

Australian Mercy Volunteer - Code of Conduct

It is our joint desire to work together in the interests of giving aid to those in need. To this end we have decided to partner together in order to further the work being done through Australian Mercy.

I have agreed to join the Australian Mercy team as a volunteer

1. General Conduct

In consideration of Australian Mercy accepting me as a volunteer I agree to act in a responsible manner, keeping in mind that I am to follow all reasonable directions of my appointed team leader, and / or other leaders of Australian Mercy or its partnering organisation on location.

1.1 Cultural sensitivity

I understand that if serving in another country I am in fact an outsider to that culture which may differ greatly from my own. I am willing to make changes in my normal behaviour so as not to cause cultural offense. I understand that my behaviour could cause embarrassment, offense, or legal problems for others inside and outside of my group; therefore;

- I undertake to act in a responsible manner that will not cause cultural offense. I will dress respectfully, according to culturally acceptable standards. I will not speak disrespectfully about the government, language or any religion or other aspect of the culture. I will not relate to members of the opposite sex in ways that can be seen as offensive.

1.2 Team solidarity

I understand that Australian Mercy values every team member. Therefore I agree to;

- attend all team meetings;
- carry out my responsibilities and duties in a sensitive and honest way;
- relate to the other members of my team in a positive and helpful way;
- inform my team leader of any grievance that I may have as soon as possible;
- follow all reasonable directions from my team leader.

1.3 Health and Safety

Changed living circumstances bring with it new health and safety risks. Therefore I undertake not to involve myself in behaviour that could put my own or others health and safety at risk.

If asked to drive a vehicle I will drive lawfully and responsibly obeying the road rules and not engage in unacceptable or dangerous behaviour.

2. Image responsibility

I have read the Australian Mercy image and message guidelines and agree to abide by them.

3. Sexual integrity

I understand that Australian Mercy has a zero tolerance of sexual abuse and does not in any way allow its team members to act in ways that would be contrary to its values and policies. This includes the frequenting of brothels and strip clubs and engaging in behaviour that is culturally offensive or sexually harassing.

I understand that should circumstances arise whereby, my behaviour is irresponsible or offensive, or endangers my or others safety, that the team leader may discharge my services from the team.

4. Child Protection

Australian Mercy has a zero tolerance policy with child abuse and has standards and protocols in place with regards to the behaviour of adults around children. These are outlined in the child protection statement a document that all volunteers are expected to read, sign and abide by. Failure to abide by the child protection policy may result in my services being withdrawn and my being removed from the project site.

5. Lawful behaviour

I will not participate in any kind of substance abuse.

Australian Mercy will not be responsible for any team member who attempts to smuggle any illegal substance. I understand I am responsible to find out for myself what my legal responsibility is and to act according to the law.

6. Responsibilities prior to travel

I understand that while travelling there is a certain element of risk. Therefore I agree to make the following precautions in case of emergency.

- Make a will and have left it in the possession of a trusted friend or family member.
- At my own expense, take out adequate health and travel insurance that will cover me, should I need extended hospitalisation, medical treatment, or emergency evacuation from any location whilst I am part of this outreach.
- Make sure that I have adequate personal spending money.
- Inform Australian Mercy in writing of any known medical condition, and / or allergy from which I suffer, and I agree to inform my team leader of any medication I am currently using, or may need to use whilst serving with Australian Mercy.
- Inform the outreach leader of any dietary needs that I may have.
- Arrange with my local Doctor to undergo a checkup and organise the necessary inoculations I may require. I understand that I will do this at my own expense.
- Regularly check relevant government websites (such as www.smartraveller.gov.au/) for warnings of terrorist alerts or travel warnings prior to departure date.
- I agree to pay the costs of my own travel to and from the project location, as well as the costs of all my own food and accommodation as arranged on my behalf by Australian Mercy or its outreach partner(s).

In the event that Australian Mercy charges me a standard outreach fee as part of a package that would include items such as board and food etc.; I understand that should there be any residual funds left over from this outreach, then these funds will become the property of Australian Mercy and will be used by Australian Mercy to further its work amongst the poor and needy.

First Name:

Middle Name:

Last Name:

Signature:

Date (DMY)