

Team Member Information Form
Juárez, Mexico Mission Trip
in conjunction with *Casas por Cristo*
November 3-8, 2020

Complete and Return to FBCD by Saturday, August 29:

1. Team Member Information Form / Medical Release Form

Note: *Be sure to attach a copy of your insurance card (front and back).*****

2. Disclosure of Risk, Agreement of Waiver, Release and Hold Harmless Form

Mail or deliver to:

First Baptist Church of Douglass

Attn: Pastor Voyt Lynn

P.O. Box 647

Douglass, KS 67039

or, scan and send to: pastor@fbcdouglass.net

Name (per Passport): _____ **(preferred):** _____

Date of Birth: _____ **E-mail:** _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Home Phone: (____) _____ **Cell Phone:** (____) _____

Okay to Text? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Name of your church: _____

Thanks in part to generous support from the SCASB Sending Team, the total cost per participant is \$500. A deposit of \$100 is required to secure your place on the team and is due by August 16. The deposit is non-refundable, but it is transferable. The balance of \$400 is due by September 27. Within the same family, for every two paid, a third person is free. Remember that meals en route to and from Mexico are not included.

After all combined trip expenses have been paid, any remaining funds will be applied toward a 2020 trip, or given to Casas por Cristo if no trip is planned.



MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

Adults (Age 18 and up)

In the event of illness, injury or emergency, I, _____, give
(Your printed name)
my permission for Casas por Cristo or my group leader to make a decision regarding treatment, to hospitalize,
and/or to order injection, anesthesia or surgery for myself.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Your signature)

Minors (Age 0-17)

I, _____, hereby authorize the participation of my
(Parent or legal guardian printed name)
child, _____, in all official activities during the mission trip
(Child's printed name)
scheduled for November 3-8, 2020. In the event of illness, injury or emergency, I give
(Date of trip)
permission for the group leader, James Voyt Lynn, or for Casas por Cristo
(Printed name of team leader)
to make a decision regarding treatment, to hospitalize, and/or to order injection, anesthesia or surgery for my child.

Signed: _____ Date: _____
(Parent or legal guardian signature)

Medical Information (Everyone)

Special medication, medical disorders and instruction/dosages: _____

Allergies: _____

Date of last tetanus shot: _____

Family Physician or Medical Group: _____

Insurance Company and Policy Number: _____

o Please attach a copy of your insurance card.

Insurance Company Phone Number: _____

Phone numbers where spouse or relative can be reached during trip:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Day: _____ Evening: _____

This form is to be kept by your team leader during the trip in case of an emergency.

DISCLOSURE OF RISK, AGREEMENT OF WAIVER, RELEASE AND HOLD HARMLESS

	/ 4-7 /
Team Name	Date of trip
I,	
First and last name	Date of birth
of	
Street address	
City, state, zip	
Email	
Phone	Gender: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female

hereby agree and acknowledge:

1. I understand that any travel, volunteer work, or other activities I undertake in connection with Casas por Cristo involves inherent risks to my property, health, and life and I further understand the nature of such risks.
2. I grant Casas por Cristo, its representatives, and employees permission to take photos and videos of me and my property in connection with my mission trip. I authorize Casas por Cristo to use my likeness for any lawful purpose across all types of media, including publications, advertisements, Web content, promotional content, etc.
3. No principal, officer, agent, employee, or other person associated with or acting on behalf of Casas por Cristo has disavowed or contradicted anything in this document, including the statements regarding the existence and nature of the risks involved.
4. The undersigned recognizes and acknowledges that Casas por Cristo is a charitable, non-profit corporation engaged in human services and relief activities. The undersigned, for himself/herself, and members of this team, does hereby freely and knowingly waive any and all actions, causes of actions, claims, and demands for or by reason of loss of life, bodily injury loss, including, but not limited to the contraction of any endemic diseases, costs, damage, or expense for any act, or omission on the part of a third party upon the part of Casas por Cristo or any of its officers, agents, servants, or employees for anything in any way arising from or connected with, either directly or indirectly, any volunteer activities of the undersigned volunteer or of Casas por Cristo. The undersigned realizes that activities which he/she intends to pursue may entail some amount of risk or possible danger and desires to personally assume such risks.
5. This agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as permitted by the laws of the State of Texas. This agreement is to be governed by the laws of the state of Texas. If any portion of this agreement is held invalid, it is agreed that the remainder shall nevertheless continue in full force and effect.
6. I enter into this agreement freely and voluntarily in consideration of the permission to participate in the activities described herein and of the benefits associated with such activities. I understand that this agreement is contractual and binding upon me.
7. I have read this document and understood and agreed to all of its contents before signing it.

For up-to-date information about travel outside the U.S.A., please visit www.travel.state.gov or call 888.407.4747

	/ /
Signature	Date
	/ /
Parent or guardian signature	Date
Print parent or guardian name	
City and state where signed	



Juárez

For questions, please contact our team coordinators at questions@casasporcristo.org or 915.778.0046.

QUICK GUIDE

3-6 Months Prior

- _ Apply for passports.
- _ Read this Juárez Group Trip Guide.

30 Days Prior

- _ Check with your team leader to find out your missionary, lodging, and family information.
- _ Pray for the recipient family.
- _ Submit your food allergies to your team leader.
- _ Submit your disclosure of risk form to your team leader.
- _ Submit any necessary information to your team leader so he/she can purchase your travel insurance.
- _ Submit your medical release form to your team leader.

PACKING LIST

- ☐ Travel documents (passports, etc.)
 - ☐ Tool belt or nail apron
 - ☐ Work gloves
 - ☐ Protective eye wear
 - ☐ Long work pants (no capri pants or shorts on work site)
 - ☐ Work shirts (t-shirts)/long-sleeved shirt (for insulation)
 - ☐ Sturdy closed-toed shoes or boots & flip flops/shower shoes
 - ☐ Hat or bandana
 - ☐ Insulated water container
 - ☐ Sun block
 - ☐ Chap stick
 - ☐ Bible
 - ☐ Bedding (linens/sleeping bag/air mattress/cot etc.)
 - ☐ Towel(s)
 - ☐ Soap, shampoo, & other toiletries
 - ☐ Cleaning supplies: surface spray & sponges/wipes, broom, dustpan, toilet bowl cleaner & brush
 - ☐ Toilet paper & trash bags (unless purchasing our meal plan)
 - ☐ Feminine hygiene products (tampons are difficult to find)
- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hammer (no smaller than 16 oz.) <input type="checkbox"/> Carpenter's pencil <input type="checkbox"/> 25 ft. tape measure <input type="checkbox"/> Utility knife | <h3>REQUIRED TOOLS</h3> |
|---|-------------------------|
- ☐ *Earplugs (for sleeping)
 - ☐ *Flashlight
 - ☐ *Wet wipes
 - ☐ *Knee pads
 - ☐ *Rubber gloves (for stucco)
 - ☐ *Dust mask (for insulation)
 - ☐ *Rubber boots, calf-high (for concrete work)

→ **These items aren't
mandatory but can
be helpful.*

DO NOT PACK

- ☐ Tank tops or sleeveless shirts
- ☐ Torn pants
- ☐ Hair dryers, curling irons, and hair straighteners
- ☐ Shorts shorter than knee length (no cheerleading/running shorts)
- ☐ Tight fitting clothing (yoga/spandex pants)

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30 DAYS PRIOR

Disclosure of Risk & Medical Release Form

You must fill out a Disclosure of Risk & Medical Release Form before you enter into México. We now collect this form digitally. You will receive an email with instructions on how to fill out this form. Your form is due 30 days prior to your trip.

Food Allergies

Submit your food allergies to your team leader.

Missionary, Lodging, & Family Information

Check with your team leader to find out the information about your assigned missionary, México lodging, and family. Begin praying for the recipient family.

Travel Insurance

Your team leader will purchase travel insurance (see EMERGENCIES section for details) on your behalf and print the ID cards to keep with you while traveling. Submit any necessary information to the team leader from your church/organization.

TRIP DETAILS

Additional Ministry Opportunities

Although our main goal is to serve God through building homes for families, we welcome you to participate in additional evangelistic projects. See our [Spiritual Outreach Guide](#) or contact Scott DeWitt, México Field Director, for assistance at 915.778.0046 or sciewitt@casasporcristo.org.

Animals

It is important that you do not feed or touch the animals in México. Many of them carry diseases and have the potential to bite or scratch.

Attire

Please bring clothing that is modest and appropriate. The following clothing items are prohibited: tank tops, cutoff shirts, torn pants, shorts shorter than knee-length (no cheerleading/running shorts), tight-fitting clothing (no leggings or yoga/spandex pants). On the work site, everyone must wear long pants and closed-toed shoes for protection. You may wear modest, knee-length shorts whenever you are not on the work site.

Cell Phones

Talk with your carrier to see if you will have service in México and what charges you may incur through Mexican towers. Your Casas missionary will have a cell phone with service in México in case of emergencies.

Cultural Sensitivity

Casas por Cristo exists to open the door for local pastors and churches to share the love of Jesus Christ by serving. The Mexican church culture is generally more conservative than yours. Please be sensitive to the desires of the pastors you are here to serve. Our pastors have asked that our teams refrain from purchasing or consuming alcohol and tobacco, dress modestly, and respect the church facilities. Ask your Casas missionary for more specific information about your assigned pastor/church.

Dedication

Plan with your team how you would like to dedicate this home. We will provide a Spanish Bible, keys, and a plaque. This will be a great time for your team, the sponsoring pastor, and the recipient family to speak with one another, present gifts, and pray together. Check out our [dedication sample outline](#) for more details.

Devotions

Reflecting on each day is an important part of your experience. We have a [devotional guide](#) available online to print for your trip. Plan a time each day for a group devotional and reflection.

Documentation

Passports or passport cards are **REQUIRED** for all team members!

Enhanced driver's licenses from the following states are also acceptable: MI, MN, NY, VT, WA. Exception: children under the age of 19 can cross with a birth certificate (see the [WHTI faq sheet](#) at [cbp.gov](#)). If you plan to travel with minors without parents, please see the US Customs & Border Protection's [recommended documentation](#). Because you will not be traveling into México beyond the city of Juárez, you do not need to purchase a travel visa upon entering the country.

Excursions

Check out our [El Paso & Juárez Excursions](#) for a list of fun activities we recommend in the area.

Immunizations

We do not require any immunizations; however, we do recommend a current tetanus immunization and checking the CDC website to see what they recommend for travel to México.

Meals

We offer a [meal plan](#) option that includes three meals per day with a 15 person minimum. The cost can be found on our website. If you are interested in having Casas provide your meals, please contact our team coordinators. If you choose to provide your own meals, then you will be responsible for all of your food and cooking utensils. See the [food guide](#) for additional tips and information.

Merchandise

You may purchase Casas souvenirs (t-shirts, hats, mugs, etc.) from the Casas store located at our main office in El Paso. You can also shop online on our [website](#). US dollars and credit cards are accepted.

Money

On the border, most vendors will accept American dollars. However, it is important to bring small bills, as most vendors will give you change back in Mexican pesos. You do not need to exchange American dollars to pesos for your stay in México.

Personal Belongings

Don't bring anything to México that you would be heartbroken to leave without. We recommend keeping anything of value with you at all times (money, passports, jewelry, etc.).

Project Time Frame

You should allow **four full days** for the project. Every work site has unique challenges, so it is important that you allow yourself enough time to finish the project.

Recipient Family

We do not require that the recipient families participate in the building process beyond having the site prepared. However, many families are eager to help but are shy and feel like they would be in the way. Make every effort to include your family in the building process. Some families will prepare meals for teams to show their gratitude. These families make extra efforts to ensure that the food is safely prepared.

Smart Traveler Enrollment Program

We recommend enrolling your group for free at [STEP.state.gov](#) to receive travel and security updates about your destination, and to help the US government reach you in an emergency. You can create an account and upload a spreadsheet with contact details for multiple travelers.

Spanish

The primary language spoken in Juárez is Spanish. We encourage you to learn some phrases beforehand to be able to speak with your family.

Support Your Missionary

In order to keep the cost of our mission trips low, our missionaries raise their own salaries to serve at the ministry. Each missionary depends on gifts from churches and dedicated individuals to cover their salaries. Changing a family's life this week could not happen without your effort and sacrifice. It also could not happen without your financial support of our missionaries. At the end of your trip, encourage your missionary by giving a donation and consider joining their monthly support team.

Team Members

For the best building experience, we recommend 15 to 20 people. Visit our website for the [team composition guide](#) to determine the optimal number of people for your trip. The work will include pouring concrete, building walls, roofing, electrical, drywall and stucco. Each of these tasks has at least one element that everyone can perform. Skilled laborers are not needed.

Team Shirts

Team shirts feature your team's name alongside Casas' unique design and include both the year and location you serve in. 15 shirt minimum with FREE SHIPPING to the US (\$20 shipping to Canada). No proof provided. The team name you registered with will be used for print unless otherwise specified. Purchase your team shirts in our [online store](#).

Time Zone

El Paso and Juárez both operate in the Mountain Time Zone. When establishing meeting times, we will refer to this time zone.

Transportation & Luggage

We suggest that your team be transported in 15-passenger vans. Please keep this in mind as you pack for your trip. Space may be limited.

Water

Tap water in México is not purified to American standards. To avoid getting sick, please drink only purified water, which can be purchased at local convenience stores.

Weather

The high desert has intensely hot summers (70°-100°) and fairly cold winters (30°-60°). Fall and spring have more mild temperatures (40°-90°). Strong

winds and dust storms are typical in the spring. Chances for rain typically occur during monsoon season from mid June through October. Be prepared for the potential of rain as we will continue working through most weather conditions.

Weapons

It is illegal to carry most weapons in México. Please leave your firearms, knives, and other weapons at home.

EMERGENCIES

Casas por Cristo Office Number: 915.778.0046

Please leave our office number 915.778.0046 with your families and friends at home in case of an emergency where they would need to contact you while you're out of the country. Even if it is after business hours, they will reach one of our missionaries who will assist in relaying their message and provide any necessary follow-up.

Emergency Number In México: 911

If an ambulance is needed in Mexico, dial 911. This will only reach Mexican 911 if your cell phone is using Mexican towers.

First Aid Kit

Your Casas missionary will have a basic first aid kit. We recommend that your team also brings a first aid kit to treat minor medical incidents throughout your trip.

Medical Treatment

Minor medical issues will be treated with the Casas missionary's first aid kit. If you need to see a doctor or go to an Emergency Room, your Casas missionary will assist you in contacting your travel insurance and taking you for treatment. If you choose to seek treatment in the US first instead of in México, your travel insurance coverage will be forfeited. It will not cover any medical costs for treatment that begins in the US. During this process the Casas missionary will coordinate with the main office, and a Casas representative will be with the remaining team members. Here is the contact information for two large medical facilities in the area. Please note that depending on your insurance coverage, you might be taken to a different facility.

- In Juárez, México: Hospital Angeles Ciudad Juárez (hospitalesangeles.com/ciudadjuarez, 01.656.227.1400, GPS: 31.7140924,-106.3922807)
- In El Paso, Texas: University Medical Center (epchd.org, 915.521-2255, GPS: 31.7380047,-106.4177781)

Travel Insurance

Your team leader must purchase travel insurance for you and your teammates. We require the [International Assurance Travel Medical Plan](#) through Insurance Services of America and Azimuth Risk Solutions. We offer an [Explanation of Travel Insurance Coverage](#). Prior to your departure, your team leader will print your travel insurance ID cards to keep with you while you travel in case of an emergency. If you need assistance from the insurance company, please contact Adam Bates, Vice President, at 800.647.4589 or adam@missionaryhealth.net.

Safety

Your team's safety is of the utmost importance to us. We have been working diligently since our inception in 1993 to ensure that we have a number of fail-safes in place regarding personal safety and emergency situations. Read our [Risk Plan](#) for more details.

US Consulate General in Ciudad Juárez, México

Sometimes, in spite of careful planning, things still go wrong during a trip abroad. Contact the US Consulate in Ciudad Juárez for help with emergencies 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

US Consulate General in Ciudad Juárez
Paseo de la Victoria #3650
Fracc. Partido Senecú
Ciudad Juárez, México C.P. 32543
MX Phone: (656) 227-3000 (If calling from the US, dial 011-52 first)

ENTRY & EXIT

Driving in México

You must have a valid US driver's license to legally drive in México. For everyone's safety, we do not drive after dark. Follow your Casas missionary's vehicle closely. Do not attempt to make your own way and try to avoid letting other cars into your caravan. Mexican police drive with their red and blue

lights flashing at all times. Do not pull over unless they also sound their siren. Mexican traffic lights change from green to flashing green before quickly changing from yellow to red.

Entry into México

Your Casas missionary will review the border crossing procedure with your team before you cross. Many ports of entry require a toll ranging from \$2.00-\$3.00 per vehicle. You will be responsible for paying for your vehicles to enter and exit México. On the other side of the bridge, you will receive either a green or red light. If you receive a red light, please pull over into secondary for a routine inspection of your vehicle and belongings. Do your best to politely answer the Mexican border agents' questions. They are searching to make sure you are not illegally importing goods or weapons. Unless the agent specifically asks, you do not need to show your passports.

Exit from México

Each vehicle driver should collect all the documentation (passports) for the individuals in their vehicle to show to the US border patrol agents. The driver should politely answer the agent's questions about where they've been, where they're going, and what they've been doing.

U.S. Customs & Border Protection

Each person is allowed to bring \$400 worth of purchases and up to \$10,000 cash through U.S. Customs without having to declare anything.

Items Not Allowed

- ☐ Merchandise made from endangered species
- ☐ Fruits, vegetables, and meats
- ☐ Narcotics or illicit drugs
- ☐ Fireworks
- ☐ Cuban cigars
- ☐ Live birds
- ☐ Switchblade knives

Please do not buy anything that would tarnish the reputation of Casas por Cristo, your group, or Jesus Christ.

Meeting up with your Casas Missionary

Your Casas missionary will contact your team leader before your trip to decide upon a meeting place (usually our office located at 7201 North Loop Dr. El

Paso, TX 79915). All team members must be present at the time the team is scheduled to meet its missionary. Your team will stay together from that point until you cross back into the United States.

Your Casas Missionary

One of our trained missionaries will be with you 100% of the time you are in México to lead and live with your team for the week. He or she will teach, supervise, and ensure safety and quality. We take care of the details so that you can focus on serving and building. Most of our missionaries have a basic understanding but are not fluent in Spanish. Our missionaries are here for you and your group and will work to accommodate your requests. Read a brief bio about your missionary on the missionaries page of our website.

MÉXICO LODGING

We will arrange for you to stay at one of our facilities or a Mexican church while in México. We will email your team leader the details about your lodging no later than 30 days prior to your arrival.

Bathrooms

All toilet paper should be thrown away in the trash can. Do not place it in the toilet. We recommend bringing an air freshener and extra trash bags.

Cleaning

It is your team's responsibility to bring disinfectant wipes and disinfectant spray and clean the facility before you leave. Please see our [Post Trip Cleaning Guide](#) for more details.

Showers

All of our accommodations have a shower. However, many of them do not have hot water. We ask you to take military showers: get wet, turn the water off, soap up, and then turn the water back on to rinse off your body.

Sleeping

Sleeping arrangements vary by facility. You will need to bring your own bedding (cot, air mattress, sleeping bag, pillow, etc.).

WORK SITE

Building Schedule

Your Casas missionary will discuss with your team leader which plan will work best for your team.

Summer Building Schedules

1. Siesta: Work from approximately 7 am until noon and from 3:30 pm until 8 pm. You will go back to your lodging in the afternoon for "siesta" and have your big meal of the day at that time.
2. Six to Two: Work from 6 am to 2 pm. You will eat snacks and a light lunch at the work site and will eat your big meal of the day at your lodging in the evening.

Fall, Winter, and Spring Building Schedule

During non-summer months, you should expect to work from 8 am to 5 pm and eat lunch at the work site. You will eat breakfast and dinner at your lodging.

Concrete Trucks

We have ordered your team a concrete truck, so ready-mix concrete will be delivered to your work site. However, depending on the site, your team may have to use a wheelbarrow to move it from the truck into the foundation forms.

Construction Process

The house you will be building will have a concrete foundation and 2" x 4" framed walls. The outside of the house will be covered with blackboard, chicken wire, and then stucco. The inside of the house will have insulation, electricity, and sheetrock. The roof is framed with 2" x 6"s, decked with plywood, and covered with galvalume tin.

Gifts for the Recipient Family

If you want to bring gifts for the family, we have several suggestions. While toys for children are very nice (crayons, bubbles, books, etc.), most families also have more pressing practical needs. Our most recommended gifts are a twin-sized bunk bed (\$350) and a mini-split AC/heating unit (\$500). The cost for each gift can be added to your invoice by notifying our team coordinators.

- ☐ Box/floor fan (#1 suggested gift)
- ☐ Rugs/carpet pieces (#2 suggested gift)

- ☐ Curtains (windows measure 36" x 36")
- ☐ Mini blinds (windows measure 36" x 36")
- ☐ Tape/mud/trowels for drywall finishing (*You may not have time to do this, but you can leave it for the family*)
- ☐ Paint (interior/exterior)
 - ☐ Painting supplies
 - ☐ Curtain rods
 - ☐ Garden hose
 - ☐ Cooking utensils
 - ☐ Broom
 - ☐ Dust pan
 - ☐ Towels
 - ☐ Toiletries
 - ☐ Pillows
 - ☐ Sheets

If you have questions about other items that may be appropriate gifts, call us. We would be happy to advise you. We have found that the best time to give gifts to the family is during the dedication.

Preparedness

Be sure to arrive at the work site with all of the equipment that you will need. You will need to take a positive attitude, toilet paper, trash bags, wet wipes, sunscreen, lunches, water, snacks, and tools.

Stay in a Group

Your team leader and your Casas missionaries should know where you are at all times. Your team should stay together as a group at all times.

Tools

Casas por Cristo provides the majority of the tools you will need, but you do need to bring the required tools on the packing list. You and your team are responsible for the tools we provide. If tools break due to normal wear and tear, we will replace them. However, if they are lost or neglected, your team will be responsible for the replacement costs. The Casas toolkit is equipped with the following power tools: cement mixer, drywall cutout tool, screw guns, drill, power saw, and generator (if necessary). You are welcome to bring any additional tools or nail guns. We have found that extra battery-powered tools are more helpful than corded tools. Tools are stored inside the church or in your missionary's trailer. Your team may have to load and unload all of the tools multiple times every day.

Work Site Bathroom

There is a bathroom facility of some sort at each work site. However, some may be more primitive than others.

Work Site Safety

The two most frequent work site injuries are debris in an eye and dehydration. If your Casas missionary asks you to do something that you are unable to perform, please ask him or her to reassign you to another task. Please take the following precautions.

- ☐ Wear eye protection at the work site.
- ☐ Drink one gallon of water per day.
- ☐ Wear sunscreen or protective clothing to prevent sunburn.

C A S A S *Por* C R I S T O

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El Paso, Texas 79997

915.778.0046
Casasporcristo.org
questions@casasporcristo.org

Revised 06/11/2020



RISK PLAN: JUÁREZ

It is the goal of Casas por Cristo to assure teams that their safety is of **utmost importance**. We continually monitor current conditions and adjust our programs to meet the needs of teams. But we also fully understand that with service comes risk. The question to ask is, "Is the assumed risk worth the potential result of the task at hand?" We at Casas por Cristo would love to be able to provide a 100 percent guarantee that safety is never an issue, that turbulent weather doesn't exist, and that no team member will ever get sick or need medical attention. But the truth is we can't guarantee any of these things. However, we do believe that these situations are worth the risk to continue serving God and the Mexican people in desperate need of adequate housing and the love of Jesus Christ. As a ministry we are as prepared as possible to deal with any unexpected situations and potential problems. We have been working diligently since our inception in 1993 to ensure that we have a number of fail-safes in place regarding personal safety and emergency situations.

These Fail-Safes Include:

- A Casas por Cristo staff missionary is with the team AT ALL TIMES. Every Casas staff missionary has been trained in the contingency plans for medical emergencies, natural disasters, and the threat of impending violence.
- Every Casas staff missionary is equipped with a cell phone to provide constant communication with other staff missionaries at our headquarters in El Paso, Texas.
- Two emergency contacts are available at all times on the Casas por Cristo voicemail system.
- We take every effort to avoid driving after dark.
- Casas por Cristo is well known and respected throughout all of the communities in which we work.
- We have a Mexican national on staff that lives in Juárez, México and is available 24 hours/day.

Medical Emergencies:

In case of a medical emergency, such as flu, virus, cold, cuts, falls, broken bones, etc., your Casas missionary will evaluate the severity of the injury or illness. Minor medical issues will be treated with the Casas missionary's first aid kit. If you need to see a doctor or go to an Emergency Room, your Casas missionary will assist you in contacting your travel insurance and take you to a medical facility for treatment. If you are not able to reach anyone from the travel insurance company, your Casas missionary will still take you to a medical facility for treatment (pre-authorization is not required). If you choose to seek treatment in México, you will need to pay cash up front for any expenses and file a claim with the travel insurance company for reimbursement. If you choose to seek treatment in the US first instead of in México, your travel insurance coverage will be forfeited. It will not cover any medical costs for treatment that begins in the US. During this process the Casas missionary will coordinate with the main office, and a Casas representative will be with the remaining team members. Here is the contact information for two large medical facilities in the area. Please note that depending on your insurance coverage, you might be taken to a different facility. If an ambulance is needed, the Mexico emergency number is 911.

- In Juárez, México: Hospital Angeles Ciudad Juárez (hospitalesangeles.com/ciudadjuarez, 01.656.227.1400, GPS: 31.7140924,-106.3922807)
- In El Paso, Texas: University Medical Center (epchd.org, 915.521-2255, GPS: 31.7380047,-106.4177781)

Natural Disasters & Impending Violence:

1. In Juárez, the SHOC (The Shane Harris Outreach Center, GPS: 31.36724 -106.33285) is a gated facility owned and operated by Casas por Cristo that can be used as a safe meeting place during inclement weather or times of upheaval in the city of Juárez. All staff missionaries and interns of Casas por Cristo know where this facility is located and have keys to access entrance.
2. Every Casas staff missionary knows how to navigate the city and knows the quickest and most effective routes to access all of the international border crossings.

More important than any of the plans that we can implement, is our faith in God's protection. We believe He has placed a hedge of protection around the work we do for Him along the border. We absolutely believe that service is worth the risk, and we will always continue on with the task at hand. Additionally, because we live and work on the border, we are very aware of the daily goings-on. We will never put a team or an individual in a situation that we deem unsafe. The safety of our staff missionaries and team members is our number one priority.