



## 2027 Medical Clinic Program Information Guide

This document provides a brief overview what to expect when serving at the medical clinics in Guatemala. Please also read the **Volunteer FAQs** prior to completing your application.

Faith In Practice may deem it necessary to adjust the guidelines as needed during the year. Thank you for your flexibility, understanding, and willingness to work within these parameters.

### Recruiting

In 2027, your team can expect to see roughly 1,000 patients during the mission week. The specific number of patients for each clinic will vary from day to day and team to team.

Team size: Around 40 US volunteers. If you have a team exceeding 40 US volunteers, please notify your staff contact to determine if there are hotel accommodations to fit a team size of more than 40 US volunteers. **Please recruit bilingual medical providers.**

Roles to recruit for Medical Clinic Teams:

***Please plan to recruit at least 1 family practice physician/NP to support the general clinic and pediatric clinic as needed depending on the patient numbers.***

- General or family practice physicians or nurse practitioners: 4
- Pediatric or family practice physicians or nurse practitioners: 2
- GYN physicians: 2
- Orthopedic Specialist: 1 (*necessary to support appropriate orthopedic referrals*)
- X-Ray Assistant: 1 (recruit if you have recruited an orthopedic provider. Please see details under specialty clinics)
- Imaging specialist: 1 (radiologist, sonography, ultrasound tech. A trained professional to take ultrasounds)
- Laboratory: 2
- Triage: 3 (preferably bilingual)
- Pharmacy: 4 (at least one must be a licensed pharmacist)
- Interpreters: 14 interpreters needed to cover all the clinics if no providers speak Spanish
- Spiritual Leader: 1
- Blogger/Photographer: 1
- **Mobility Clinics:** Select medical clinic teams will have a mobility clinic component and all team leaders should plan to recruit the following roles for the mobility clinic. Please note that if a team does not recruit all critical mobility clinic roles, staff may cancel the clinic. This decision will be made at least 60 days before your trip.
  - 3 PTs/OTs
  - 1 Medical Provider (either MD or NP)
  - 3 Assemblers (help build wheelchairs and provide modifications to the wheelchair)
  - 4 Interpreters, based on the Spanish proficiency of the PTs/OTs and medical provider.

### *Other Specialties or Possible Clinics*

- **Women's Health Clinic (VIA/Thermo):** All 2027 medical clinic teams will have a VIA/Thermo component that will be managed by Faith In Practice staff.
- **X-Ray Clinic:** After piloting a portable x-ray machine with several teams in 2026, the X-Ray Assistant role has been developed to support the continued use of the portable x-ray machine

that is **used in the orthopedic clinic**. The X-Ray Assistant will work alongside a licensed Guatemalan x-ray technician (provided by Faith In Practice, in accordance with local regulations) to operate the portable machine, position patients, and upload images for provider review. This X-Ray Assistant role may be filled by an x-ray technician, radiologist, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner, and requires the individual to be actively performing these responsibilities in their current U.S.-based work environment to ensure proficiency in patient positioning and efficient image acquisition. Bilingual skills are strongly preferred. Please note that this role is **separate from, and does not replace, the Imaging Specialist role**. The x-ray machine will be utilized only in conjunction with the orthopedic clinic.

- Audiology Clinic: If you brought an audiologist in a prior year, please let us know if you are interested in bringing audiology back in 2026. Please note that all audiology devices and supplies will need to be procured by the audiologist/team. If you plan to bring an audiology component please plan to bring an ENT Physician.
- Dermatology: If you are considering including a dermatologist on your team, please contact Houston staff to discuss further.

Roles to **NOT** recruit:

Dental Providers. We will not have a dental component on our Medical Clinic teams in 2027, however, there is an opportunity for dentists to join us on Obras teams in 2027. If you have a dental provider interested in joining Faith In Practice, please reach out to the Houston Office. We will update our team leaders if/when we are able to add dental back to medical clinic teams.

Medical Clinic Faith In Practice Staff will accompany the team as needed on the mission trip.

### **Staying Healthy**

Faith In Practice strongly encourages all volunteers to be current with the vaccination schedule outlined by the CDC, including routine flu and pneumonia vaccines. Please refer to the Center for Disease Control for traveling to Guatemala at <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/guatemala>. The CDC has extensive and valuable information related to travel in Guatemala, and Faith In Practice encourages all volunteers to review this site. Faith In Practice also urges all volunteers to consult with their personal physicians for specific, individual advice regarding medical precautions.

Please review the information and resources provided by Faith In Practice regarding illness and communicable diseases that may occur before, during, and immediately following your mission trip. These resources outline expectations and steps to be taken when a communicable illness may be present among Faith In Practice staff, U.S. volunteers, or Guatemalan volunteers.

Please note that the rainy season in Guatemala runs from May through October. These are the months that mosquito borne illnesses are commonly the most prevalent. Similar to the US, increases in mosquito activity and mosquito-borne illnesses in Central America happen every year around this time. Faith in Practice volunteers are reminded to use mosquito repellent and to cover their arms and legs at all times.

### **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)**

Face masks are encouraged to be worn at the clinic site and will be available. Face masks are not mandatory in village clinics unless otherwise directed by Faith In Practice staff. Most up-to-date protocols will be provided to you and the team during your team orientation in Guatemala.

## Insight

All medical clinic teams can expect to use Insight, our patient data platform. Insight is a custom-built, intuitive-to-use data management platform that enables our volunteer teams to improve the care of patients through better management of patient health information.

## Supplies and Medications

Faith In Practice will provide team leaders and volunteers with the 2027 Medication and Supply list, which includes the pharmacy formulary, in the fall of 2026. The information will be listed on the Faith In Practice website at [https://www.faithinpractice.org/volunteer\\_resources/](https://www.faithinpractice.org/volunteer_resources/). We strongly encourage your physicians and pharmacy team review the list prior to traveling to Guatemala to familiarize themselves with what will be available during the mission trip.

## Roundtable Call with Team Leaders

Staff will connect with the team leader(s) three to four months before the mission week to set up a call. This conversation provides an opportunity to review the mission week in detail, discuss team-specific needs and expectations, and ensure everyone is well prepared for a successful and meaningful experience in Guatemala.

## Flight and Travel Requirements

A visa is not required for U.S. citizens entering Guatemala. Your U.S. passport must be valid at the time of entry and exit out of Guatemala. We recommend having a minimum of 6 months validity on your passport when you enter Guatemala. For the most up to date information on US passport information to enter Guatemala, please visit the Travel.State.Gov website.

If your passport is from a different country, please check with your state department on requirements to enter Guatemala.

We ask volunteers **not to book flights** until they have been officially added to the team in the database and have received a confirmation email. Your team leaders will designate the team flights to and from Guatemala. To help ensure smooth logistics and minimize transportation costs, volunteers are strongly encouraged to arrive and depart on the designated team flights or on flights that arrive or depart within one hour of the team's scheduled flight times.

If a volunteer is unable to travel on the designated team arrival or departure flight, Faith In Practice may need to arrange separate transportation to and/or from the Guatemala City airport. A transportation fee will apply to volunteers requiring individual airport transportation. This fee will be passed along to the volunteer.

Please note that **separate airport transportation does not mean separate team ground transportation once the team begins its journey to the mission site. All volunteers are required to travel with the team on designated ground transportation from the team's starting location to the remote-area worksite and back.** This requirement is essential for the safety, coordination, and logistics of the entire team.

Volunteers who choose to arrive in Guatemala before the official mission start date or extend their stay beyond the mission end date are responsible for arranging their own accommodations and

transportation outside of the official mission dates. Faith In Practice is unable to arrange or financially support accommodation outside the scheduled mission dates.

### Ground Transportation

We continue to work with many of the same providers and some new providers. Public Health regulations regarding public transportation, including shuttle buses, will be occupied at full capacity. **All volunteers serving on a Village team are required to be on team ground transportation to and from the remote village location. Faith In Practice will not make exceptions for volunteers to have separate transportation arrangements to or from the remote village site.**

### Hotel/Lodging

There will be double occupancy rooming during the mission week. Each U.S. volunteer can expect to have a roommate during the mission week.

### Quality Assurance Standards and Guidelines

Faith In Practice has a Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) to support the organization's mission in Guatemala. The QAC supports with issues that may occur related to quality care and the vetting of volunteers who serve in medical roles. The QAC reviews any incidents that occur when the teams are providing patient care in Guatemala. This includes both patients and volunteers.

**Any event that is of concern or that compromises or directly affects patient care, volunteer health, volunteer safety, or volunteer conduct must be documented on an Unusual Occurrence Report form provided by the in-country staff. Submission of an Unusual Occurrence Report is required when an unusual or unexpected event occurs. Team Leaders are responsible for ensuring that an appropriate Unusual Occurrence Report is completed and submitted whenever an unusual occurrence or unexpected event takes place during the mission week. Team Leaders must work with the volunteer providers and/or other team members involved to ensure that the report is completed accurately, thoroughly, and in a timely manner. When appropriate, Team Leaders should also be available for any necessary follow-up related to the unusual occurrence.**

Members from the Quality Assurance Committee will follow up with the Team Leader or provider regarding the unusual occurrence report and any necessary follow-up. All team members and Team Leaders are expected to read the Quality Assurance Manual before their trip. The Quality Assurance Manual can be found in the volunteer portal.

### Share The Mission

Share The Mission (STM) is Faith In Practice's volunteer fundraising program and a vital source of support for our mission of providing hope and healing to patients in Guatemala. At its heart, Share The Mission is exactly that-**sharing the mission**. Whether you are serving with Faith In Practice for the first time or have participated for many years, STM provides an opportunity to share what connected you to this work, why you have chosen to serve, and the Faith In Practice story with your family, friends, colleagues, churches, and broader networks.

By sharing the mission with others, volunteers help introduce new people to Faith In Practice, deepen existing relationships, and invite their networks to **invest in the mission and help grow the community of support that makes our work possible.**

Funds raised through Share The Mission support the broader costs of making our medical mission programs possible, including medications and supplies, patient transportation and housing, follow-up care, mobility aids, and other mission-critical needs. Each Share The Mission page gives volunteers a personal platform to tell the Faith In Practice story—sharing what inspired them to serve, what they hope to experience or have experienced through the mission, and why they believe this work is worthy of support.

Mission team members are encouraged to create a personal fundraising page and invite their networks to become part of the Faith In Practice story through prayer, advocacy, and financial investment.

**When you share what connects you to Faith In Practice, you Share The Mission—inviting others to join us in serving God by serving those in need in Guatemala.**

Additional resources and instructions for creating your Share The Mission page will be provided as you prepare for your mission.

Questions can be directed to [sharethemission@faithinpractice.org](mailto:sharethemission@faithinpractice.org).

**We will strive to keep these Information Sheets updated.**

*For more detailed information about our 2027 teams—and answers to the most frequently asked questions from your team members—please refer to the **Volunteer FAQs**.*

*Pictures from teams serving in the Medical Clinics*



August 2026