

SAFETY PROTOCOL

ON MISSION TRIPS

What safety precautions does FOCUS Missions take?

- We partner with a security intelligence agency that monitors all mission locations.
- We work with local hosts who are aware of cultural norms and safety concerns.
- We register every group with the State Department in the Safe Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP), which provides the US government with our group's location in case of an emergency.
- Every international mission trip includes travel insurance while participants are outside the United States covering an array of situations, including medical emergencies and travel issues. If you have questions, contact FOCUS Missions at focusoncampus.org/missions/contact-us
- All FOCUS staff members will have their phones enabled for international use.
- If FOCUS Missions becomes aware of a potentially dangerous situation before the mission trip start date, we may relocate the trip. Such reasons may include civil unrest or a disease outbreak.



Can I call home while on mission?

- We ask all participants to refrain from using their phones, so please tell your loved ones not to expect to hear from you. If someone needs to contact while you are on mission, we ask that they contact FOCUS Missions. Please see "Contacting A Participant On Mission" at the end of this document.
- For security reasons, we never share the numbers of FOCUS staff on mission.

What if an emergency happens on mission?

- The mission director will contact FOCUS Missions, and FOCUS Missions will reach out to the emergency contact provided in the participant's application.
- In the case of a personal incident on mission (such as a severe injury), FOCUS Missions will connect the participant with his or her emergency contact.
- In the case of a large-scale crisis such as a terrorist attack or natural disaster, the mission group will work with the nearest US Embassy or Consulate, FOCUS Missions, and the hosts on the ground to stabilize the situation.
- FOCUS Missions will remain in communication with all emergency contacts to update them on the situation and our group's safety.



Contacting A Participant On Mission

- We ask that family and friends refrain from contacting participants on mission trips except in cases of extreme emergency (such as an unexpected death). Most communication can wait until the end of the trip.
- During business hours, call FOCUS Missions at [303-551-7373](tel:303-551-7373).
- After business hours, please refer to the number given to participants via email the month before the trip.
- Please remember: *No news is good news!*

