

# 2021 MISSION TRIP GUIDE



## GO MINISTRIES

GO MINISTRIES EMPOWERS LOCAL LEADERS TO REDEEM PEOPLE, RENEW COMMUNITIES AND RESTORE CREATION THROUGH MUTUAL TRANSFORMATION.

## CONTACT INFORMATION & TIMELINE

### FOR TRIP BOOKING AND GENERAL INFORMATION:



Lisa Crain  
Stateside Teams  
Administrator  
[lcrain@gomin.org](mailto:lcrain@gomin.org)  
502.493.9846



Adrienne Stratton  
Director of Community  
Development  
[astratton@gomin.org](mailto:astratton@gomin.org)  
989.304.6444

### TRAVEL AGENT RECOMMENDATIONS:

Sarah Geis  
International Travel Specialist  
[sara@flyforgood.com](mailto:sara@flyforgood.com)

High Point  
[www.highpointgo.com](http://www.highpointgo.com)  
866.532.7580

### TRAVEL INSURANCE OPTION BY INSURANCE SERVICES OF AMERICA:

Insurance Services of America offers a travel insurance plan that covers Covid-19 and other medical care if needed while in the Dominican Republic. They recommend the Roundtrip Elite travel insurance policy for our team members. The plan features:

1. \$250,000 Medical
2. \$1,000,000 Evacuation coverage per person
3. \$2500 for Lost or stolen baggage
4. \$600 Baggage delay benefit
5. \$25,000 Accidental Death and Dismemberment
6. \$1500 Trip delay benefit
7. 24-hour worldwide assistance

While on your trip, if you are diagnosed and treated for the coronavirus, then your local medical expenses are covered. In addition, if you are medically quarantined, then the insurance covers additional lodging expenses up to \$1500. After you have been released from the required quarantine, the insurance will pay for an economy ticket to return home.

You can apply online at <https://purchase.sevencorners.com/policygroup/HW7C6WN/HWMY7YS/>. If you apply online, please use a "\$0" trip cost. You may also call Adam Bates and he can take the application by phone. Here is his contact info:

Adam Bates - Vice President, Insurance Services of America  
Phone number: (800) 647-4589 or (480) 821-9052 / (866) 793-4779 (fax)

Policies may be paid with Visa, Master Card, Diners Club, check or money order. Plan costs are non-refundable after 10 days of purchase.

## **TIMELINE BEFORE TRIP**

- \$1000 deposit, Team Covenant, and Team Application due 60 days after date of booking.
- 8 weeks prior you will get a reminder email from Lisa Crain with documents due before the trip
- Flight information approved by Lisa **before** booking. Team Roster, Team member medical forms, Indemnification forms, and final payment due 4 weeks prior to trip date
  - Final flights booked 4 weeks out

## **COVID-19 POLICY AND MEDICAL PROTOCOL:**

### Medical Protocol

- On the Field:
  - Masks are mandatory except for mealtimes and when 6-foot distancing can be achieved outside (rooftop, outdoor activities, etc). Extra masks will be included in the team Emergency-Kit if someone's breaks. Strict adherence to handwashing practices and hand sanitizer at all sites.
  - A GO Medical staff person will do an in-person midweek check with team members (either lunch or dinner) to make sure everyone is in compliance and no one is experiencing any symptoms.
  - If anyone shows symptoms, notify medical staff immediately for a phone triage call. If deemed necessary, bring the team member to the clinic for in-person assessment. If testing is deemed appropriate, we will have them rapid tested.
- TESTING SPECIFIC DETAILS
  - Garcia & Garcia Laboratorio
    - Laboratorios Garcia y Garcia villa progreso
    - Calle E. León Jimenez, Santiago De Los Caballeros 51000
    - (809) 226-5551
    - <https://maps.app.goo.gl/Pm5Su6ALoShEJca37>
  - It will be a rapid **nasal** (in the nose) antigen test
  - Results ready in 5 hours and will be picked up and verified by a GO staffer.
  - Negative test result - continue as normal
  - Positive test result - Follow up with a PCR test. Quarantine in Medical Center suite (bedroom, bathroom, WiFi all included) at a rate of \$25/day. Medical staff will provide daily checkups. If negative PCR, resume normal activity. If positive PCR, continue quarantine and expect to stay for 14 days. Will not be released from our care for travel until negative PCR result, unless you sign an AMA (against medical advice) affidavit releasing GO Ministries from liability.
  - There is no limit on how many tests you can have performed, as long as you are willing to pay for them at a rate of \$30 per test.
  - There have been no reports of Public Health following or checking up on those who test positive.
- Upon departure:
  - Follow all airline/airport requirements. The current CDC requirement is a negative nasal antigen test result within 3 days of departure date/time. The above rapid test from Garcia & Garcia will meet this requirement. Airlines recommend downloading the VeriFly app in order to submit documentation and expedite check-in process at the airport.
  - The only substitute for this is documentation from a medical provider proving you had COVID-19 within 90 days of departure date.

Below are the guidelines we have put in place to keep all team members, local leaders and community members as safe as possible. **These guidelines are subject to change depending on recommendations of the United States and Dominican governments, the CDC and WHO.** Your GO Team Coordinator will be in communication with you throughout the planning of your trip to answer any questions, and keep you updated on shifts in procedures.

- As of April 1, 2021 the Dominican Government will only be accepting customs forms electronically. Follow the link below to fill out an eTicket and have the QR code available to show to customs agents at the airport.
  - <https://eticket.migracion.gob.do/>
- Upon arrival, COVID-19 testing may be administered at the Santiago airport by Dominican officials. Historically, the airport has used non-invasive, breath tests.
- Team members need to bring their own mask and hand sanitizer to carry with them at all times.
- Masks will be worn indoors at all times, excepting within the team's own dorm, when only the team is present. If local leaders or GO Kids are visiting, all parties will wear masks, and maintain appropriate distance while sharing meals together.
- Everyone will use hand-washing/sanitation stations before going through meal lines.
- Many activities we host regularly occur outside, which lends itself to the safety of our team members, staff, and local leaders. For now we ask that everyone maintain 6 feet of social distance during meals, devos, and other activities hosted in open air.
- Dorms and vehicles will not be filled to more than 50% capacity, and sanitized daily. Supplies will be made available for team members to clean inside sleeping spaces, to avoid extra exposure between team members and staff/local leaders. We ask that team members alternate between beds, rather than sleeping directly next to someone.
- Vehicle space will be reserved for team members and facilitators only. In the instance that a local leader needs to travel for an activity, separate transportation will be provided.
- Our staff is following all CDC requirements to prevent the exposure of COVID-19. Here are some recommendations from the CDC prior to travel:
  - Wash your hands often, use hand sanitizer and avoid touching your face with unclean hands
  - Wear a mask when needing to be around other people closer than 6 feet.
  - Do not share water bottles, cups or plates.
  - [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html?utm\\_campaign=AC\\_CRNA](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/steps-when-sick.html?utm_campaign=AC_CRNA)
- Upon departure, all team members will need a negative COVID test within 3 days of leaving, or proof of recovery from COVID within the last 90 days.
  - GO will make arrangements for team members to be tested. It will be a rapid **nasal** (in the nose) antigen test
  - Results ready in 5 hours and can be emailed. We recommend downloading the VeriFly app to submit test results and expedite airport check-in.
    - The \$30 test fee has already been factored into trip fees.
  - If you've recently recovered from Covid you may bring documentation from a medical provider proving you had COVID-19 within 90 days of departure date. This documentation must include:
    - paper or electronic copies of your positive test result.
    - a signed letter, on official letterhead that contains names, address and phone number of a license healthcare provider or public health official, stating that you have been cleared to end isolation and return to normal activities.
    - this letter should be dated no more than 90 days prior to traveling.



# Team Leader Essentials

- To book a trip, send an application, signed covenant and \$1,000 non-refundable deposit to the Teams Administrator in our Louisville office. Lisa Crain, [lcraing@gomn.org](mailto:lcraing@gomn.org)
- Trip fees range from \$780 to \$1005 per person plus airfare depending on the length of your trip. These fees cover:
  - Food, lodging & transportation
  - Field Services
  - Leadership fee
  - Benevolence
  - Ministry Advancement
  - Covid-19 testing and cleaning requirements
- Most teams require a minimum of 10 team members per trip
  - *Possible exceptions during non-peak times*
- Most trips are either 5 or 7 days long.
  - Summer trips span Thursday-Monday or Tuesday-Tuesday
  - September-May trips span Monday-Friday or Saturday-Saturday
- Your team will work alongside Dominican and Haitian local leaders and North American staff to support and propel existing initiatives in our four Focused Areas of Ministry.
- A Team Coordinator will guide you through each step of the trip planning process.
- Our staff and local leaders will serve as your facilitators for your entire stay on the island.
- Translators will be provided throughout your trip.



# Responsibilities

Team leaders are important contributors to the team planning process.

- They are responsible for:
  - Recruiting a team of 10 people or more
  - Leading team meetings
  - Sharing information with their team
  - Making airfare/travel arrangements
  - Encouraging team fundraising efforts
  - Overseeing pre-trip preparations, such as lesson development, material/donation gathering, medical forms, etc.
  - Sending all forms and payments to the GO office
  - Acting as spiritual leader for the team
- Make Flight Arrangements
  - We encourage you to begin making flight arrangements as soon as possible to ensure availability of seats and best prices for your airfare. All flights will be in and out of Santiago – Cibao International Airport [STI].
  - Ideally, arrivals are after 5 pm local time, and departures are before 9 am local time. This allows our staff and local leaders time to make necessary arrangements for the next week's teams.
  - See page 2 for travel agent recommendations. You may use your own travel agent or book your own flights. We require that you let us review your flight itinerary prior to booking.
- Choose a Focused Area of Ministry (FAM)
  - If your church/organization already has an established partnership with a FAM or specific local leader, your coordinator will work to develop a week of ministry tailored to deepen your existing relationships.
  - If your team is new, you will have the opportunity to choose a FAM to work alongside throughout your week. The following pages provide more details.
  - Your team coordinator will help you determine what kind of construction/service projects, children's ministry and community outreach activities best fit your team make-up and the needs of your chosen FAM.
- Passport
  - A passport is required to travel to the Dominican Republic. The cost of a passport is not included in the price of your trip. If you do not have a valid passport, apply now!
  - Passport services and information are available at: [travel.state.gov](https://travel.state.gov) under the tab "US Passports."
- Immunizations
  - GO Ministries requires up-to-date Tetanus/Diphtheria vaccinations for all trips. The cost of immunizations is not included in your trip costs.
  - While GO only requires Tetanus vaccinations, the Center for Disease Control also recommends the following: Hepatitis A&B, Typhoid, Malaria RX, Travelers Diarrhea RX – please see [www.cdc.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for current updates.
  - Speak with your physician about specific vaccinations recommendations for your specific health situations.



# FOCUSED AREAS OF MINISTRY

## CHURCH PLANTING

**Mission:** GO Church Planting empowers local leaders to begin new churches who redeem people, renew communities, and restore creation through discipleship, mission, and the multiplication of leaders.

**What it looks like:** A team of at least 10 people will join in our global vision of starting 1,000 churches in the next 10 years. Teams partnering in this area of ministry will have the opportunity to encourage the leadership in their new church. Supporting this new church and the community can be done through service projects, sports outreach, children's ministry, etc.



## COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



**Mission:** GO Community Development renews and advances communities through the establishment of educational opportunities, small business, and international partnerships. This results in mutually transformational relationships that redeem people and restore creation.

**What it looks like:** A group of at least 10 members will experience small portions of many areas of our ministry. This might include construction, service-projects, children's ministry, prayer walks, distributing donations, giving away bibles, or any number of encouraging activities that further the ministry of local leaders in their communities. Through Kingdom Business, we

can also host small business training seminars and sessions for the public. We can tailor our trips for all ages and abilities.

# FOCUSED AREAS OF MINISTRY

## GO MEDICAL

**Mission:** GO Medical empowers local medical professionals to provide quality healthcare to the vulnerable and the hurting, creating opportunities for healing and gospel transformation.

**What it looks like:** A team of 10 members or more will work alongside the GO Medical staff and a local leader in their community by hosting a mobile medical clinic. Most clinics are hosted in a church or school in the community, and are composed of a triage station, consultation area, pharmacy and prayer station. Non-medical team members can also serve by signing people in, handing out assigned medications, and assisting medical professionals. We will oversee the purchase of medication for the clinic here on the island to avoid team members having to carry medications and clear customs.



## GO SPORTS



**Mission:** GO Sports empowers local coaches to disciple athletes who influence their community as leaders of the next generation. We develop international partnerships that result in mutual transformation.

**What it looks like:** Sports teams do not need to be made up of athletes or coaches. Anyone is welcome to be a part of a sports ministry trip. Sports teams spend the week with local leaders working in sports ministry either at the Leadership Development Complex or in communities around

Santiago. They can concentrate their time on a specific area of the sports academies (baseball, basketball, soccer, English classes, coach/staff development, etc.). They can also choose to spend the week learning about the broad scope of GO Sports' ministry or serving the community of Tamboril where the LDC is located. Some teams choose to lead outreach events such as basketball or soccer camps. Our trip coordinators work hard to take your vision/goals for the trip and customize it in a way that makes sense for mutual transformation through GO Sports.



# WHAT YOU WILL NEED:

- Passport
- Bible/Notebook/Pen
- Toiletries
- Towel/washcloth
- Flip Flops for shower
- Sunscreen
- Hat/Bandana
- Sunglasses
- Insect Repellent
- Work Clothes (old t-shirts, etc.)
- Shorts (no shorter than fingertips)
- Pants
- Casual clothes for evening activities (no tank tops please)
- Work Gloves



- Closed-toe work shoes and socks
- Twin size sheets
- Pillow
- Flashlight
- Water Bottle
- Church Clothes –
  - Men – Slacks & shirt with collar –
  - Ladies – modest dress, skirt, or jeans (without holes, and a nice blouse)
- Bathing Suit (one-piece suits or tankini)
- Spending Money (\$50-\$100 – Please bring Cash – NO Traveler's Checks)
- Appropriate snacks (especially if you have food allergies or a special diet)



## Optional Items

The following list contains things that many teams wish they had thought to bring.

- Imodium (or other diarrhea medicine) & laxative medicine
- Dramamine (Recommended if you get motion sickness, for the plane and also for the curvy ride across the mountains from Santiago to Puerto Plata)
- Baby powder / Gold Bond
- Aloe Vera or Vitamin E cream for sunburn
- Small battery-operated fan and extra batteries
- Scrubs (medical teams)
- Camera/camera phone
  - A media person will be present, so a camera/phone isn't necessary.



## Save Space

Save space in your luggage by leaving the following at home:

- Expensive jewelry
- Laptops
- A bunch of junk food
- Clothes that are not appropriate (short shorts, short dresses, strapless tank tops or dresses, spaghetti strap tank tops, low cut shirts, bikinis)

## Technology

We encourage you to leave behind work laptops and to step away from your routines with technology. Leave your phones in airplane mode and refrain from Wi-Fi. We ask that you take the time to enjoy your trip and be in the moment as much as possible so that you can have a life changing experience.

# FUNDRAISING IDEAS

## 1. Prayer Team

Before you begin any type of fundraising, give it to God in prayer. We often plan, execute and then pray for the best. The plan usually fails because we forget to ask God first.

Begin preparations for your trip by raising a prayer support base of at least ten people. These people will pray regularly for you as you prepare and daily during the actual trip.

These must be people whose prayer life you know and trust. They need to be mature Christians who will take your prayer covenant very seriously. They should not be members of your team.

Send your prayer team prayer requests during your preparations and before you leave. Include things like fatigue, your attitude, your reactions, flexibility, safety, and health. You will sense their prayer support on your trip and will be able to get through situations beyond your own strength because of their prayers.



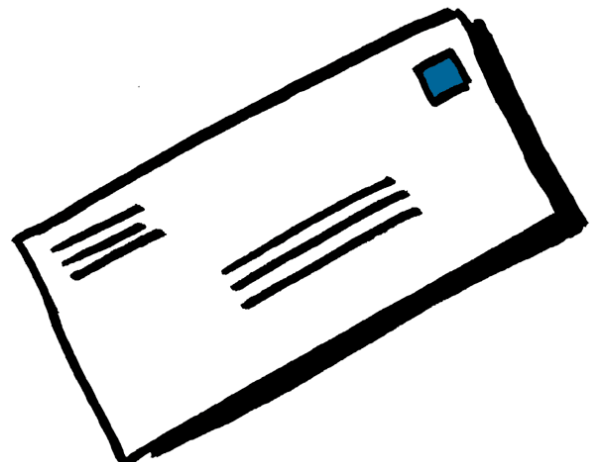
## 2. Letter Writing

We have found that the best way for raising funds for a trip is through letter writing. In order to do that, we often must push aside our pride and let others in to help us, remembering that they will become a part of your trip by supporting you. ***\*Remember that people give to missions when they feel informed, when they believe their gift will change lives, when they feel like they are an important part of the trip, and when they sense your enthusiasm about it.***

Make a list of family members, friends, and church members who may be interested in supporting you. In your letter, do the following:

- Explain the purpose of your trip
- Give details of how God has led you to this trip
- Explain why you chose to participate
- Tell the reader of planned activities
- Explain the need
- Ask the reader for specific actions based on the need

Please visit [gomin.org/sample-letter](http://gomin.org/sample-letter) to get a sample.



### 3. Collide Coffee Fundraiser



GO Ministries started Collide Coffee Project in 2017 as a way to raise funds for ministry and share our story using everyone's favorite morning pastime: drinking coffee. You can sell coffee to raise funds for your trip by purchasing 12oz bags of coffee at a discounted rate to sell at their full price. You keep the difference, ranging between \$5-\$8 per bag.

If you are interested in getting more information, email [info@collidecoffee.co](mailto:info@collidecoffee.co) and we would love to help you raise funds for your trip.



### 4. Hosting a Potluck or Pancake Breakfast

A pancake breakfast fundraiser is a wonderful way to raise money. The concept is simple: gather your community together and raise money by serving a pancake breakfast or potluck meal. You can keep it basic with pancakes and juice or get creative and do a potluck with different food. You charge a set price for them to eat and you keep the profits. Basic items for this fundraiser can be purchased at places like Costco and Sam's Club to buy in bulk at a cheap price. Make sure you make fliers and let your town know of the event and be sure to leave a donation jar out for people to chip in a little extra if they choose.



There is a lot of good insight for these events online so do not hesitate to google Pancake fundraising Ideas.