

# Translator Relations

The translators on our mission boat are like family to us. Because of the close relationship we share, they can be the ones we unintentionally hurt the most. It's essential to protect and nurture this relationship, as translators are crucial for spreading the Gospel and conducting mission work in the Amazon. We encourage every team member to respect, love, and cherish these hardworking, spiritually minded young people.

## Important Guidelines for Interacting with Translators

1. **Avoid Favoritism:** Do not cling to one translator or insist on having the same translator every day.
2. **Share Resources:** If there is a shortage of translators, please be willing to share.
3. **Communicate Clearly:** Speak clearly and ask if the translator understands you. Never criticize their English skills. Patience and respect will help them relax and perform better.
4. **Prioritize Evangelism:** Evangelism is vital and usually takes precedence over other ministries.
5. **Maintain Professional Boundaries:** Refrain from pursuing romantic relationships with translators. Such distractions can detract from our mission's goals.
6. **Encourage Collaboration:** Almost every translator, crew member, pastor, or missionary will try to accommodate requests, even if they know a better way. Instead of demanding, ask for their ideas and input as you plan your day.
7. **Gift Giving:** Never give gifts or money directly to translators. They are compensated for their work, and you will have the opportunity to make an optional donation to the group at the end of the trip.
8. **Avoid Promises:** In the past, team members have invited translators to the U.S., discussed educational funding, or done special favors for them. These generous gestures can create disunity among translators, as special perks can evoke

negative feelings and competitiveness. Therefore, Amazon Outreach does not involve itself in individual transactions relating to translators.

9. **Gifts After the Trip:** Although not recommended, team members may mail gifts to translators at their own expense after the trip concludes.

## **Optional Crew/Translator Donation**

Our staff includes a boat captain, cooks, crew members, cleaning personnel, and translators—all integral to our team. Forming connections with these individuals can be one of the trip's most memorable aspects. At the trip's end, an optional "tip" will be collected and divided among them. If you choose to contribute, any amount you feel led to give will be appreciated. A suggested amount is \$50, and please bring small bills.