



STEMM

TRIP PACKET



STEMM TRIP PACKET



Dear Team Member,

Come take a trip with STEMM to Tanzania! You will see the incredible work of God through a mission trip and experience first-hand how it can impact your life. If you are looking to get closer to Christ, if you are searching for meaning and significance in your life, and if you want to change the world one relationship at a time, then a STEMM mission trip is for you.

Our trips are based out of the STEMM 100-acre campus in rural Mbuguni, Tanzania. It is a half hour drive from JRO airport, and an hour from the large city of Arusha. Our campus has amazing views of Mount Kilimanjaro and Mount Meru. You will see firsthand true Tanzanian life in a village setting and stay in a comfortable, relaxed guest house with hot showers and three meals a day cooked by our fabulous chef.

There are three options for visiting Tanzania with STEMM: as a long-term volunteer, a short-term vision trip, or a short-term mission trip. The trip packet explains those options along with estimated costs and trip information. For a trip, you can choose to see an overview of STEMM's work in Tanzania, help with a project or both. Our trip coordinator can help you with the opportunities offered.

God is constantly working in our lives and opening doors with ways to serve. When we are in need God sends our brothers and sisters in Christ to provide us help. We in turn show God's love to our neighbors. The Lord provides for you and calls each of us to provide and serve others. God has given us Jesus for our eternal salvation, which is a great gift. So, because of that gift we are to be a blessing to others.

That is what STEMM embodies in being "Spirit Led, Relationally Driven". The work of STEMM with God's blessing is changing lives by compassionate care in Tanzania.

We are excited that you are interested in serving alongside STEMM in Tanzania. I am looking forward to hearing from and serving with you!

Kevin C. Brown

Executive Director

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All Volunteers

Timeline:

- **12 weeks prior to anticipated trip dates- Submit application, all signed documents from application packet including background check form and \$100 non-refundable deposit to STEMM office.**

Once we have received your application and signed documents you will be contacted by the our staff within 5 business days. Your application will be reviewed by a STEMM committee and they will decide on approval of your application. You will be notified of their decision.

| Once approved You must send to STEMM office | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Proof of Passport and Visa | 8 weeks prior to trip |
| Proof of Travel Insurance For Travel insurance (https://app.travelwithgallagher.com/Affiliate/) Enroll | 8 weeks prior to trip |
| Proof of Airfare and Flight Itinerary | 6-8 weeks prior to trip |
| Full payment for fees | 6 weeks prior to trip |

Background Check is required for all volunteers. See application (page 17) for instructions on completing the appropriate form.

Fees: This will be customized depending on activities and schedule. You will be responsible for airfare, Visa, immunizations prior to trip, souvenirs, costs for transportation, tips, and any extra food and drink not provided by STEMM.

Airfare: Our US trip coordinator can assist you in travel arrangements. There are options available on multiple airlines and the cost depends on the carrier, dates, layovers and locations. Average airfare cost range is from \$1,300-\$2,600. If you are flexible, the cost will decrease.

Passport: If you do not have a passport, apply for one immediately. Passport applications can be obtained at the Post Office or online. To apply for a passport, you will need to present primary information, driver's license, birth certificate, and two passport photos. Sometimes passport photos are taken at the application site. The cost for a passport is approximately \$100. Cost of the passport is not included in the price of the trip. The passport can take several weeks to process. Once the passport is obtained, make sure that it is signed by the applicant.

It is very important to check the expiration date of your passport. If it is within six months of the date of the trip, it must be renewed. Passports that expire close to the trip dates will not be accepted.

Visa: When you arrive at JRO airport, you will get your tourist Visa. For this Visa, you will need \$100 cash along with your Passport. Please have your Passport, Visa, (if you have already) and boarding pass in hand for officials.

Customs and Immigration: Once you have cleared customs and immigration, a STEMM employee will be waiting for you just outside the doors at the airport. They will be there to assist with filing a claim for missing baggage (if needed), load your bags onto the STEMM vehicle and take you to your destination at the STEMM village.

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Long Term Volunteers

Long Term Volunteers are individuals:

- Staying more than 3 weeks
- With specific skill set that will be used for projects as directed by STEMM
- May be associated with a college or business for an internship with STEMM
- That want to learn about the culture of Tanzania and enjoy its offerings

Schedule and fees are set up with the United States and Tanzania trip coordinators and may or may not be subsidized on a case by case basis.

Short Term Volunteers - Mission Trip

Short Term Volunteers are individuals or groups of individuals:

- Staying less than 3 weeks
- With specific skill set that will be used for projects as directed by STEMM
- That want an overview of STEMM's work in Tanzania, Medical, Educational, Orphan care and multiple areas of Community Outreach
- That want to learn about the culture of Tanzania and enjoy its offerings

Fees: Cost for the trip per day averages \$100 which includes Guest House lodging, 3 meals, private car, driver, gas and Tanzanian trip coordinator who will be your interpreter and guide. This cost may increase depending on the mission trip activities. Safari costs depend on the number in your group sharing the cost. Approximate cost for a one-day Safari is \$450 and for a two-day Safari is \$750. You will be responsible for your airfare, Visa fee of \$100 cash, immunizations prior to the trip, tips, souvenirs, any extra food and drink not provided by STEMM.

Short Term Volunteers - Vision Trip

- A trip with multiple dates offered each year which can include a two-day safari and/or an opportunity to climb Mt. Kilimanjaro or other hiking options
- An overview of STEMM's multiple areas of operations in Tanzania with (optional) hands-on volunteer projects
- The schedule & fees will be determined by the US Trip coordinator
- Be sure to mention any ideas you may have on things you'd like to do while in Tanzania

Fees: Cost for the trip averages \$2250, (this cost does not include airfare), but does include Guest House lodging, 3 meals, private car, driver, gas and Tanzanian Trip coordinator who will be your interpreter and guide. This cost may increase depending on the vision trip activities. Safari costs depend on the number in your group sharing the cost. Approximate cost for a two-day Safari is \$750 which is included in the fees. You will be responsible for your own airfare, Visa fee of \$100 cash, immunizations, tips, souvenirs, any extra food and drink not provided by STEMM.

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STEMM HISTORY

STEMM (Siouxland Tanzania Educational and Medical Ministries) is a non-profit, inter-denominational Christian ministry. Following a short trip to Tanzania with 10 others from Morningside Lutheran Church, Sioux City, IA, Dr. Steve Meyer and his wife Dana were inspired to find a means to provide on-going assistance to the beautiful children of Tanzania. Furthermore, they felt compelled to facilitate a means for others from Siouxland and across the USA to also experience this life-changing journey. In 1997, STEMM was created to develop a relational bridge between Siouxland and Tanzania by addressing the priorities of spiritual growth, medical care, and educational opportunity.

STEMM MISSION

The goal of STEMM is to transform lives in this world through acts of Christian love, to the people of Tanzania. We are led in our ministry by the Holy Spirit accomplishing God's purposes through our relationship with Him and with His people.

In the work of STEMM, we want to raise mature, productive, Christian children who will mold and shape the future of Tanzania, support the education of children in Tanzania, assist the medical community with operations and teaching. Lastly to provide an opportunity for Americans to serve, evangelize and be involved in life changing foreign mission experience.

EDUCATIONAL

In 2015 the Tanzanian government announced free education through Secondary school. The directive added to the Government's standing commitment to provide free schooling through Primary School. This means that children in Tanzania enjoy eleven years of free schooling. However, most government schools lack the resources, facilities and teachers to provide adequate services and indirect costs and cultural norms prevent many children from attending school. Currently, STEMM provides scholarships to cover tuition, school uniforms and supplies, and other school related expenses for approximately 500 high school and university students each year. STEMM believes education is the most effective means to break the cycle of poverty and promote self-sufficiency in Tanzania.

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MEDICAL

Tanzania remains one of the poorest countries in the world with healthcare resources out of reach for most of the population. With less than one physician per 22,000 people, Tanzania has an overwhelming need for quality healthcare. Since its inception, STEMM has delivered over \$2 million worth of medical supplies to hospitals and clinics in the Arusha area. Over the years, more than 600 life-changing orthopedic surgeries have been performed to help crippled children become productive members of society. Also, STEMM physicians and medical teams are very instrumental in teaching local healthcare providers and coming alongside them to support them as they struggle with the overwhelming task of delivering care to an impoverished society.

ORPHAN CARE

HIV/AIDS has been a health threat for decades in Tanzania. There is an estimated 1.5 million or 4.7% of adults and children living with HIV/AIDS. The country of Tanzania is doing well to control the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Over the last decade, new infections decreased by more than 20% and deaths related to HIV/AIDS has gone down by half. HIV/AIDS is still leaving many children without their primary caregiver. The children are left to grandparents, an older sibling, or left on the street. There are 1.3 million children that are orphans due to HIV/AIDS. STEMM saw the great need for care of orphans. Currently STEMM houses 50 children in our four orphanage buildings. The STEMM Children's Village saves children from starvation, exploitation and death, by providing a Christian environment for them to thrive. Each house functions as a family with a "Mama" caring for brothers and sisters in Christian love.

SPIRITUAL

The mission of STEMM is simple, yet powerful - "Changing lives for Christ through Compassionate Care" STEMM believes that by giving ourselves and extending Christian love to our brothers and sisters halfway around the world, it can make a profound difference. From handing out Bibles, to singing hymns, sharing our faith stories, deep discipleship training - the children (and adults) learn the lessons that speak of God's grace.

HOUSING

The STEMM village has a 40-person Guest House for housing volunteers. The Guest House rooms are dorm style with a men's and women's wing with bathrooms. Daily meals are prepared by a chef in a large open kitchen. The Guest House includes a large lofted area with separate seating areas for small groups, and a large beautiful covered outdoor living area and a large dining area. Water is safe to drink at the Guest House. Towels, shampoo, soap and all bedding are provided to guests. Laundry is done by hand by the Guest house staff. Lighter fabrics that dry quickly are best. Clothes should be marked since many times everyone's laundry is done at the same time. The outlets are American style and USB ready and no adaptors are needed unless traveling to other places than the Guest House. Laptops should be connected to a surge protector due to the inconsistency of electrical power supply. Wi-Fi is available and the best way to communicate back to the US is an internet-based app such as FaceTime, Facebook Messenger, or WhatsApp. It is suggested that you set it up on devices before travel.

Many mobile devices are now 'unlocked' so upon arrival in TZ, a new local SIM card can be purchased with data and minutes for a very reasonable price (\$30 will cover unlimited for about a week). Just make sure and keep your US SIM card in a safe place.

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GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT TANZANIA:

GEOGRAPHY

Tanzania is a country in East Africa. A quarter of the land surface of Tanzania is protected as a wildlife reserve or as an indigenous forest, which has created vast wilderness areas. Tanzania has Mt. Kilimanjaro, Africa's highest point, rain forests, rivers and lakes, floodplains and deltas, woodlands and plains, and a stunning coastline. Tanzania offers an incomparable diversity of wildlife and scenery.

LANGUAGE

Tanzania's diversity encompasses more than 100 different tribal groups. Each tribe has its own distinct dialect. However, the country's official language is Swahili. Some English is spoken in larger cities and tourist areas; however, team members are encouraged to review and study the provided list of Swahili words and phrases. English is taught in most secondary schools. Interpreters accompany all team members. Most medical personnel have been educated in the English language. Several staff at STEMM Children's Village speak English as well.

WEATHER

There are two rainy seasons in Tanzania. The long rains are from March through May, while the shorter rains are from October through December. In the dry season Mbuguni is quite dusty. June, July and August are warm and dry. This is Tanzania's winter so the temperature averages 80. Evenings can be very cool - lows can be in the 50's, so be sure to bring warm clothing. December, January and February are usually hot and dry. This is Tanzania's summer so the temperatures average 85-95 degrees inland and can be in the 100's in the Mwanza and Dar areas.

Tanzania is four degrees off the equator with elevations of 4,000 – 5,000 feet in the Arusha area, which are more UV rays than most Americans are accustomed to. Even if one does not burn easily, it is recommended that each person bring plenty of sunscreen and lip protection with SPF 15 or higher. Do not forget sunglasses and a hat. To prevent dehydration, drink plenty of water.

CURRENCY

The national currency is the Tanzanian shilling (TSH). It is best to exchange money while in Tanzania. There is a better exchange rate for larger bills like 50's and 100's. In order to receive the best exchange rate, these bills need to be dated 2006 or newer. Traveler's checks often have a lower exchange rate. Credit cards may be used in a few businesses in larger cities, but there are no guarantees and there may be a substantial fee to use them. Some businesses also take US dollars so you can exchange some of your cash, but it may not be necessary depending on the areas that you will visit.

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TRIP PREPARATION

This mission trip will be different from any other travel one may have experienced in the past. Team members will transcend cultural boundaries, arriving in a world where the rules are different and where Western habits or practices may be inappropriate. The team typically arrives in Tanzania after a two-day journey, deprived of normal sleep patterns. Therefore, patience and understanding are required despite one's feelings. Unfortunately, customs, immigration, and health formalities can be tedious and taxing. It is important to try to relax, keep an open mind, and recognize that each of these officials have a job to perform. Also, they are all important in the context of the Third World hierarchies and it would be a serious mistake to offend them.

Be prepared for the unexpected. If it can happen, it almost always will. Many team expectations are not easily met in third World nations. Every effort is made to plan an efficient schedule, but things **CAN** and **DO** change. It is very important to have a positive mindset **WHEN** these things happen. To Tanzanians, time is a relatively irrelevant element except as it relates to seasons or as a distance measurement. Leave the need for rigid schedules at home.

Team members will be exposed to different cultures, different ways of life, and different policies. The East African people are by nature friendly, courteous, and hospitable. Their culture is one in which respect for elders and visitors is ingrained. Tanzanians are friendly and accommodating if they are treated with the same respect and dignity as they give their guests. **Remember the Golden Rule!** Learn as much as you can beforehand about the country, culture, and people.

TANZANIA INFORMATION-Check out websites on Tanzania for more information

<https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/tz.html>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-14095776>

https://tanzaniaembassy-us.org/?page_id=92

CDC Travel Information Common Diseases and Immunizations

For the most up to date health and travel information to Tanzania, the CDC is a great resource. Go to <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/tanzania>. You can also go to the CDC website and search Tanzania. This site will list the common diseases and recommended immunizations needed for travel to Tanzania. It is recommended that routine immunizations are current such as MMR (measles-mumps-rubella), DPT (Diphtheria-Tetanus-Pertussis), and Polio. The cost of immunizations is the responsibility of the volunteer. Check with your local Public Health Department for costs and immunizations available. If you have questions, you can contact our US trip coordinator.

HEALTH AND HYGIENE

STEMM brings teams to restaurants where they know the food is safe for Americans. However, team members are urged to use every precaution. We do not recommend buying food, fruit, or vegetables from street vendors. Packaged foods are usually safe to eat. Tanzania water is typically unsafe to drink. Team members will have access to bottled water while they are there. Avoid ice cubes as they may be made with unsafe water. Bottled water is also recommended to be used for brushing teeth when away from the STEMM Guest House.

Water at the STEMM Guest House is safe to drink and use to brush teeth.

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LUGGAGE

Try to pack as minimally as possible. Each member is allowed 2 suitcases, one for personal clothes and the other one to transport supplies and equipment for our orphanage. That bag will be supplied and packed by the US trip coordinator based on needs. Each member will check in one of the STEMM supply bags along with his/her personal luggage. Empty STEMM supply bags can be used to bring souvenirs back home. Please return the STEMM bag to the office within one week after your trip.

Checked bags cannot weigh more than 50 lbs. or be more than 62 linear inches.

Carry-on bags are subject to airline regulations - currently they cannot exceed 45 linear inches. In addition, you may carry a purse, briefcase, laptop or small backpack. Check your airline's website for luggage requirements.

TANZANIA PACKING LIST

Tanzanian dress code can be quite different from ours. Women, for instance, almost always wear skirts or dresses. Men seldom wear shorts. When the team is in public places or doing ministry of any kind, they are expected to dress appropriately. Out of respect for our Tanzanian brothers and sisters and their perspective on Christianity, team members need to comply with their standards. Team members are ambassadors of Christ. When in doubt, choose the culturally sensitive, conservative approach toward clothing so as not to offend our Tanzanian brothers and sisters.

Men's Clothing Suggestions:

- Lightweight/ breathable pants (Jeans are fine, but hard to dry)
- Short sleeve shirts
- Shoes should be comfortable for walking. Note: roads and other places can be very dusty
- Church clothes (no jeans)
- Walking shorts
- Conservative sleepwear
- Jacket or sweatshirt, as it can be quite cool in the evenings and early mornings
- Never go shirtless anywhere, except to swim
- May want to bring old clothes for projects

Women's Clothing Suggestions

- Slacks, capri pants and blue jeans are acceptable for most occasions except for formal meetings and going to church. (Please avoid the "skin-tight" blue jeans) In those situations a skirt would be most appropriate. Skirts must cover the knee; mid-calf or longer is best. Take care to wear a slip, if needed.
- No tank tops
- No exposed shoulders or plunging necklines
- Blouses, shirts
- Church clothes
- Shoes, two pair, should be comfortable for walking. Note: roads and other places can be very dusty
- No shorts unless on safari
- Conservative sleepwear
- Jacket or sweatshirt, as it can be quite cool in the evenings and early mornings
- Modest make-up
- Modesty is a good guideline to follow in all dress and make-up
- May want to bring old clothes for projects

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Medical Personnel Suggestions:

- Scrubs
- Comfortable closed toe shoes

Miscellaneous items:

Passport/Visa

Money for souvenirs, activities, and offerings, tips (we suggest \$200-\$300).

Credit card

Toiletries

Flashlight

Extra batteries for everything

Anti-bacterial wipes and gel

Toilet paper (small packs of Kleenex) for traveling

Camera

Electrical adaptors

Phone

Phone Chargers and external chargers

Any prescription meds

Anti-malarial medication (get Rx from personal Dr.)

Other medications

Bug spray (100% Deet)

Second pair of reading glasses or contacts

Fanny pack/small purse

Hairdryer/Curling iron (May overheat due to difference in electrical wattages)

Blanket & travel pillow (for use on airplane)

Personal size notebook

Pens

Journal

Snacks, candy, gum

Deck of cards for downtime

Personal size notebook

Water bottle

Bible

Devotional book

Reading material

Hat or Visor

Sunglasses

Sunscreen

Chapstick

Small first aid kit

Do not pack:

Sleeveless tops, short shorts, or low-cut clothing

Jewelry with financial or sentimental value

Anything which may inhibit or harm your witness

TRAVEL TIPS

*Always keep your money tucked away in a concealed necklace pouch or a concealed fanny pack. Be aware of your surroundings whenever taking out your money. It's a good idea to have another team member huddle next to you when doing this to help watch. Do NOT hand out money to anyone in Tanzania. Some of the lodges have a safe that will be available for you to utilize. Fanny packs are awesome to travel with and keep all your valuables (passport/cash/credit cards/airline tickets) safe and on you. Protect your Passport when traveling.

*Remember to be FLEXIBLE! This is so important because things CAN and WILL change on a moment's notice in Tanzania. Their culture is so much more "relaxed" than our American ways. Time is irrelevant there.

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Suggested Donation Items: Prior to your trip, check with the STEMM office or US trip coordinator for a current donation list of items for Tanzania.

*Do not make promises to anyone there unless it is a promise you are certain to keep. If you tell someone there you MIGHT do something, they will often interpret that as you WILL do it. This can become very difficult if this is someone needing help. If you want to help someone, talk with the Team Leader about how to do it in a controlled setting.

*Do not hand out candy or gum to kids unless it is in a controlled setting and unless you are certain you have enough for all the kids. At the orphanage, this is ok if you know for a fact you have enough for ALL. Handing out candy on the streets is not a good idea.

*Taking photos in rural areas may be looked down upon so please respect their privacy and culture in those areas.

*Try to sleep on the flight from Minneapolis to Amsterdam if you can to help you better adjust to the time change. Tanzania is 8 hours ahead of Central Daylight Time.

*If you are ever to a point where you feel totally exhausted and need more rest or don't feel well, please let the Team Leader know.

*Be prepared that you will see and witness things you will never see happen here in the United States. Some things may be disturbing to you. For example, seeing street kids etc. If you find this bothering you, please talk to the Team Leader or STEMM staff about it.

*Remember you are going to SERVE and not to be served.

*Remember, things will not always be "comfortable" there. For example: traveling in a vehicle over extremely bumpy roads, differences in food, or bathrooms.

*Keeping a daily journal is encouraged. This is a great tool for helping to keep the experience relevant and alive well into the future.

*One of the most important things is to remember to savor every single moment! Whether it's simply visiting with someone, doing a hands-on project, or performing surgery, it is all so important! Many previous trip participants have testified they felt such closeness to God while there. Hopefully you will have that same experience. You are embarking on the journey of a lifetime. It is up to you what you make of it. God bless you all.

GIFTS AND DONATIONS

Any and all gifts and/or donations intended for STEMM or SCV must be directed to the Country Director, who will honor the donor's request for distribution. Gifts and donations should not be given directly to the children or staff or other volunteers unless approved by the Country Director. Please inform the Country Director if you are solicited by any staff for a gift or donation. Please speak with the Country Director for any questions, you may have concerning gifts or donations. If you choose to give cash donations to the Country Director for use at STEMM, you will receive a receipt that you can save to discuss with your tax professional.

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POST MISSION TRIP

All of us at STEMM hope that the time spent on your mission trip will encourage you in your faith journey and open your eyes to the wonderful STEMM mission. It would be appreciated if you share a few of your favorite trip photos with STEMM for inclusion on our Facebook page and website. After you have returned home, you will be contacted by STEMM to review your trip, discuss volunteer opportunities, your plan to share with others about your trip experience, and become a donor to support the STEMM mission.

COMMON SWAHILI WORDS & PHRASES

| | SWAHILI | | ENGLISH | SWAHILI |
|---------------------|----------------|--|-----------------|----------------------|
| Hello | Hallo/Jambo | | Welcome | Karibu |
| How are you? | Habari Gani | | I am fine | Sijambo |
| Thank You | Asante | | Very much | Sana |
| Thank you very much | Asante sana | | Please | Tafadhali |
| Yes | Ndiyo | | No | Hapana |
| So sorry | Polesana | | Sorry Excuse Me | Samahani |
| Good | Nzuri | | OK | Sawa |
| Very good | Nzuri sana | | Friend | Rafiki |
| My | Yangu, wangu | | My Friend | Rafiki yangu |
| What's your name? | Jina lako nani | | My name is | Jina langu ni (Mary) |
| Me/I | Mimi | | You | Wewe |
| Good-bye | Kwaheri | | Bus/van | Dalla |
| Where | Wapi | | Bathroom | Choo |
| Food | Chakula | | Water | Maji |
| Candy | Pipi | | | |

CONTACTS

These are numbers to give your family for Emergency Contact while you are on the trip. Also, always carry them with you during the trip.

Please remember that Tanzania is 8 hours ahead of Central Standard Time. If you call and the party you want to reach is not right there, whoever answers the phone should be able to give you some idea as to when a good time would be to call back. It is easier for you to call than it is for the team member to call back.

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APPLICATION

You must be 18 years of age or at least 16 years old and accompanied by a parent or adult and speak English. All information will be kept in strict confidence.

TRAVEL INFORMATION:

Preferred Dates & Duration of Volunteer Work: _____

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Full Name (as it appears on your passport): _____

Home Address: _____

City & State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Country: _____

Nationality: _____ Male or Female: _____

Age/DOB: _____ Married or Single: _____

Telephone #: _____ Cell #: _____

Email Address: _____

Current Profession: _____

Languages Spoken: _____

Passport #: _____

Date of Issue _____ Expiration Date _____

Please attach copy of your passport to this application. Must remain valid for 3 months after your return

BASIC HEALTH INFORMATION:

Do you have health insurance that will cover you when you are in Tanzania? Yes or No
(Please check with your insurance company)

Do you have any dietary restrictions and/or allergies? If yes, please explain:

Do you have any special needs, chronic, or existing health problems that could be affected by the environment and living conditions in a developing country? Yes or No

If yes, give a brief description:

Last date of physical exam by a Physician:

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION:

1. Contact Person's Name: _____

Relationship: _____

Address: _____

Primary Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____

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APPLICANT QUESTIONS:

Why are you applying for this mission trip?

What are your expectations and hopes for this trip? What would you like to gain from this mission trip experience?

Do you have any fears or concerns regarding this trip?

Do you have previous mission experience? Yes or No
If yes, please list the location, length of stay, and roles of service:

How and when did you come to know and have a relationship with Jesus Christ as your personal Savior? Please provide your testimony below.

Can you and will you be willing to:
Briefly share your testimony with another person? Yes or No
Effectively share your faith? Yes or No
Pray in public comfortably? Yes or No
If you answered No to any of the above, please explain:

Name of your Church where you worship and activities that you are involved in at your Church.

Do you have any special skills or experience that might benefit those we work with? Such as prayer, preaching, teaching, evangelism, leading worship/playing an instrument, drama, working with children, crafts, construction/maintenance, business, accounting, medical skills, or other skills. Please list your skills.

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STEMM TRIP COVENANT

In order to have a safe and life-changing mission experience, clear expectations are needed between all who are involved. The goal of this covenant is to ensure knowledge of STEMM trip policies, solidify your commitment to your group, and demonstrate your respect for the community you will be serving. We desire to serve communities without bringing them any harm, and as a result we ask all participants of STEMM trips to agree to the following:

- Because I want to truly help others as Jesus did, I agree to bring a joyful, servant attitude. I understand that I am on the trip to serve God, help a community, build new relationships, and learn new things.
- Because I am aware that my actions have consequences beyond myself, I agree to obey all local laws and ordinances, notably those pertaining to use of drugs (by all) and alcohol (by minors). I will not bring or use illegal substances on any STEMM controlled ministry sites, on the property of our ministry partners, or in STEMM vehicles.
- Because I am aware that STEMM serves orphans and children, confidentiality is required to protect the privacy of our children. I will not share private information about the children when I return home. I may share pictures of myself with the children, but with no identifying information.
- Because I want nothing to distract me in this short time of serving others and because valuables are more susceptible to theft in a foreign country, I agree to not bring valuables (expensive jewelry, watches, etc.) on the trip.
- Because I am coming and returning with a group, I agree that this trip is a group experience. I will do my best to build community, create relationships, be welcoming, and include others. I agree to treat everyone – leaders, staff, other groups, and community members with the utmost respect. This means following the directions of the designated STEMM group leader, even if I personally disagree.
- Because I know that how I treat people's things makes a statement, I agree that I will respect the property of all participants, the community members, and the housing site in which we stay. I will always conduct myself as a representative of Jesus Christ, remembering the purpose of the trip and my responsibility as a witness to the community.
- Because I know that my family and leaders care about my well-being, and because I want to be safe, I agree to stay within the designated STEMM boundaries, stay in groups of three or more, respect gender specific areas (sleeping rooms and restrooms), follow rules at the ministry sites, and communicate with my group.
- Because I know that I am representing Jesus Christ and want to respect the people around me, I agree to follow the clothing guidelines as set out by STEMM. I understand that the way I dress can affect my ministry and I will respect my group, the community, and myself by dressing modestly.

I agree to follow all the above expectations because I desire to represent Jesus in a positive manner.

Trip Participant Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian Signature
If participant is a minor (under 18)

Date

STEMM TRIP PACKET

LIABILITY RELEASE FORM

I understand that STEMM (Siouxland Tanzania Educational Medical Ministries) acts only as agents for the various independent suppliers that provide hotel accommodations, transportation, sightseeing, activities, or other services connected with a visit to Tanzania. I also understand that any mission trip includes an inherent level of explicit and implicit risk. Risks include but are not limited to: travel accidents, sickness, personal injuries, death, crime, political instability, government opposition, as well as similar and dissimilar risks. Further, I have reviewed information about the mission trip country. You can find information about Tanzania at <https://www.state.gov/p/af/ci/tz/>

I acknowledge that I have voluntarily applied to participate in the mission trip to Tanzania with STEMM. I knowingly agree to accept any and all risks that may result from my participation in this mission trip.

I also realize that in accepting a term of volunteer service it is with the clear understanding that Siouxland Tanzania Educational Medical Ministries does not assume responsibility for loss of my property, damage to the same, personal harm, or illness that may come to myself or those who travel with me. I, for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, in consideration of my admission to volunteer service and other good and valuable considerations, do hereby release and forever discharge Siouxland Tanzania Educational Medical Ministries, its directors, officers, and employees from any claim or demand which I or my heirs, executors, administrators or assigns might otherwise assert upon the basis of any of the foregoing. In volunteering, I recognize that I do not become an agent or employee of Siouxland Tanzania Educational Medical Ministries in rendering my services, and I agree to hold Siouxland Tanzania Education Medical Ministries harmless from any claim that might arise out of an act performed by me or beyond my control while serving as a Siouxland Tanzania Educational Medical Ministries volunteer.

Print Name of Participant

Signature of Participant

Date

Print Name of Parent/Guardian
If participant is a minor (under 18)

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date



Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation Criminal History Record Check Request Form



DCI Account number (if applicable)

REQUESTOR INFORMATION PLEASE WRITE CLEARLY

Name (business or individual) Mailing address (street/PO Box, city, state, zip code)

Phone number Fax number Email address

I would like the results sent to me by: Mail Fax Email
I am required to have the results notarized: Yes No *for specific requirements in another country only.

SUBJECT OF REQUEST INFORMATION. Please provide all required demographic information on the form or it will be returned. Multiple names require a separate Request Form and fee.

LAST NAME (required) FIRST NAME (required) MIDDLE NAME (recommended)

DATE OF BIRTH (required) GENDER M, F or Other (required) SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER (recommended)

RELEASE AUTHORIZATION INFORMATION: Without a signed release from the subject of the request, a complete criminal history record may not be releasable, per Code of Iowa, Chapter 692.2. For complete criminal history record information, as allowed by law, always obtain a signed release from the subject of the request. This form (DCI-77) is the only approved release authorization form for this purpose.

This response only includes public criminal history data. Under Iowa law, most juvenile records are confidential. Confidential juvenile court records cannot be included in this response. A signed release authorization is not sufficient to obtain this information from the DCI. In order to request the release of confidential juvenile records, if any, an application must be filed pursuant to Iowa Code 232.147(18) through the Clerk of Court. Criminal history data concerning convictions for certain juvenile sex offenses can be found online through the the Iowa Sex Offender Registry (SOR). Even though some information is available online through the SOR, the actual records for juveniles may still be confidential and cannot be provided. In order to request the release of confidential juvenile records, if any, an application must be filed pursuant to Iowa Code section 232.147(18) through the Clerk of Court.

RELEASE AUTHORIZATION: I hereby give permission for the above requesting official to conduct an Iowa criminal history record check with the Division of Criminal Investigation (DCI). Any criminal history data concerning me that is maintained by the DCI may be released as allowed by law. I understand this can include information concerning completed deferred judgments and arrests without dispositions. I understand the signature below certifies the information provided is true and accurate. Furthermore, I understand this is an official statement and record. Any false statement(s) made in this record may result in further action.

RELEASE AUTHORIZATION SIGNATURE

FOR DCI USE ONLY

As of a search of the information provided revealed:

NO IOWA CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD FOUND WITH DCI

AN IOWA CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD WAS FOUND. A COPY OF THE RECORD IS INCLUDED - DCI#

Processed by

SUBMIT THE REQUEST/BILLING FORM(S) AND FEE(S) BY ONE OF THE FOLLOWING METHODS:

ADDRESS: Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation
Support Operations Bureau
Dissemination Unit
215 E 7th St
Des Moines IA 50319

FAX: 515-725-6080

EMAIL: dcirecordchecks@dps.state.ia.us

QUESTIONS: dcirecordchecks@dps.state.ia.us

Release Authorization Information:

Iowa law does **not** require a release authorization. However, without a signed release authorization from the subject of the request any arrest over 18 months old, **without** a final disposition, cannot be released to a non-law enforcement agency.

Deferred judgments where DCI has received notice of successful completion of probation also cannot be released to non-law enforcement agencies without a signed release authorization from the subject of the request.

If the "No Iowa Criminal History Record found with DCI" box is checked, it could mean that the information on file is not releasable per Iowa law without a signed release authorization.

General Information:

The information requested is based on **name** and **exact date of birth only**. Without fingerprints, a **positive** identification cannot be assured. If a person disputes the accuracy of information maintained by the Department, they may challenge the information by writing to the address on the front of this form or personally appearing at DCI headquarters during normal business hours.

The records maintained by the Iowa Department of Public Safety are based upon reports from other criminal justice agencies and therefore, the Department cannot guarantee the completeness of the information provided.

The criminal history record check is of the Iowa Central Repository (DCI) **only**. The DCI files do not include other states' records, FBI records, or subjects convicted in federal court within Iowa.

In Iowa, a **deferred judgment** ***is not*** generally considered a conviction once the defendant has been discharged after successfully completing probation. However, it should be noted that a deferred judgment may still be considered as an offense when considering charges for certain specified multiple offense crimes, i.e. second offense OWI. If a disposition reflects that a deferred judgment was given, you may want to inquire of the individual his or her current status.

A **deferred sentence** ***is*** a conviction. The judge simply withholds implementing a sentence for a certain probationary period. If probation is successful, the sentence is not carried out.

Any questions in reference to Iowa criminal history records can be answered by writing to the address on the front of this form or calling (515) 725-6066 between 8:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday - Friday.

STEMM TRIP PACKET

STEMM Children's Village Volunteer Conduct Policy

Volunteers must follow these rules

1. Access to the children's home is by invitation only. Plans should be discussed prior to any visitation.
2. All interaction with children must be on a group basis only. No private one-on-one interactions are permitted.
3. Our children have a daily schedule of activities. Please respect the schedule to not interfere with their daily activities. Interaction with the children is always at the discretion of the SCV staff.
4. Respect the Mamas/Aunties authority always.
5. Volunteers will always be positive role models to the SCV staff and children regarding language/behavior/dress.
6. Respect children's personal space. Hugs and other displays of affection should be determined by the individual child's comfort level.
7. Any gifts or items meant to be donated to our children, staff, or community members must first pass through the Country Director and Head Social Worker, who will also determine distribution. No money can be given directly to staff and/or children which includes tips. This is meant to protect the donor, recipient, and STEMM.
8. Please make no statements or promises to children, staff, or community members that may be interpreted as an indication of support, visits to America, etc. Do not share your personal email address or phone number with general staff.
9. Confidentiality is required to protect the privacy of our children. You may not share private information about our children when you return home. You may share pictures of you and the children, but with no identifying information. You may not use any photos of the children for fundraising events without specific permission from STEMM.

The SCV is the children's home and it is our desire for you to get to know them and interact with them with their best interests in mind. We are so blessed to be able to welcome you to the SCV and know that you will find it to be a very loving, welcoming place with delightful children and staff.

STEMM TRIP PACKET

Guest House Guidelines

Dear Guest,

We warmly welcome you to SMRC

Thank you for choosing to help our organization, our children, and the community through your stay. Every penny spent here at SMRC goes back to our service projects to better the lives of our community. We work diligently to keep our overhead low for this specific purpose. We want to give our guests a local, loving family-style experience during your stay. So, feel at home!

With this living style there are some expectations for guests that will differ from a hotel experience:

- 1) Please be respectful of other guest's quiet time. 11pm-7am is quiet time. You are welcome to be out and around the retreat center just please be mindful of other guests.
- 2) Family style kitchen—we welcome you to join the staff watching and helping with food preparation if it's an appropriate time. There are times when the staff is extremely busy, and interaction then won't be available. Please refrain from helping yourself to the refrigerator, drawers, or pantry. If you need something, please ask staff and they will assist you.
- 3) Cultural sensitivity is a priority at STEMM. We value and respect the culture and traditions of the local villagers and everyone we interact with. Please be sensitive to this if you are off campus. Moderate dress is encouraged.
- 4) Our top priority at STEMM is the environment of our orphan children, and their safety and security. No guests are allowed at any time outside the hedged gardens of SMRC unless invited and escorted by a staff member.
- 5) Dorm style rooms—there will be times when men and women will have to be on the same wing. Please be sensitive to this and use the appropriate bathrooms and shower rooms for men and for women.
- 6) STEMM cares about conservation. Please limit water usage whenever possible. Hooks are available for towels in each bathroom so please hang yours up and reuse when possible. Limit shower time and shut off water when brushing teeth. Ask for a local bucket shower to conserve water! Please reuse drinking glasses with our clothespin labels to limit washing. We recycle plastic and glass so please give to staff to place in proper recycling bin.
- 7) No smoking is allowed within SMRC. Please smoke outside and be sensitive to others around you. Please dispose of cigarette butts in proper receptacle.
- 8) Meals are served buffet style. Serving times for meals are:
Breakfast 7:30- 9am
Lunch 12:00-1pm
Dinner 6:30- 8:00pm
If you have any conflict, please let the staff know. Also, please let our kitchen staff know of any allergies or dietary restrictions.
- 9) The use of illegal drugs on STEMM campus is prohibited. This will be grounds for immediate removal.

STEMM TRIP PACKET

STEMM TRIP INFORMATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

I, _____, acknowledge that I have read the STEMM Trip information, understand all the information and commit to following the rules and policies within.

Signature of applicant

Date

Signature of Parent/Guardian
If applicant is a minor (Under 18)

Date

Please return the following forms with signatures and \$100 non-refundable fee 12 weeks prior to anticipated trip:

Checklist:

| | |
|--|--|
| Application | |
| STEMM Trip Covenant | |
| Liability Release Form | |
| Background Check Request Form | |
| STEMM Trip Acknowledgement Form | |
| Copy of Passport if you have a current one | |
| \$100 by check or credit card | |

Please mail to the following address

STEMM
P.O. Box 871
Sioux City, IA 51102

OR

Scan your signed documents and email them to: office@stemm.org

Payment can be made via check to STEMM, Credit Card, or ACH by calling our office at (712) 258-8282

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us anytime!