

HOM FAQs

for mission teams



1) Is Haiti safe?

Yes! In over twenty years, we have never had a problem with safety. However, we ask that you follow basic safety precautions. Please follow directions of our staff and Haitian leaders. Never leave the campus without permission and even then, you must have a MICECC leader or staff member escort. Do not bring expensive jewelry, electronics or other items to Haiti. Always travel with a partner and guard your possessions closely in public spaces.

2) Is there information to help us prepare for our trip?

Of course! HOM has provided detailed Mission Guidelines that answers the most commonly asked questions and provides information about our policies to help as you prepare for your trip and while you are in Haiti. Go to our web site at www.haitiom.org and look under "Mission Trips" for links to the "Guidelines".

3) Who helps us once we get to Haiti?

Our Haitian staff and American volunteers will meet you at the airport, take you to your lodging, and be with you at the work sites. If staying at Terre Noire (Blanchard), they will provide orientation to the facilities, the "rules" and daily schedule. Please don't hesitate to ask for help, we want your trip to be safe, successful and rewarding!

4) What will we eat? Is the food and water safe?

If staying at Terre Noire (Blanchard) or a commercial guesthouse/hotel, safe food and water is provided. Breakfast and dinner is served daily at Terre Noire, lunch is not; a trip to a grocery store can be arranged. Safe water is available at the job site. See "Information for Teams" page 2 in General Guidelines for more information on water and meals.

5) What do I wear in Haiti?

Although it is hot in Haiti, women and men are to dress modestly, see "Suggested Packing list" page 8 and "Things to Remember" page 9 in the General Guidelines for detailed information regarding appropriate attire. Failure to honor our guidelines regarding dress is a serious breach of contract and may result in termination of your trip.

6) Who decides what projects we do?

HOM/MICECC has many ongoing projects; team leaders may request to work in a specific area but MICECC leaders make the final decision on where we need the most help. Please remember that team members are not to perform jobs outside of his/her scope of practice, training or field of expertise. Works days are usually Monday – Friday.

7) What activities are available after work?

Teams are encouraged to visit our facilities and tour Port Au Prince. A visit to our gift shop to buy local art/crafts is a must! A trip to the Baptist Mission on the mountaintop, a beach or the overlook can be arranged. Additional costs may apply to pay tap taps and translators. Nighttime trips are not available due to safety concerns. HOM volunteers and MICECC staff may lead a brief devotion before dinner and one of the Haitian leaders usually visit and tell their story.

8) What else do I need to know?

HOM and MICECC are Christian organizations; team members are to behave responsibly, honor our guidelines and the leadership of MICECC and HOM (see "Mission Projects" page 4 and "Things to Remember" page 9 in the General Guidelines). Remember your ultimate purpose for being in Haiti is to share the love of God. Get to know our Haitian hosts, meet people with a smile and "bon jou" (good morning). Most volunteers will find serving with HOM and MICECC very rewarding!