

MISSION TRIP PACKET 2019

PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING ITEMS:

1. Please fill out the following information packet including the travel waiver.
2. Make a copy of your passport picture page.
3. Mail completed application with copy of passport picture page to:

SEK Baptist Association
c/o Clarence Newman
PO Box 313
Chetopa, KS 67336

PLEASE USE ABOVE ADDRESS ONLY:

MISSION TRIP APPLICATION

SECTION 1: GENERAL INFORMATION

Trip ID # Arriaga Trip Leader Clarence Newman

FULL NAME: First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____

As it appears on Your Passport:

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____

Passport #: _____ Passport expiration date: _____

Determine the date you will return from your travel with. Does your Passport have more than six months left beyond this date before it expires? If the answer is no, you will need to apply for a new Passport. The US Government will restrict your travel plans and will not allow you to leave the country with a Passport that has less than six months validity.

Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

City: _____ Cell Phone: _____

State: _____ E-Mail: _____

Zip: _____

SECTION 2: EMERGENCY INFORMATION

Are there any medical restrictions or disabilities that we should know about?

What is your blood type?

List any known allergies to Medications, foods, insect bites, etc.?

Has any allergic reaction ever required emergency medical care?

Do you have any reoccurring health problems?

Please list any current medications you are taking.

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY NOTIFY:

Name:

Relationship:

Address:

Day Phone:

City:

Evening Phone:

State:

Cell Phone:

Zip:

Family Physician & Phone #:

Name of Health Insurance Company:

Policy #: _____

I authorize SEK Baptist Association, and / or their representatives to seek medical attention and treatment for: _____ should the need arise during the trip to: _____ (date of trip) _____

SECTION 3: CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

Are you a member of a local church?

Name of church you attend:

Church address:

Pastor's name:

Church Phone #:

Please list areas of service you are involved with at your church?

SECTION 4: SKILLS AND GIFTEDNESS

What languages other than English do you know?

What is your skill level with the above languages? (Circle appropriate answer)

Speak fluently

Speak some

Read fluently

Read some

Write fluently

Write some

Describe your areas of giftedness that would relate to a short-term mission trip?

Any specific skills that could be utilized on this trip, (construction, medical, drama, music, crafts, etc?)

SECTION 5: REFERENCES

Please list below 3 people we may contact who have known you at least two years and who know your ministry abilities as well as your strengths and weaknesses. These should be from outside your family.

1. _____ Phone _____

2. _____ Phone _____

3. _____ Phone _____

LIABILITY WAIVER

1. I desire to participate on the mission trip to _____ (the "Trip") hosted by SEK Baptist Association (SEKBA). I understand that SEKBA will not allow me to participate in the Trip unless I enter into this Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability (the "Agreement"). Therefore, in exchange for permission to participate, I make the following representations and agreements, which I understand SEKBA is relying on: 1. I am of sound mind, in good health, and no physical or mental conditions will hinder me participating in the Trip.
2. I am a volunteer embarking on a missionary venture with other volunteers. I understand that any representations made regarding the Trip, via any medium, are speculative in nature. Due to the fluid and potentially volatile nature of the atmosphere in Mexico, any speculations by any agent of SEKBA about the safety of a trip to this area are not substantive, nor are they to be relied on by any party, as circumstances are subject to change at any time.
3. I understand that the terms of this Agreement are contractual and legally binding on me, and on my representative heirs, estates, beneficiaries, successors, and assigns.
4. I am aware of the hazards and risks to my person and property associated with serving in a mission capacity, including, but not limited to, injury or death by accident, disease, war, terrorist acts, weather conditions, inadequate medical services and supplies, criminal activity, and random acts of violence, and that such risks have always been associated with missionary service. I embark upon the Trip with full awareness of these risks, and, subject to any insurance coverage that may be available to me from any source, and only with respect to SEKBA and its agents, officers, directors, and employees, I voluntarily assume all risks of illness, injury or death associated with such risks, as well as any damage to my personal property.
5. I understand that domestic travel, foreign travel, and/or staying in a foreign country involve risks and can be dangerous. By my participation in the Trip, I voluntarily expose myself to these risks and dangers, whether expected or unexpected.
6. I release and discharge SEKBA from any and all liability and responsibility for any loss, damage, or injury of any kind that I may suffer as a result of or in connection with my participation in the Trip. This release covers any loss, damage, or injury caused by: a. criminal, illegal or unauthorized acts of third parties, including but not limited to any terrorist act, hijacking or sabotage; b. social or labor unrest; c. political conditions; d. mechanical or constructional difficulties or condition; e. diseases, local laws or climatic conditions, f. conditions, developments, actions or omissions outside of the control of SEKBA and, g. any other expected or unexpected conditions, developments or risks connected with domestic travel, foreign travel, or staying in a foreign country, even if I suffer the loss of money, property, health, or life, and irrespective of who is or may be at fault, or whose negligence, including the negligence of SEKBA may have caused my loss, injury, or death.
7. I expressly waive any defense to the enforcement of any provision of this commitment arising from a claim of lack of consideration and warrant that this commitment constitutes a legal, valid, and binding obligation upon me enforceable against me in accordance with its terms.
8. I expressly agree that this Assumption of Risk and Release of Liability agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by law. I HAVE CAREFULLY READ THE FOREGOING ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENTS, AND I VOLUNTARILY SIGN THIS RELEASE AS MY OWN FREE ACT. THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT AND I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT WITH AN ATTORNEY BEFORE SIGNING IT.

9. I recognize that Christians are called by Scripture to a different standard of resolving their differences, (Matthew 18; 1 Corinthians 6). In the event a dispute arises out of, or relates to this Event, I shall first make a good faith attempt to settle the dispute by mediation administered by the religious dispute division of Mediation Law Group™ (MLG) or another Christian dispute resolution service, before commencing arbitration, litigation, or other dispute resolution procedure. In the event I am unable to resolve the dispute by mediation, I shall submit the claim(s) to binding arbitration administered by the religious dispute division of MLG, or another Christian dispute resolution service, under its arbitration rules, and judgment on the award rendered by the arbitrator(s) may be entered in any court having jurisdiction thereof. I further acknowledge that where emergency interim relief is required by a party to this agreement, including but not limited to injunctive relief and orders for the protection or conservation of property and/or disposition of disposable goods, such relief may be granted by an arbitrator upon application under applicable arbitration rules, even when the dispute is still in the mediation phase of resolution. I acknowledge and agree that an application for such emergency interim relief shall not constitute a waiver or breach of mediation requirements under this provision. IF ANY PARTY HERETO INITIATES COURT PROCEEDINGS BASED UPON A DISPUTE TO WHICH THESE PARAGRAPHS (SECTION 9) APPLY, WITHOUT FIRST ATTEMPTING TO RESOLVE THE MATTER THROUGH MEDIATION AND ARBITRATION, THEN IN THE DISCRETION OF THE JUDGE, SUCH PARTY SHALL NOT BE ENTITLED TO RECOVER ATTORNEYS' FEES, EVEN IF FEES WOULD OTHERWISE BE RECOVERABLE BY THAT PARTY IN ANY SUCH COURT PROCEEDING.

Printed Name _____ Signature _____

(If under 18 years of age) Parent or Guardian's Signature _____

Date _____

Return completed pages 1-5 and a copy of your Passport picture page to:

SEK Baptist Association
c/o Clarence Newman
PO Box 313
Chetopa, KS 67336

(Keep this section for your reference)

Passport

A passport is an official, formal document that allows citizens of the U.S. to exit and reenter this country. If you do not yet have a passport, apply immediately. Applications can be found and sent at the main branches of most post offices (it can take up to 12 weeks for the government to process). This requires a fee, two passport photos and an expired passport or birth certificate. For more information, visit:

<https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports.html/>.

After you have received your passport, please make a copy of the signature page and send it in with your completed application to Clarence Newman. Your U.S. passport must be valid at least six months after your date of return. If your passport expires before the required validity, you will have to apply for a new one. ***Passport fees are not included in the price of this Mission trip and are your responsibility.**

TEAM PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS

Meetings: Preparation for a mission trip begins several months before travel and MANDATORY MEETINGS are a part of this process. These meetings give participants and staff opportunities to get to know one another, as well as to communicate vital goals and expectations for the trip. It is necessary to attend all scheduled meetings.

Personal Preparation: As part of preparing for your trip, you will need to be aware of the emotional, spiritual, and physical demands that can be placed on you while on a mission trip. These components can impact your experience in a very positive or negative way depending on your personality and disposition. Here are some areas to consider while preparing for your trip:

Emotional: Everyone has a set of beliefs that determines how you make choices for your life. Sometimes, your beliefs may not line up with the beliefs of others participating on the trip, or the beliefs of staff leading the trip. One of the best attitudes to have is flexibility. Often on these trips, schedules do not always go according to plan. You are often required to adapt to situations that are not “normal” to you such as the culture, food, and living quarters. Try to keep an open mind and adopt the policy of going with the flow.

Spiritual: The spiritual fitness of a person is tested like nothing else when on a mission trip. Your highs and lows with the Lord can be much stronger than typically experienced. If you maintain spiritual focus you will see evidence of God’s work in your life and others around you. It is vital to be spiritually prepared by reading and meditating on God’s Word, praying, and being prepared to share Christ and encourage believers.

Physical: A mission trip can be physically demanding. You can experience intense heat. Projects or villages can be remotely located, or off the beaten path. You may have to walk long distances. Or you may be required to perform extremely strenuous work projects with tools not seen since the stone ages. It is therefore beneficial to be in “mission trip” shape so that your physicality does not hinder you, your team or opportunities to impact lives. It may be important to get a physical and include some exercising habits to have your body in shape for such conditions.

FUNDRAISING GUIDELINES

More than 75% of all people who go on mission trips do not personally have the funding to go. These individuals seek funding through family, friends, and acquaintances. Individuals are willing to donate funds to play a part in what you are doing, as well as indirectly impacting the lives you will touch. Listed below are some tips to get you started.

Create a strategy for fundraising:

- Make a list of the people you know: friends, relatives, neighbors, associates, schoolmates, clubs, and groups to which you belong. Start with a few and then expand it!
- Send each person on the list a letter, or talk to them in person explaining your outreach and asking for their financial and prayer support (See sample letter).
- When you receive funds, keep copies for your records.
- Send a thank you note to all who choose to support you and a letter after you return (include pictures!).
- A general ratio is that 1 out of 4 individuals will respond positively to your request. So, if you need to raise a lot of money you will need to send out a lot of letters.
- If you have an event to raise funds for your trip (car wash, bake sale, etc.) do not hold the event in the name of SEKBA. You are not raising funds for SEKBA, but as an individual participant on one of our trips.

If you are sending donations in the form of a check, it is very important the check is made payable to "Baptist Area Office." Write "Mexico Mission Trip" in the "Memo" section of the check. Do not write your name in the "Memo" section of the check.

Mail checks to:

SEK Baptist Association
c/o Clarence Newman
PO Box 313
Chetopa, KS 67336

Sample Fundraising Letter:

Dear <name of friend>

On (Month) (date), 2019, I hope to be traveling to Arriaga, Mexico on a short-term mission trip with SEKBA. Arriaga is located in the Southern tip of Mexico, in the State of Chiapas. Our mission team consists of a small group of individuals looking to serve God with our various gifts and talents.

The objective of this trip is to minister with the Tsidkenu Baptist Church. This is the poorest area of Mexico. We have the opportunity to assist with several building projects and repair jobs while we are there. As God provides, we will offer a medical clinic, reading glasses, and help with Vacation Bible School and Revival. By using our hands and the gifts God has bestowed upon each team member, we will help the people of Arriaga to further their work in their community.

To date I am still quite short of the funds needed to make this trip a reality. I am hoping that you would graciously consider partnering with me on this journey by becoming one of my

financial sponsors. Should you choose to make a donation, you would not only be helping with God's work, but your contribution would be fully tax-deductible if paid by check.

I need to have my funding in place no later than January 15, 2019 of \$800 for the airline tickets and the remaining \$700 by February 26, 2019. If you choose to sponsor me, please make checks payable to: Baptist Area Office (**SEKBA Mexico Mission**) so that your donation will be tax deductible. In the memo section of the check please indicate: **Mission Trip Arriaga**. I have included a stamped return envelope for your convenience.

I look forward to your partnership to make this trip possible. Please pray for us. Know that God's love knows no borders. To each individual, He has graciously bestowed unique gifts. It is our desire to use those gifts to further His Kingdom.

Sincerely,

<Your Name>

HEALTH AND SAFETY WHILE YOU TRAVEL

TRAVEL INSURANCE:

SEKBA requires everyone traveling on one of our trips to be covered by a travel insurance policy prior to departure of their mission trip. This insurance will be included with your airline tickets.

Medical Preparations:

- You should have a medical and dental check-up to determine your overall health condition.
- Schedule an appointment with a travel medicine doctor to receive required immunizations 6 weeks prior to departure date. A list of suggested immunizations for the country you will be traveling to can be obtained at <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/>. Please note these are suggestions, each individual will need to determine what they feel is correct for them.
- Purchase a bottle of **PB 8: Pro-Biotic Acidophilus**. Start taking 2 weeks prior to trip and through the duration of trip. The PB 8 will boost the good bacteria in your digestive tract and will help prevent food related problems while on your trip. PB 8 can be purchased at the Vitamin Shoppe and other health food stores.
- Ask your doctor for a **prescription of Ciprofloxacin and Limotal**. This is an antibiotic that is used to treat severe cases of intestinal disorders and an anti-diarrheal medication.

IMMUNIZATIONS: Contact local doctors who specialize in travel medicine:

- Do not wait until the last minute to get immunized. Most immunizations have a specific time period before they become effective in your body.

Bringing Medications

We recommend carrying prescription medications in their original containers in your carry-on bag. Checked luggage can get lost. Make copies of your prescriptions, in the event they are lost they can be replaced. Also consider writing down the ingredients so a pharmacist can assist in recommending a similar formulation.

Health Risks - Common Disease and Pitfalls

- Diarrhea is one of the most common health problems encountered, often caused by impurities in the drinking water. (Keep hydrated!)
- Use only bottled water or water through a Sawyer Mini water filtration device into a known sterile water bottle. This includes brushing teeth.
- Avoid ice, salads, re-heated food, uncooked shellfish, fruit not peeled, and food from street vendors.
- In Malaria prone areas: Cover up by wearing trousers and long sleeves, use Deet repellent, and take anti-malaria medication.
- Avoid sunstroke and sunburn, which is most common during the day when the sun's ultra violet rays are most harmful.
- Flying/Arriving Preparation: drink lots of water while flying.
- Alternate periods of rest with a little activity.
- Change the time on your watch to match your destination.

PACKING GUIDELINES

Each trip is unique as to what is required to bring. This can depend on the culture, climate, and guidelines of SEKBA. We rely also on the team to assist in the packing process. Listed below are general items to bring and a more detailed list of suggestions can be obtained from your trip leader.

(Suggested) Items to pack

- 1 or 2 suitcases (depending upon airline regulations), one carry-on bag (preferably a backpack) and a personal item (laptop, camera bag, or purse). If Allowed: one suitcase is for your personal belongings and one for donations.
- Type of clothing (seek recommendations from your group leader).
- Tennis shoes and/or hiking shoes
- Camera
- Flashlight with extra batteries
- Bible, pen, and notebook with paper
- Toiletries
- Sunglasses/Sun Hat
- Water bottle or camel pack
- Personal favorite snack foods
- Personal money for cokes, souvenirs, etc.

Medical Related Essentials to Bring

- Any medications currently taking (in original Rx containers)
- Band-Aids in a variety of sizes
- Alcohol wipes
- Antihistamine tablets - allergic reactions
- Sunscreen
- Mosquito repellent/Insect bite treatment
- Hand sanitizer
- Imodium tablets
- Ciprofloxacin and Lomotil prescription
(must be obtained from your doctor)
- Eye drops

- Spare pair of contact lenses or glasses

Ensuring Personal Safety

- Leave expensive jewelry and watches at home.
- Be careful with your cash and don't carry too much of it
- Travelers checks, cash, passports, and tickets should not be carried in bags that can be snatched, body belt is safer
- Make sure a friend or family member has your itinerary and flight details and a contact number before leaving. (Check with trip leader for this info).
- Take a photo of your passport, credit card details, and reservations and send it to yourself at a universal email account (Google, Hotmail, or Yahoo). This way you always have a copy of your travel documents, which could speed up the replacement process should your bag be lost or taken.

Credit Card/Cash

It is best to carry both cash and a credit card with you for personal purchases. When taking cash, denominations of \$20.00 USD work best. Make sure you go to your bank and get clean crisp bills. If you plan on using a credit or debit card while traveling, contact your bank or credit card company to let them know you will be traveling out of the country. If you fail to contact them your card may be denied while traveling.

When purchasing gifts and souvenirs, items may be in remote areas where credit cards are not accepted as well as American money. You will have the opportunity to exchange money to the local currency if needed. In cities, major credit and debit cards are usually accepted. Also, ATM's are becoming more commonplace. Your cash and credit/debit card should be kept on you at all times.

Phone

Contact with your loved ones is important. Please do what you can to make arrangements for communication beforehand. At the beginning of the trip, set up a secondary communication path through other ministry team members.

Prayer Support

Before you pack your bags, prepare your heart! Communication with God is the only way to have a good, successful, powerful experience on your trip or life in general. Through prayer, we can use our gifts more appropriately to sanctify ourselves and the world around us. Take time to listen to and for His voice. Psalm 46:10 says, *"Be still and know that I am God."* ASK! Ask people around you to support you through prayer. Ask God to: - Prepare your mind and heart - Help you share the Word effectively - Use your specific gifts in ministry to others - Show His love through you - Bring you a spirit of joy - Give you a heart that is flexible and available for whatever the task - Teach you in the process, especially when outside your comfort zone.

Resources

Passport: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/passports.html/>

Center for Disease Control: <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/>

World Time Zones: <http://www.worldtimeserver.com/>

Currency Converter: <http://www.xe.com/currencyconverter/>

CIA Country Fact Book: <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/resources/the-world-factbook/index.html>

