

Faith In Practice Policy Statements and Agreements

July 2023

Liability Waiver and Release of Claims

I understand that I am participating as a volunteer in Guatemala of my own free and voluntary will and understand the risks involved in doing so.

I acknowledge that I derive personal satisfaction and a benefit by virtue of my participation and/or voluntarism with Faith In Practice, and I willingly engage in volunteering with Faith In Practice.

In consideration for being allowed to participate in the Faith In Practice volunteer program, I hereby release, waive and forever discharge any and all liability, claims, and demands of whatever kind or nature against Faith In Practice and its affiliated partners, including in each case, without limitation, their directors, officers, employees, and agents (the Released Parties), either in law or in damages or losses or in equity, to the fullest extent permissible by law, including but not limited to damages or losses caused by the negligence, fault or conduct of any kind on the part of the Released Parties, including but not limited to death, bodily injury, illness, economic loss or out of pocket expenses, or loss or damage to property, which I, my heirs, assignees, next of kin and/or legally appointed or designated representatives, may have or which may hereinafter accrue on my behalf, which arise or may hereafter arise from my participation as a volunteer.

I authorize the release of my personal contact information to the Volunteer Team Leaders responsible for my trip and fellow team participants on my trip.

Should any of the provisions of this Liability Waiver and Release of Claims, or portions thereof, be found to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the document shall nonetheless remain in full force and effect. This Release shall be construed under the laws of the State of Texas.

Safety and Security and Health and Medical Emergency

Safety and Security

I understand and am aware that my participation in the program may expose me to certain risks and dangers, including but not limited to, the hazards of travel by various means of conveyance; the hazards of politically unstable areas; the dangers of civil disturbances and war; the forces of nature; acts or omissions of Faith In Practice, their respective agents, employees, officers, directors, associates, affiliated companies, subcontractors, or cooperating agencies or organizations; and accidents or illness in places without access to medical facilities, transportation, and/or means of rapid evacuation or assistance.

I understand that my participation as a volunteer and my use of transportation, housing and dining services, and other goods and services in connection with my participation carry a risk of serious personal injury, serious illness, death and property damage or loss. I expressly and voluntarily assume all risk of injury, illness, death and property damage or loss that may result from my participation as a volunteer in and/or my use of goods and services in connection with my participation.

I understand that traveling and working in Guatemala is physically strenuous and the mission work may entail 10-hour or more workdays. I acknowledge that I may be working at elevations of 5,000 feet and above. I will be responsible for taking whatever precautionary measures, medicines or immunizations that I deem necessary to protect my health and well-being.

I understand that safety and security are also my personal responsibility and I agree to adhere to all safety and security guidelines stated by Staff and as included in the Volunteer Handbook.

Health and Medical Emergency

I understand that Faith In Practice may notify the person or persons that I have listed as an emergency contact in the event that I become seriously ill or am involved in an emergency situation during the volunteer program. In the event that I am unable to make my own medical decisions, I understand that a Faith In Practice representative may have to make those decisions on my behalf.

I authorize the staff of Faith In Practice to obtain emergency medical treatment under the supervision of a physician and/or surgeon, should treatment be necessary. I release Faith In Practice from any claim whatsoever which arises on account of any first aid, treatment, or service rendered in connection with my activities with Faith In Practice.

I have reviewed Faith In Practice's short-term volunteer insurance (see Faith In Practice's AIG Business Travel Accident Insurance Benefits) and understand that it does not cover pre-existing conditions, is not intended to replace my personal medical insurance, and only provides specified coverage for the duration of the trip.

I have reviewed my own medical insurance and acknowledge that it provides sufficient medical coverage for me on this trip.

I agree that if any illness, injury or bodily harm should come to me while participating as a volunteer, that Faith In Practice is not financially responsible in any way for medical care, transportation or any other costs that should arise.

Financial Information

Mission Trip Costs and Deadlines

Faith In Practice Application and Trip Fees:

Due at time of Application:

- Application fee: \$125 (non-refundable administration charge)

Due 45 days prior to departure:

- Mission Trip Member Fee: \$1,300 (\$1,350 for Friday to Saturday)
- Mission Fee includes hotel, most meals, ground transportation, airport transportation for volunteers on the team flight, and medical emergency/lost-luggage insurance (not trip cancellation insurance).
- In-country travel arrangements and costs incurred by individuals deviating from the team flight are the responsibility of the individual.
- Payment in full or installments of remaining fees are accepted up to but no later than 45 days prior to departure. Contact Faith In Practice for payment plan options, if necessary.

Airfare Cost:

Airfare costs are the responsibility of each volunteer.

- Please purchase your own airline ticket for your designated team flight. Information on the team flight will be provided by your team leader.

Due 60 days prior to departure:

- Submission of your Flight Itinerary to the Team Leader.

Faith In Practice Share the Mission Program

Faith In Practice volunteers are expected to participate in Faith In Practice's Share The Mission Program. This volunteer fundraising program supports the overall costs of the mission, including the purchase of supplies, medications, and logistics and administration costs. This Program also encourages volunteers' friends and family members to share in the mission with our volunteers, so that together they can serve the poor of Guatemala.

Donation Policy

All donations to Faith In Practice shall be used to support Faith In Practice's overall mission effort. **No donations can or shall be designated exclusively for the benefit of a particular individual pursuant to 26 USC § 501(c)(3) restrictions.**

Refund and Trip Cancellation Policy

Participant Cancellation

We understand that, at times, situations occur which may require a participant to cancel. We therefore strongly recommend participants obtain trip cancellation insurance to protect against this possibility.

Faith In Practice's policy if a participant cancels is as follows:

Trip Fee:

- Participant requests a refund 45 days before the published trip departure date: 100% of paid fee.
- Participant requests refund 44 to 16 days prior to the published trip departure date: 75% of paid fee.
- Participant requests refund 15 days or less prior to the trip departure date: No Refund.

Refund requests must be made via email to teams@faithinpractice.org. Please allow 30 days for processing of all refund requests.

Note:

- Faith In Practice will not refund the trip fee or any portion thereof in the event that the participant chooses to leave the team prior to the trip end date.
- Faith In Practice will not refund the trip fee or any portion thereof in the event that the participant is asked to leave the team prior to the trip end date.

Application Fee:

- The Application Fee, which supports pre-trip administration costs, is not eligible for refund.

Faith In Practice Trip Cancellation

While it does not occur with frequency, Faith In Practice may be required to cancel a trip. If Faith In Practice cancels a trip, participants will be notified by email and offered two options:

1. Donate trip fee and receive a 501(c)(3) donation tax receipt.
2. Request a refund of 100% of the trip fee.

Participant must elect one of the two above noted options within 30 days of the original trip cancellation notice.

Participant agrees that failure to elect one option within 30 days acts as confirmation that the participant is making a donation of the paid trip fee for the cancelled trip and Faith In Practice will process a donation tax receipt accordingly.

The Application Fee, which supports pre-trip administration costs, will not be refunded.

Image Release and Patient Privacy Agreement

I grant Faith In Practice permission to use any photos, images, and videos that I take during the mission trip of myself, my team, or Faith In Practice staff or patients, as well as blog content and my trip evaluation comments, however the organization may see fit—which may include use in publications, in event media, on the organization’s website, in social media posts, and in press releases—in order to continue the promotion of the mission of Faith In Practice. I also grant Faith In Practice the use of any photos, images or videos of myself that were obtained by others on my team during my time as a Faith In Practice volunteer.

I agree that I will respect the privacy of the Guatemalan patients at all times and will not share any photographs that show a patient in pain, under anesthetic, or in a state of undress, or any photographs of a patient undergoing an operation or similar invasive medical procedure where the patient’s face is shown. Nor will I share patient stories, whether by email or on social media, that include the last name of the patient, their precise location, or sensitive medical details that would allow the patient to be easily identified by members of their community.

I agree that all mission-related public communication, especially social media posts, will be respectful of Guatemala, and the Guatemalan people, particularly Faith In Practice patients and volunteers.

If requested by Faith In Practice staff, I agree to immediately remove any social media posts that are deemed to violate these privacy or sensitivity guidelines.

I agree that I may not use any images of Faith In Practice staff, teams, volunteers, patients, or associated individuals in the promotion or representation of any other organization without the permission of Faith In Practice.

This Liability and Image Release shall be effective for all orientation meetings, and for the entire duration of the trip. The Patient Privacy Agreements do not expire at any time.

Should any of the provisions of the Image Release and Patient Privacy Agreement, or portions thereof, be found to be invalid by any court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of this document shall nonetheless remain in full force and effect. This document shall be construed under the laws of the State of Texas.

Spiritual Philosophy and Guiding Principles

The spiritual mission of Faith In Practice is distinctively Christian in its perspective, practicing hospitality to all, striving to fulfill the Great Commandment given in both the Old and New Testaments ... to love God and love our neighbors as ourselves.

Rooted in our understanding of Christian hospitality, Faith In Practice does not exclude volunteers on the basis of any religious affiliation, nor does it restrict medical treatment to anyone based upon any religious affiliation.

Faith In Practice Guiding Principles

These principles have guided Faith In Practice since its inception and continue to do so as we seek to humbly follow God's call into the future.

Each Faith In Practice volunteer is personally accountable for his/her actions and pledges to support the mission and goals of Faith In Practice and the Guiding Principles.

Sharing our Faith Through Deeds

Jesus taught and healed with compassion for all. Matthew 4:24

Faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead. James 2:17

Acceptance, Respect and Empathy

All people have been created in the image of God. Genesis 1:27

Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God. Romans 15:7

Appreciation of Cultural Differences

For God shows no partiality. Romans 2:11

There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. Galatians 3:28

Support and Nurture Volunteers

Be devoted to one another in brotherly love. Honor one another above yourselves. Romans 12:10

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you. Ephesians 4:32

Sharing our Gifts and Talents

Much will be expected of those who are entrusted with much. Luke 12:48

As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace. 1 Peter 4:10

Courtesy

Speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people.

Titus 3:2

And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Hebrews 10:24

Personal Integrity

This is what the Lord requires of you: act with justice, love with kindness and walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6:8

Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable--if anything is excellent or praiseworthy--think about such things. Philippians 4:8