



Global Village Team Member Agreement

I realize that the following elements are crucial to the effectiveness, quality and safety of our experience together. As a member of this Global Village team I agree to:

- Remember that I am a guest working at the invitation of the people of the host community and Habitat for Humanity. If my bare arms, shirtless back or exposed legs offend my hosts, I'll cover them.
- Remember that we have come to learn, not to teach. I may run across procedures that I feel are inefficient or attitudes that I feel need changing. I'll resist the temptation to inform our hosts about 'how we do things'. I'll be open to learning other people's methods and ideas.
- Respect the hosts' view of religion.
- Respect my team leaders and their decisions.
- Refrain from gossip. I may be surprised at how each person will blossom when freed from the concern that others may be passing judgment.
- Refrain from complaining. I know that travel can present numerous unexpected and undesired circumstances.
- Respect the work that is going on in the community with Habitat for Humanity. I realize that our team will be there for just a short time, while Habitat for Humanity is there for the long term. I will respect their knowledge, insights and instructions.
- Attend all team meetings and follow-up meetings.
- Fulfill all logistical requirements. I will comply with all requirements regarding travel, finances, etc.
- Refrain from negative political comments or hostile discussions concerning the politics of the province I am visiting.
- Remember not to be exclusive in my relationships. If my spouse or best friend is on the team, we will make every effort to interact with all members of the team, not just one another.
- Refrain from any activity that could be construed as romantic interest toward a local or other team member. I realize certain activities that seem innocuous in my own culture may be seen as inappropriate in others.
- Refrain from consuming alcoholic beverages except when and where permitted by the team leader.
- Not be involved with illegal drugs or inappropriate sexual behaviour while on the trip.



Gift Giving

Our partners have asked that we not bring gifts for individual families. Such gifts can often create jealousy, competition and feelings of ill will. Donations to the local affiliate that benefit the whole community, such as school supplies, soccer balls, and small tools, are welcome and can be submitted to Habitat for Humanity staff for distribution.

Team members are occasionally asked by community members about sending money or sponsoring a child in the community. This too is discouraged; Habitat for Humanity strives to promote independence, not create dependence. Such acts of generosity falsely raise expectations of what future Global Village teams will provide. If you are interested in further supporting the host community, contact the Global Village Department when you return home.