



Partners in Christ

Short-Term Missions Handbook



Touching the Heart of Nicaragua for Christ, one Person at a Time

***How beautiful are the feet of those
who bring good news!***
Romans 10:15

We are so thrilled that God has brought you to Partners In Christ for a Short-Term Mission Trip to Nicaragua. Participation in a mission trip is a life-changing experience. It is God's will that all may know Him, and YOU are an essential part of that plan. We praise God that you have responded to His call. Please know that you will be prayed for along your journey of preparation and serving.

Introduction

The mission for which Partners In Christ has been called is simple, but one of the most important things we can do in life. That is to share the love of Jesus Christ so that all will know Him as savior.

Partners In Christ exists to Glorify God and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Nicaragua by mobilizing North American Christian organizations to strengthen community churches and their leaders, and to invest in the lives of at-risk youth.

While participating in a PIC mission trip you will have the opportunity to participate in many things in order to serve the spiritual and physical needs of the many desperate and lost people in Nicaragua. You will participate in church services, teach children in the schools about Jesus openly and freely, visit homes and learn about the culture, do manual labor, play with children, teach adults, and more. All of this and many more possibilities will be done along with our main goal of sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ. The opportunities are endless in Nicaragua for ministry depending upon the spiritual gifts of your team. The harvest is ripe and the people are waiting and eager.

I would ask you to pray about this opportunity to serve. Seek God's will. If you love Jesus and have a will to serve Him, while giving up a lot of the physical comforts that you may be use to for a week, then this trip could be a huge blessing for you and especially the people you will be ministering to in Nicaragua. Ask Him to make His will clear to you; then prepare yourself for a life-changing week. You will be the hands, the feet, the smile and the touch of Jesus.

Three things to prepare for before you go.

1. You should be able to clearly articulate the Gospel to others.
2. You should be able to describe how Jesus has changed your life.
3. You should be able to stand for Jesus with confidence.

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The Hard Part of Short-Term Mission Trips

Let's go ahead and get the hard stuff out of the way right up front. Here are some things you can expect during your week of service in Nicaragua.

- You will be in strange surroundings.
- People will speak a language that may be unfamiliar.
- Things will not always go as planned or as you expected.
- The food will likely be very different.
- You will be hot and uncomfortable.
- There will be miscommunications among team members and ministry staff.
- You may get sick.
- You may be tempted to get frustrated.
- You will be very tired at the end of each day.
- You may be heartbroken a few times.
- You may have some "difficult" people on your team.
- Your shower and your bed will not be as good as home.
- You will likely be asked to get out of your comfort zone a time or two.

If you are willing, like so many before you, to work and pray through all of these possible difficulties, you are ready to go and serve. Mission trips can be hard emotionally and physically but will be something that you will remember for the rest of your life. Through this venture, you will grow closer to God and make lifelong friends.

About Partners In Christ

Partners In Christ exists to Glorify God and share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in Nicaragua by mobilizing North American Christian organizations to strengthen community churches and their leaders, and to invest in the lives of at-risk youth.

In 2003, after the founders of the ministry had already been going to Nicaragua for several years, God put a tremendous burden on our hearts to do MORE of His work in Nicaragua. We heard the calling and saw that the need for the gospel was huge. After much prayer and counsel, we determined that this call to do more was to not to do more ourselves, because we were already going many times per year, but instead to use our experience to equip others to go and serve.

Since 2003, Partners In Christ has equipped and sent hundreds of people to Nicaragua with the primary purpose of sharing the love and grace of Jesus. PIC enables short-term mission teams to work through established, evangelical churches and other Christ-centered organizations in Nicaragua to partner with and evangelize targeted communities. We've seen God's bountiful blessings pour out on both the giver and the receiver of His love.

While partnered with PIC, we are your full-time missionaries in Nicaragua working year round with many good pastors and assisting them in reaching the lost people in their communities. When it is time for you to go to Nicaragua and serve, PIC takes care of all of the planning and arrangements, both here and in Nicaragua. We work ahead of time preparing for your week of ministry so that your trip will be focused and effective.

MINISTRY GOALS

We desire to serve the Lord by:

1. Mobilizing North American Christian organizations by facilitating short-term mission trips.
2. Organizing strategic, effective ministry opportunities for teams through partnerships with evangelical community churches, local believers and assistance organizations.
3. Assisting in the transition of at-risk youth into fulfilled, educated, Christian adults.
4. Ministering to the spiritual and physical needs of abused and abandoned children in orphanages.
5. Training the leaders of short term mission teams to enable the accomplishment of specific ministry projects.
6. Assisting Christian leaders / workers in developing and implementing discipleship programs in their respective communities.

Ministry Areas of Focus for Mission Teams

Evangelism through Churches – Our focus and ministry philosophy is to lift up and support the church in Nicaragua. Partners In Christ (PIC) has formed partnerships with many great Pastors in Nicaragua. Through these partnerships, PIC is able to support the pastors in many ways including monetarily, supplying discipleship material, training, prayer support and of course the all-important short-term mission team. Short-term mission teams play a very vital role in encouraging pastors and strengthening their churches. By going out into the communities the teams are able to revitalize the churches and reach new people in the surrounding area that may have never heard the gospel before. These short-term mission teams canvass a neighborhood, going door-to-door, witnessing, handing out tracts, praying with people in their homes, and inviting them to the church. However, partnership involvement doesn't end at the end of a short-term team's visit because the partnering churches can continue to stay in contact with each other through our missionaries and staff. Prayer needs for both churches can be shared, and support can be provided year-round.

Construction – Many of our partnered churches will experience growth as a result of the blessings from God by your efforts. As a result, oftentimes there are needs for construction or building projects. It is a powerful, double blessing for a team to assist with building projects on a church or a pastor's home. There is a great need for this because the churches are very poor and they often cannot even pay their pastors a living wage. Most pastors must work two jobs to support their families. The bonds of Christian brotherhood that grow from a week of hard work and worship together last for many years.

Medical Missions - The medical needs among the poor in Nicaragua are great. Most people simply cannot afford medical attention or desperately needed prescriptions no matter how bad their ailment or condition. When a mission team of medical, paramedical and support people come into a church or targeted community, the one with medical needs finds healing and comfort for his physical needs and often finds healing for his soul as well.

Team Preparation and General Information

1. As soon as you are ready to commit to a trip, Partners In Christ requires you to submit an online Mission Trip Registration which can be found on the PIC web site at www.partnersinchrist.info/going/resources.
2. You will need a valid passport that does not expire within 6 months of your trip date. No VISA is required. If you do not have a passport, you should go apply ASAP.
3. Everyone on the team will be provided a PIC T-shirt. The team should wear these T-shirts when traveling to Nicaragua and when traveling home. They are very helpful for keeping the team together going through the airport, getting through customs in Nicaragua as a group, and for witnessing opportunities as you travel. The PIC staff in Nica expects to wash your PIC shirt before your return home. Be sure to ask a couple of days before departure.
4. Each team needs to have a team leader. PIC staff will discuss any necessary matters related to the team and planning with this team leader.
5. The ideal size of a team is around 15-25 people. Should you have over 28 or so, we suggest you have two teams, perhaps with one team following the other team. A team of less than 12 is not recommended because the group rate airfare fare is not available. However, a larger or smaller team could be accommodated under certain circumstances.
6. Teams can be made up of persons ranging in age from youth to senior adults. Parents can take their children with the understanding they are responsible for their supervision. It is not recommended that children go if they are too dependent on their parents because this could inhibit the ability to do the mission for which God has called you.
7. We suggest that you not bring any more valuable items with you than necessary. PIC cannot be responsible for lost or stolen items.
8. All plans for your trip to Nicaragua are to be made with the U.S. office; not with our staff in Nicaragua. Only the team leader should coordinate plans for your trip with our US staff representative.
9. It is important that the team members **not give** their addresses and/or phone numbers to people in Nicaragua. Experience has proven that this can and has caused problems.
10. The Mission House Policies should be reviewed during one of the team meetings as well as the during the orientation time in Nicaragua. Please acquaint yourselves with this and ask any questions you may have.
11. Your team's mission while working through Partners in Christ will be to partner with your Nicaraguan Pastor and support him in the ministry to which God has called him. This may include

working in many different venues such as in community outreach, schools, barrios, orphanages, and of course supporting and promoting the community church.

12. Experience has shown us that everything does not always go as planned. While it is good for us to make plans as best we can, we believe it is even more important for us to trust our Lord to adjust our plans and agenda to His. Please remember, **you must be flexible**.
13. We suggest that each team member enlist at least two prayer partners to pray for them and the team beginning several weeks before the trip and continuing until after their return. The team's success is not based upon their own strength but upon the Lord's. **He** will undergird the team spiritually and physically as prayer partners petition Him. We want it to be **His** trip, not your trip or our trip.
14. Do not expect Nicaragua to be like the U.S. It is a so-called "third world country" and different in many ways. However, the needs are real and we want to go "in Jesus' name" and walk in a way worthy of Him. Don't try to change the culture to the way the way of the USA. Just remember that you are there to serve. Always keep a servant's heart.
15. Please always remember that we are ambassadors for Christ. We want to be encouragers to each other and especially to those we come in contact with in Nicaragua. It's likely that you will be tired, hot and maybe even a little short-tempered by the end of a busy day. Please be prayerful for yourself and each other in this regard.
16. The PIC Mission House is equipped with Wi-Fi for teams use. We would just ask that you be careful not to let it distract from your mission and purpose in Nicaragua. It's best to use your time there to completely unplug and refocus. Also, keep in mind that band-width is small so try not to upload photos while in Nicaragua. When a team of 15 is all using wi-fi, it tends to be very slow.
17. When you are in a different culture, you need to remember that others may evaluate the appropriateness of your behavior based on the standards of their culture. Therefore, as you are doing your mission in Nicaragua, please be sure to be cautious about your behavior. Always have a humble attitude and accept the way they do things in Nicaragua instead of trying to change them to the way we are in the US. Modesty and respect is very important.
18. Always be supportive and respectful of your team leader and his or her decisions. They have been chosen to lead the team for good reason. The quickest way to ruin the morale on a trip is for someone to start gossiping about the leadership. It spreads like a virus and satan wins the victory. Everyone must work as a team under one leader with united spirit.
19. Prepare your heart, mind and body for your mission trip. It is recommended that you spend time in God's word studying and seeking His will for this trip. Pray fervently for yourself, your team, PIC, and your team leader. It's also a very good idea to prepare your body physically by exercising and spending time outside in a hot climate if possible.
20. Prepare to go with an attitude of servitude, ambassadorship, and flexibility. Humility and dependence on Christ for all things.

Create a Personal Prayer Support Team

There is nothing you can do that will be more important for your trip than prayer. If you don't have people interceding and praying for you, your trip could be a disaster. This is so important. Every person that goes on a mission trip should plan early and recruit a group of 3 – 5 people that will commit to seriously pray for you and your team before, during and after your trip.

- Get 3 – 5 people that you know will pray for you.
- Give them something that will remind them to pray for you – copy of the team schedule, prayer card, or any kind of special little gift that they can keep visible.
- Ask your prayer team to pray for things like health, endurance, boldness to share the Gospel, discernment in knowing what God is doing, humility, and anything else you may need.

Cost and Travel

1. Partners In Christ facilitates and organizes mission trips where everything possible is included in the price to make things simple. Our trip price includes everything you will need for your trip with the exception of team supplies, a small Nicaragua entry fee, or any extra spending money you may want for activities on your free day. Here are some of the major things we organize and provide for your team:
 - a. All travel arrangements and flights
 - b. In-country transportation
 - c. An adequate number of Christian translators for your team
 - d. Travel and medical insurance
 - e. All meals are provided at the PIC Mission House
 - f. Nicaraguan group manager
 - g. Preplanning and organizing your trip
 - h. Lodging at the beautiful PIC Mission House
2. We hold the price of your trip as low as possible while providing everything we can to make your trip most effective. However, if a team chooses to do a project like construction or anything with an expensive price, the team will need to pay for any materials used in Nicaragua for accomplishing the mission task, as this is not included in the package cost to each individual. Small items, such as Spanish Bibles and tracts, craft supplies, medicines, sports equipment, ministry snacks and other items should be brought from the U. S. as team supplies. We suggest that the church or organization provide funds and donations for these items as this gives a sense of everyone being involved. The exact items the team needs, if any, will be discussed with the team leader as we have more details on the size and assignment of the team. Large or relatively heavy items such as food staples for distribution, paint, building supplies, concrete, and other items should be purchased in Nicaragua. We can make arrangements to have these things ready for your group.
3. Your travel will be arranged on United, American or Delta Airlines with careful consideration for cost and schedule. We will search all three major airlines in order to find the best price for you. Your travel arrangements will be provided as soon as arrangements have been confirmed.

Fund Raising and Support Letters

We believe that if it is God's will that you be a part of a mission trip, the money will be there for you. That does not mean that you won't have to work a little though. It's important that you do your part. It can sometimes be a little awkward to ask for financial support but if people hear about what you will be doing and you are sincere in your request, people will give. Here are some suggestions:

- First, pray for your potential donors.
- Create a list of potential donors from your family, friends, work, coaches, etc.
- Develop a one-minute elevator speech that will create curiosity and connection for your mission experience. Talk about what you will do and why you believe you should go.
- You are looking for partners in your mission endeavor. Ask people to partner with you on your mission as you sacrifice to share the love of Christ in another country.
- Ask all potential donors to commit to praying for you and your team daily. Partnership.
- It is important to communicate with donors and potential donors throughout the whole process, before, during, and after your trip.
- Write support letters early. Send one to everyone you know. Make your letter short and to the point. Tell them what the cost is and tell them that anything will help. You can find two sample support letters here. <http://partnersinchrist.info/#/resources/participant-materials>
- Team fundraising events are important for two reasons. One, for help in bringing the team together and learning about one another before you go. And it's a great way to raise funds together for needed ministry supplies. Here are just a few ideas:
 - Car washes
 - Pancake Breakfast
 - Huge team garage sales
 - Bake sales
 - Silent auction
- If needed, PIC has the ability to set up an online site where you can receive personal donations for your trip. Feel free to contact our Director if you need help with this.
- It's very important to ask all potential donors to commit to praying for you and your team daily.
- Be sure to put all donors and prayer partners on an email list so you can share your experiences while on your mission trip. Communication is important.

Mission House Information and Policies

Partners In Christ is committed to impacting the nation of Nicaragua with the gospel of Jesus Christ. To that end, the Lord has provided the ministry with many blessings which allow us to make your stay as comfortable and enjoyable as possible. God has blessed the ministry with a beautiful mission house where teams will stay while serving in Nicaragua. Our goal is to help your group have an enjoyable, comfortable, and safe place to stay while in Nicaragua. Please be good stewards of this gift from God.

1. While we believe that we have a very trustworthy staff in Nicaragua, we ask that you not leave valuables lying in plain view. It is recommended that you not bring jewelry or other expensive items to Nicaragua. A safe is available at the house if needed.
2. All showers have hot water capability, however very different than we are use too. The key thing to remember about setting the temperature is to know that the more water that goes through the showerhead, the colder it will be. If you want the water to be warmer, just turn down the flow a little. We ask that you please be considerate about the length of time you spend in the shower. Water is limited only to the amount that the house tanks will hold and the electricity to heat it is very expensive in Nicaragua.
3. House towels and linens are provided. Towels will be washed midweek by the staff. Make sure to hang your towels so they will dry each day. Please do not use extra towels or take towels from the house for any reason.
4. Purified drinking water is available in the dining area and in the field at all times. We don't recommend drinking the water from the faucet in the house or anywhere in Nicaragua. You should only drink water provided by PIC.
5. You will need to bring all of your own toiletries that you normally need. (soap, shampoo, etc...) It's even a good idea to bring a roll of toilet paper, especially to take out each day.
6. In consideration of our hard working staff and other guests, we ask that you plan to have all lights out and quiet before 11:00 each night. Please respect this as the house carries sound all too well and can be very noisy as you will see. You, and our staff, need a good nights rest.
7. Please do not enter the cooking area as it is very small and the staff has a difficult time completing their work if people are in that area. The refrigerator and freezer in the kitchen are for staff use only. There is a refrigerator available for team use in the dinning area.
8. Drinks and snacks are available in the dining room area for a fee. Please only pay in clean, un-ripped US dollars (no US coins) or in Nicaragua Cordoba.
9. Food and drinks are for consumption in the dining and common areas only. No food or snacks are allowed outside of common area. Open packages of personal food, crumbs and coke cans in the bedrooms will attract ants and many other undesirable insects.

10. **Please be sure that fans and lights are turned off when a room is not in use. Electricity in Nicaragua is very expensive.**
11. The washer and dryer that are on the premises are for staff use only. Do not plan on washing clothes while in Nicaragua. However, if you need to rinse something out and hang it to dry, that will be fine. Ask our staff.
12. Any concerns or problems arising with any PIC staff should be brought to the attention of the on-site Nicaragua Field Director or our staff in the US.
13. In the event of an emergency, the Nicaragua Field Director who is always with you, will be responsible for contacting the proper authorities. Also, we request that the team leader notify the ministry coordinator in the US at picooffice@partnersinchrist.info or 001-865-898-2501.
14. Wi-Fi access is available at the Mission House. The password is posted on the bulletin board in the dining area.
15. While PIC does provide 24-hour on-site security, for safety reasons, we recommend that guests remain within the fenced confines of the PIC property. The outer gates of the property will remain locked at all times. If you do wish to take a walk outside the gates, please make sure you go in a group, never alone, and never after dark.
16. The power and water routinely go off throughout the city of Managua. Our Mission House is equipped with a water tank, which can provide a minimal amount of water during an outage. Unfortunately, there is nothing PIC can do about unexpected power or water outages. We will do our best to provide.
17. Alcohol and tobacco products are not allowed on the PIC property.
18. We recognize the fact that accidents happen. If you spill something, please clean it up or notify a staff member. If something gets broken, please let us know.
19. PIC has made every reasonable effort to provide a safe, secure environment for teams. It is understood that PIC is not responsible for any accidents, falls, or injuries that might occur while staying in the Partners in Christ Mission House. PIC also can not be responsible for the personal property of guests.
20. If you have youth staying with you in the house, it is your responsibility to see that they are acting responsibly at all times. The house can be very dangerous for children and we don't want anyone to ever be hurt.

21. The plumbing in Nicaragua is not like the United States. Please use caution with the toilets, as they are VERY likely to clog. It is customary in Nicaragua to NOT place toilet paper in the toilet. There are trashcans beside each toilet where the toilet paper should be disposed.
22. We ask that you respect the facilities that God has provided for the ministry and your teams, Please be conservative with everything. Treat it as if it were you own. God has blessed us greatly and it is our duty to respect what He has provided.
23. If you or your team feel like you would like to reward the PIC staff in Nicaragua with a love offering or tip, that is perfectly fine, and much appreciated. We would only ask that you give the money directly to the Field Director and he will make sure it is divided evenly among all staff. We feel like the person in the back that is never seen is just as important as the translator you see every day. All of the PIC team plays an important role in your ministry.
24. And lastly, HAVE FUN and enjoy God's blessing and rejoice in being used by our mighty King in Nicaragua for HIS Glory.

We pray that you have a blessed stay with us in Nicaragua.

What to Bring

One of the most important things to remember about this topic is don't over-pack. We understand that this is easy to do because many are going on their first short-term trip and not knowing exactly what you will need causes many to overpack.

1. Concerning clothing, most of the time during your trip, shorts and a t-shirt of a modest nature are fine for day-to-day activities. However, for church services or meetings where you may be teaching, it is customary in Nicaragua to dress more professionally or modestly. For these more formal activities, women should wear dresses, skirts, or even Capri pants. Men should wear long pants such as khakis or jeans with a collared casual shirt (Men in Nicaragua, generally, do not wear shorts.) Pants can usually be worn at least twice, but you may need extra shirts because of the heat, and men will need a collared shirt for each church service. It is best to bring enough clothes for the entire trip, as we are unable to provide any laundry services. Since it is hot in Nicaragua and the sun is bright, you may want a hat, sunscreen and sunglasses. Ladies should not take a purse into the field. Instead, backpacks with a water bottle or day/backpacks are suggested. One of the most important things to remember about clothing is to be modest. Girls, no short shorts, please. We are representing Christ through a local pastor and church and we need to always respect that. If in doubt, it's better to be overly conservative.
2. You may need to bring items to aid in the purpose of your mission trip. Things like crafts, tools, Spanish Bibles and tracts and so on should be brought from the US as it is difficult to find things in Nicaragua. Come fully prepared. If you want to bring tools and donate them to Partners In Christ, they would be appreciated. Check with us about needed tools as we may already have some things you need.
3. Bring a flashlight. It is not uncommon for the power to go off. It gets dark around 6:00.
4. A team First-Aid kit is suggested; including general medication for diarrhea, headaches, cuts and bruises, insect bites, sunburn, etc.
5. Each person should bring any toiletries needed and a roll of toilet paper. There is usually hot water in the showers but only cold water in the bathroom sinks. Two towels and washcloths will be provided for the week. One will be exchanged for the other at midweek. Your bed linens are also provided.
4. The airlines usually allow one checked bag of up to 50 pounds, and one carry-on bag. We suggest you take as much of your personal belongings in the carry-on as possible. This leaves everyone with space in your checked bag for tools, crafts, teaching materials, and any other items for the mission task. Make sure all your bags are properly labeled. Since luggage has been known to get lost or not arrive when the team does, it would be wise to put your needed toilet articles in a zip-lock bag and several days' clothing in your carry-on. You are encouraged to check with the airline to make sure there have been no revisions in baggage policies.

5. While the outlets at the PIC house are the same as in the U.S., and you are welcome to bring small electrical items, we ask that you use them wisely, as electricity is very expensive/
6. You are encouraged to bring your Bible and any other related reading material. We encourage your personal quiet time in the morning or perhaps together with your roommate(s). We also suggest having a time of team sharing in the evening.
7. We will have filtered water for the team during the day while working and at the mission house. Team members should use this water instead of local water. Feel free to bring snacks individually or as a team. ***However, all snacks (especially anything with sugar) must be kept in Ziploc bags, as ants and bugs are a problem.*** All food is to be eaten only in designated eating areas since bugs can become a huge problem. Chocolate is not best since it will probably melt. Additionally, snacks and drinks are usually available for purchase in the Mission House. **Remember to drink plenty of water every day, as the most common sickness seen while serving in Nicaragua is dehydration.**
8. While everything for your mission trip is included in the price, except supplies for project, you may still want to take some cash for shopping or R&R Day. Additionally, if the team wishes to eat out at a restaurant for a meal this will be at the teams expense. Credit cards are taken at most restaurants. Additionally, you can use clean, unmarked U. S. paper currency about anywhere you go. U.S. coins are not accepted. However, we will help you if you desire to exchange your money to Nicaraguan Córdobas. It is best to bring your money in small bills (\$1's, \$5's, \$10's). **Do not bring travelers checks.**
9. Three meals per person per day are included in the cost of the trip. Our cook at the mission house prepares hot breakfast and dinner meals. We provide lunch each day at the place of ministry. Occasionally, a team will want to eat out on R&R day or for an evening meal. We can arrange this but it will be at the team's expense. Additionally, if you would like to have any of your translators join the team on R&R day that will also be at the team's expense.

Sample Packing List

Everything on this list is not required. This is only a suggestion list to help you think through everything.

Passport, with two copies	Camera	Sun glasses
Money, clean small bills	Water bottle	Wet wipes or hand sanitizer
All toiletries and meds, in carryon	Tools	Flashlight
Bible and study material	Supplies for your mission	Duct tape
Medical items or medicines	Sun screen	Small backpack for daily use
Appropriate clothing for each day	Bug spray	Gatorade powder
Two pairs of comfortable shoes	Snacks	Zip lock bags
Hat	Spanish dictionary	Multi-purpose tool
Work gloves	Ear plugs	Two days of clothes and medicines
	Bathing suit (no bikinis)	in your carry-on

Regarding Passports

1. If you don't already have a passport, you should go to your local Post Office soon and apply. You can look on line before you go to see what documents and information are required and the costs. Please don't delay doing this because sometimes it can take months to get a new passport.
2. All team members must have a valid passport which will not expire while you are in Nicaragua. Please check your passport now as this has created problems with several previous team members. No visa is required.
3. While on the plane, you will receive documents to be completed—one for immigration and one for customs. On these documents, you are asked for your “foreseen address” in Nicaragua. You can use this address: KM 10.25 Carretera Sur, Lomas de Ticomo, Casa #80, Managua, Nicaragua. This address is also provided on the address cards, which are a part of this manual.

Immunizations and Medical Information

It is the responsibility of the trip participant to ensure they have researched and received any immunizations or medicines they feel are necessary for the upcoming trip.

While there are no “required” immunizations, the CDC does recommend the following. Please use your own judgment as to how to proceed.

- Hepatitis A and B
- Tetanus
- Typhoid
- Malaria pills

Missionary Travel Insurance Coverage

PIC provides each team member with a \$500,000.00 policy for travel, medical and emergency medical evacuation insurance. Insurance is provided by: Seven Corners, Inc. 303 Congressional Blvd Carmel, IN 46032. More information can be provided upon request.

Registering with the US Embassy in Nicaragua

PIC feels that it is important that each person traveling to Nicaragua should register with the US Embassy in case of any kind of emergency. It’s very simple and only takes a few minutes.

You can go to: <https://step.state.gov/step/>

Tips for Staying Safe and Healthy

Nicaragua is generally a very safe place. In all of the years of our ministry there, we have never had any problems. Our full time staff does an excellent job in guiding you throughout each day and keeping you safe.

Here are some important things to remember:

1. Always stay in groups. Never walk around alone. Always keep a translator with each group.
2. Girls/women must dress modestly.
3. Avoid carrying valuables or wearing jewelry.
4. Keep wallets and money on your person secured in a zipped or buttoned pocket.
5. Always carry a copy of your passport – not the original.
6. Don't try to play with or touch the animals – very dangerous!
7. Drink a lot more water each day than you think you need.
8. Always follow the instructions of our Nicaragua staff.
9. If you sense any danger, leave that area immediately.
10. Never flash your money around when making a purchase.
11. Use hand sanitizer or wash hands with soap before eating.
12. Drink and eat ONLY items provided by the ministry. If in doubt, ask.
13. Keep an eye on valuables like cameras and other things.
14. Never give or even talk about giving people money without first talking to PIC leadership.

What Will Happen upon Arrival

Once your flight arrives in to Managua, you will deplane and follow the signs to get to immigration. Once in the immigration area you meet with the immigration agent (who likely does not speak English) and he/she will want to receive your paperwork that you completed on the airplane and your passport. Once the agent is finished with all of your papers, he will ask for \$10.00. Be prepared with correct change.

When finished with immigration move on to collect your luggage at the carrouseles. It is a good idea to have one person on the team to watch over all of your carry-on items while others get luggage off of the carrousel. Be careful because a lot of luggage looks the same. It is a good idea for the whole team to have the same color ribbon or something on your bags. Have someone else assigned to watch all gathered checked luggage as it is collected.

Once all checked baggage is gathered, proceed as a group, all together to the customs area. They will likely check luggage tags and want to match them with the same number and barcode tag you received at your departure airport. It's a good idea for the team leader to keep all of these tags together. Your baggage will be run through an x-ray machine and you will give your customs form to the agent. Sometimes they will ask to look inside your baggage. If they ask about any of your supplies tell them that everything is a free gift to the church where you will be working.

Now walk outside and our Nicaragua Field Director will be there waiting for you. He will identify you by your PIC shirts. The bus will most likely be close by. You will then load all of the luggage up on the bus with the help of the PIC staff. For those not helping with luggage, it is best if you go ahead and board the bus. There will likely be many Nicaraguans there wanting to help. Just politely tell them no thank you and continue working. If you allow one of them to work for you, there will soon be ten of them and they will all want a big tip when done.

Depending on traffic, it is about a 40 minute drive to the PIC Mission House.

These address cards should be used to give to friends, family and prayer partners before leaving to serve. Additionally, while on your flight to Managua you will be required to write your address as to where you will be staying in Nicaragua. Please use this address. The Nicaragua number listed should only be used in case of emergency, as it is the phone number for the Nicaragua Field Director.

<p>PIC Mission House address in Nicaragua: Carretara Sur Km 10.25 Lomas de Tocomá Casa # 80 Managua, Nicaragua Nicaragua Phone number: 011-505-8965-3599 US Phone Number: 865-898-2501</p> <p>U.S. Embassy Managua KM 5 1/2 Carretera Sur Phone 011-(505)-2252-7100</p>	<p>PIC Mission House address in Nicaragua: Carretara Sur Km 10.25 Lomas de Tocomá Casa # 80 Managua, Nicaragua Nicaragua Phone number: 011-505-8965-3599 US Phone Number: 865-898-2501</p> <p>U.S. Embassy Managua KM 5 1/2 Carretera Sur Phone 011-(505)-2252-7100</p>
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Release of Rights

We live in a world that is full of rights. Our particular culture is one where we take pride in our rights. The rights of individuals are constitutional; however as we see the demanding of individual rights increase, we see more of the moral fiber of our society decrease. Our Lord Jesus Christ laid down His rights to the heavens and all His glory to become a man and to serve, not to be served (Phillipians 2:5-11; Mark 10:45).

Consider laying down your rights on this mission trip, not to lay them down for better or worse, but to entrust them to the Lord or transfer the responsibility of them to a place of safekeeping. These rights may seem reasonable but could still cause dissension on a short term mission trip. Take time to search your heart and willingly surrender your rights to the Lord.

ROMANS 12:1

I Give Up My Right To:

- a comfortable bed
- three meals a day
- familiar food
- dressing fashionably
- seeing results
- control of myself
- control of others
- control of circumstances
- pleasant circumstances
- making decisions
- taking up offense
- being successful
- being understood
- being heard
- being right

I Entrust To God:

- my strength and endurance
- my health and strength
- my likes and dislikes of food
- my security in Him
- His purposes and fruit in His timing
- my need for His Spirit control
- His workmanship in others
- my circumstances to His purposes in making me Christ-like
- the privilege of suffering for His sake
- His sovereign hand on my life
- my security in His love
- my reputation
- my need for recognition
- my need for His righteousness

I give God permission to do anything He wishes to me, with me, in me, or through me that would glorify Him.

Laying down your rights will be key to your experience and effectiveness.

Signature and Date

How, then, can they call on the one they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the one of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone preaching to them? And how can they preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Romans 10:14-15

Be sure to keep up with what's going on here and in Nicaragua through our web site and social media sites.

Web Site: www.PartnersInChrist.info

Partners In Christ Ministries – Nicaragua



PICNicaragua



GET INVOLVED:



Partners In Christ is a full-time, ongoing ministry in Nicaragua. The only way that PIC can continue to exist and maintain its projects is through the support and generosity of Christians who want to make a difference for Christ. You can support PIC through your prayers for the ministry, through monetary support, or by forming short-term mission teams that will provide invaluable resources and assistance to PIC projects.

Blessings for a God-enriched journey!!!

Partners In Christ

Garland Alford

Executive Director

Garland@partnersinchrist.info

(865)898-2501