trip, trip, & post-trip):** I commit to participating in all team meetings before, during and after the trip. I commit to being prepared for all team meetings, including completing all assigned readings and exercises. I understand the value of team meetings for discipleship, training, team building, logistics, and debriefing.

_____ **Positive Attitude:** I agree to have an open spirit of love and encouragement towards my fellow teammates and towards those we are serving. I agree to respect our local hosts and to do my best to have an attitude of thankfulness, encouragement, cooperation and flexibility. I will not complain.

_____ **Ministry and Work Opportunities:** I will strive to be a Christ-like example to those I come in contact with throughout the trip. I commit to working hard at all tasks, sharing my faith and testimony as the Lord leads, and exhibiting Christ-like behavior.

_____ **Health and Personal Risk:** I commit to taking responsibility for my own health throughout my entire time on the outreach trip. I will prepare myself spiritually, mentally and physically – including obtaining the suggested immunizations. I commit to being aware of my own limitations and physical wellbeing so that I can know when it is appropriate for me to participate in an activity and when I may need some time to rest and get better so I can most effectively serve on the team. I am aware that I may be exposed to risks that are uncommon to my usual lifestyle, including limited medical facilities and potential for personal injury.

_____ **Leadership:** I agree to accept and to submit myself to the appointed leadership of the team. I agree to abide by and support their decisions in order to meet the team’s ministry objectives and promote team unity.

_____ **Guest:** I acknowledge that I am an invited guest of our host ministry and culture. I agree to refrain from making any negative comments or engaging in any disagreement about cultural differences, people, politics, sports, religion, race or traditions. I acknowledge that Christianity looks different in other parts of the world and my approach on this trip will be one of learning about what the Global Church looks like in this particular community and people group.

_____ **Relationships:** I agree to be sensitive in how I relate to members of the opposite sex, both on the team as well as those to whom we are going to work with. I will not pursue relations beyond friendship and I am willing to receive honest correction from my team leader(s) and/or host if my behavior becomes inappropriate.

_____ **Witness:** I agree to refrain from the use of any and all tobacco products, any and all alcoholic beverages, and all illegal substances during the course of the trip and at any team gatherings.

_____ **Prayer and Finances:** I commit to raise the necessary prayer and financial support for this trip. I understand that my payments must be made on the dates set by Life Church Buffalo and the team leader(s) and that my trip cost is my complete and personal responsibility. If I am unable to raise or pay for my trip cost, the church, team or organization with which I am traveling is NOT responsible for paying the amount due.

_____ **Consequences:** I agree that if correction of my behavior becomes necessary, I will be open to correction by the team leader(s) and/or by the ministry host. I understand and agree that if my behavior in any way jeopardizes the mission, goals and/or objectives of the team, I could be set aside and/or sent home from the trip AT MY OWN EXPENSE.

I have read and understand all of the above, and I commit to abide by these requirements. I understand that if I fail to meet my commitment in any way, I may be asked to step down from the team.

Printed Name

Signature

Date

Location of outreach and year



INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH REFERENCE FORM

Thank you for taking time to fill out the Life Church Buffalo International Outreach Reference Form. Please answer the following questions to the best of your knowledge. Please rank your evaluation of the applicant from 1 to 5; 1 being the mildest and 5 being the strongest recommendation.

In order to maintain confidentiality, please return this form to steve@lifechurchbuffalo.com

Applicant's Name: _____

Mission Trip Location: _____

1. How long, and in what association have you known the applicant?

2. Please evaluate the applicant in the following areas: (5 is very strong---1 is very weak)

* please use the space below each category for any comments

Character / Integrity: 1 2 3 4 5

Flexibility / How do they handle stressful situations? 1 2 3 4 5

Teamwork / How do they get along with others? 1 2 3 4 5

Does the applicant have a strong walk with the Lord? 1 2 3 4 5

Does the applicant have the awareness and experience to engage with people of very different backgrounds (culturally and socio-economically)? 1 2 3 4 5
3. Do you have any reservations regarding this person's service in the mission field?
4. Any other comments you would like to include?

To the best of my knowledge, all information shared in this reference is correct and accurate.

Name: _____ Position/Title: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Signature

Date

PASSPORT INFORMATION

Applying for a passport:

To apply for a U.S. passport, you will need:

- An original proof of citizenship document
- An acceptable photo ID document
- A photocopy of the front and back of the photo ID document
- Passport photo

Listed are some of the available websites with information and passport applications.

<https://passports.state.gov>

<https://www.usa.gov/passport>

<https://www.usps.com/international/passports.htm>

Allow 6 months for processing time before the trip.

Passport validity:

Note that a passport is not considered valid for travel outside of the United States if it will expire within six (6) months of your planned return and re-entry into the country.

IMMUNIZATION INFORMATION

Each region requires different immunizations. For the most accurate list of requirements, please refer to your physician and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at www.cdc.gov.

CONTACT YOUR PHYSICIAN

It is highly recommended that you speak to a physician as soon as you know you will be traveling. It is especially important to consult a doctor if you have any health conditions or concerns.

TIMING OF IMMUNIZATIONS IS CRUCIAL

Your physician will provide information on immunization schedules (best time to begin the shots, etc).

Waiting too long to get immunized may prevent you from traveling.

I have read and understand the above information and I agree to take responsibility for my passport and immunizations if I am accepted on the International Outreach Team:

Printed Name

Signature

Date