

# Short-Term Mission Teams

What does it mean that a mission team is endorsed by the Missions Ministry Team? It means:

- The team has clearly defined goals and objectives
- The team has been in contact with the Missions Ministry Team and developed their mission trip giving consideration to this being a positive experience for those on the mission field (not just those on the mission team)
- The team has provided a detailed agenda of their mission trip
- The team has contingency plans in place, ([click here](#) for how to develop contingency plans)
- The team has the MMT's emergency missionary crisis contact information in the event of an accident or crisis
- The team has provided a list of those on the team with contact information of family members in the USA.

Cumberland Presbyterian short-term mission teams that desire to be endorsed by the Missions Ministry Team need to download the Application Form and e-mail it to the Director of Cross Culture Global Missions (Email). An endorsed mission team will have access to the Missions Ministry Team to discuss planning of their trip. As well, if there were a crisis, and if it were determined necessary, a Missionary Crisis Team member would be immediately deployed to the mission field to help the mission team.

Cumberland Presbyterians (CPs) are living and working around the world. Each year there are natural disasters that directly affect CP churches and church members. In addition, there are catastrophic events that touch the hearts of CPs with the calling and desire to help. Here are some ways to help when disasters happen:

## Disaster Work Teams

CPs organize relief work groups to go to areas of disaster and help. These groups are organized by different individuals and churches. **We want to encourage those organizing a group to post their relief group on the Mission Ministry Team's Facebook page so others that might want to help can sign up and join your efforts. In addition, there is a web page where the trip details can be posted.** Send that information to [Kristi Lounsbury](#). There are various CPs and CP churches that do relief work teams. Because there is often a long-term restoration process, some teams deploy months and years after the disaster event itself.

## Disaster and Emergency Relief Funds

The Missions Ministry Team maintains a Disaster Relief Fund to assist churches and individuals immediately after a disaster. This fund is designed to address short-term needs until insurance and other resources can provide assistance. The Missions Ministry Team is proactive attempting to identify needs of area Cumberland Presbyterians following a disaster. If you know of needs, contact the Team Leader of the Missions Ministry Team, [Milton Ortiz](#). We would like to encourage those that want to help and who may be unable to join a relief team to make a contribution to the Disaster Relief Fund.

The *World Emergency Fund* is used primarily to respond to natural disasters outside the U.S., where calamities have deprived people of life's necessities and/or destroyed personal and church property. We use the World Emergency Fund particularly in cases where we do not have CP assets available to distribute assistance. If you want to contribute to the CP Disaster Relief Fund, send a check to the Cumberland Presbyterian Center Office, Missions Ministry Team, 8207 Traditional Place, Cordova, TN 38016-7414 – mark on the memo line “Disaster Relief Fund”. If you have a specific intent for the donation please note that with the donation. You can donate, also, to the World Emergency Fund in the same way, marking the check “Emergency Fund.” We deeply appreciate these expressions of compassion.