**Health Caring Services**

**Hospital Socorro De Lo Alto**

**Team Leader Manual**

Dear Team Leader,

This Team Leader Manual has been compiled to inform you of the necessary steps to organize a medical/ surgical/ dental/ VBS/ construction team/ mountain ministry teams.

You and your team members’ mission experience is our top priority. The team at Health Caring Services (HCS) is prepared to support you through the process of planning and getting your team to the hospital, to see to the arrangements necessary for your team to have a successful mission trip, as well as to support the team throughout the time your team is at the hospital.

With the information provided in this manual, our desire is that you will be better able to serve your team members and each Honduran that you encounter and, hopefully, in some way touch their lives with your healing hands and loving hearts, just as Jesus did. Our prayer at HCS for each of you is that God will richly bless your life and that you leave Honduras believing it is truly “more blessed to give than receive.”

We appreciate your commitment to service and will be praying for you. Thank you!

Your team of Health Caring Services (HCS) Team Coordinators,

Bruce Zoeller- chairman of the HCS Board

Mary Kinsey- Hospital director- 251-656-4543; maryek427@gamail.com or bertmary@bellsouth.net

Jill Wilson- Team administrator- 612-518-5168; jillcw8812@yahoo.com

**Your Responsibilities as Team Leader:**

**1)** **Upholding the Lifestyle Statement**

Health Caring Services (HCS) is a Christian organization, as is Hospital Socorro De Lo Alto. Hondurans view alcohol consumption, cursing, smoking and drug use, as well as unmarried couples rooming together, as non-Christian behaviors. In light of our desired witness in the community, Health Caring Services asks you to refrain from alcohol, smoking, cursing and drug use on or off the hospital campus while working with the hospital, as well as other behaviors that might prove offensive to our hosts and compromising to the expressed Christian beliefs of the hospital. Please help us respect the Hondurans and protect the ministry of HCS and the hospital.

As Team Leader, you bear the greatest responsibility to uphold the lifestyle statement for Health Caring Services and Hospital Socorro de Lo Alto.

**2) Upholding Patient Privacy and Social Media Policy**

**Health Caring Services Patient Privacy and Social Media Policy**

Health information is considered amongst the most sensitive and personal information that individuals possess. Just as patients must be able to trust their doctors with their lives and well-being, they should also be able to feel more than reassured that their health records are safe with the clinician. Besides caring for our patients, we must respect their dignity and privacy and protect their confidential information.

**Protected Health Information:**

* Protected health information is the term given to health data created, received and stored.

**Individually Identifiable Health Information:**

* Names (Full or last name and initial)
* Dates (other than year) directly related to an individual
* Phone Numbers
* FAX numbers
* Email addresses
* ID Numbers
* Biometric identifier (includes finger print)
* Full face photographic images and any comparable images
* Any other unique identifying characteristic (such as tattoos)

**Clinical Photography/ video:**

* **NO CLINICAL PHOTOGRAPHY/ VIDEO MAY BE POSTED ON SOCIAL MEDIA.**
* All departments of patient care are considered clinical photography/video areas.
* Clinical photography/video may be used in medical education.
* No patient’s identifiable health information may be on the photograph or video.

**Non -Clinical Photography/video:**

* Non-clinical photography/video subjects refer to friends and family who have accompanied the patient to the hospital.
* Non-clinical photography/video requires verbal consent from the subjects as a courtesy to individuals being photographed.
* Posting of non-clinical photos/videos to social media is acceptable if the person posting took the photos/video.

**Public Photography/video:**

* Public photography/video refers to any photos taken in any place where people have no reasonable expectation of privacy.
* Public photography/video may be uploaded to social media**.**

**Violation of this policy is taken very seriously by the Health Caring Services Board and violations will be reviewed for appropriate discipline for the offending party.**

As Team Leader, you bear the greatest responsibility to uphold the Patient Privacy and Social Media Policy for Health Caring Services and Hospital Socorro de Lo Alto.

**3) Communication with HCS Personnel**

Putting a team together requires much time and organization.  We consider you our partner.  Stress and hassle can be avoided if you communicate your questions and problems.  E-mail is the best way to communicate; however, if you need to call, please do not hesitate to do so.

We also ask that you respond promptly to our emails regarding your team.  Many times, everything is on hold until we get the answer from you.

On a rare occasion, your team may require different arrangements than what we currently provide in some area; it will be your responsibility to contact us well in advance to discuss the issue.  We will see if the issue can be worked out.

- Team leaders, we ask that you address correspondence regarding team issues to:

Jill Wilson

jillcw8812@yahoo.com

612-518-5168

**4)** **Scheduling a mission trip**

When you want to schedule a team trip, review the calendar on the Health Caring Services web site to check availability of dates: <https://www.healthcaringservices.org/calendar/>

The team leader then contacts the HCS administrator to inquire about scheduling your team, making the determination of dates the team will arrive in Honduras and depart from the hospital, as well as the type of team.

 Jill Wilson

 email: jillcw8812@yahoo.com

 telephone: 612-518-5168

Once the dates have been approved, the HCS team administrator will send the team leader or their assistant an email describing the next steps:

**5) Team Leader Commitment**

- After the team leader receives the approval for the team, the team leader then submits the **“Team Leader Commitment Form.”**

- <https://www.healthcaringservices.org/teams/team-leader/>

- Remember, a team is not officially on the hospital calendar until this form is received.

- **If the team dates change after this form has been submitted, the HCS team administrator must be notified immediately; jillcw8812@yahoo.com.**

Once the Team Leader Commitment Form has been received and the team dates officially put on the hospital calendar:

**6) Team leaders are sent:**

1. **Team Leader Schedule of Due Dates and Responsibilities” chart:** a summary of team leader responsibilities to be used to make sure everything is done in a timely way

2. **Team Leader Manual:** this manual is to be read each time a leader plans and executes a trip to the Hospital

**One of the most important responsibilities team leaders have during the process of team formation is to communicate information to team members**

3. **Team Member Due Date and Information** **form:** this formsent by the team leader to each person on their team as soon as they agree to be a team member; the TEAM LEADER IS the only one who can explain these responsibilities and see that team members understand exactly what their responsibilities are; HCS administration has NO contact with individual team members

4. **Team Member Manual**: team leaders and team members are to read this manual every trip that is taken; team leaders need to tell their team members to read the manual

\5. The **ARSA information, procedures and forms:** to ensure any medical supplies your team will transport to Honduras will be accepted into the country; these forms are time sensitive and the team leader is responsible to get the inventories into HCS at the designated time to allow for submission to the Honduran government offices

**7) Team Chart from Health Caring Services administration**

- As team members apply and send in required documents, including passports, medical personnel diplomas of training, physician/ dental/ resident documents, payments and itineraries, the team chart will be updated by the HCS team administrator.

- Upon request, the HCS team administrator will send this chart to the team leader or designated team administrator to update the team leader as to the progress of their team members in the application process.

**8) Assemble the Team:**

- **Recruiting:** Team members are recruited by various people but always under the advice and consent of the team leader who makes the final decision concerning who will be on the team. HCS does not review applicants but assumes that the team leader has accepted those who will be beneficial members of the team.

- HOWEVER, no individual becomes a team member until they have completed the entire application process.

- The entire process is:

* Complete online application by the team deadline.
* Submission of the team member’s travel itinerary and a copy of travel insurance policy ($500,000 minimum evacuation coverage) to HCS administration (jillcw8812@yahoo.com) at least four (4) weeks before departure for Honduras. More travel insurance information provided below.

**- Medical Team Size and Specialty Limits:**

* Medical teams are limited in size by the accommodations available in the team house
* No more than three surgical disciplines on a single team.

- **Accommodations available at the hospital**:

* Operating Suite:

 (4) Operating Rooms

 (4) Bed Recovery Room

 (6) Bed Pre-op

 Steam and Flash autoclaving

* Team House:

 (14) female beds in dormitory room with attached bath facilities

 (14) male beds in dormitory room with attached bath facilities

 (2) private bedrooms with bath & queen bed

 (1) bedroom with bath with 2 bunk beds

**9) Due dates for the teams:**

Due dates are established so that the team leader and team members will know when information must be received by HCS in order that the requirements established by the Honduran College of Medicine can be met, and arrangements can be made for the team.

**It is the team leader’s responsibility to inform team members of the team due dates and submission requirements in order for them to submit forms, etc. in a timely way.**

Using the **“Team Member Due Date Information”** formwill assure the information is shared accurately.

- If team members do not have their necessary forms, payment and itinerary in by the due dates, they will not be allowed to participate on the trip.

- If a potential applicant purchases a plane ticket based on an invitation to be on the team but does not meet all of HCS’s requirements by the team deadlines, they will **not** be able to go. Purchasing a plane ticket for Honduras does not secure a place on a team.

- Financial loss can be substantial, so it is mandatory that the team leader communicate all information in a clear, concise and timely manner.

- HCS will not be responsible for financial loss due to lack of team leader’s communication to a team member of their responsibilities, or a team member not fulfilling their requirements laid out for them.

- If unique situations arise requiring special attention, HCS will work with the team leader to resolve these unique issues. The team leader must communicate with HCS team administrator about those issues.

- If a refund of the team fee is requested, it must be approved by the Health Caring Services administration and the initial credit card fee will be deducted from the refund. Team fee refunds are not guaranteed. If it is necessary to withdraw from a trip, HCS encourages team members to donate their team fee to HCS for team expenses or another person’s team fee.

- Team leaders may establish their own personal due dates (ones that are before the ones established by HCS) that they communicate to their team members in order to build in some “slop” time for getting everything into HCS by the required deadlines.

**All team members:**

**- Information due 9 weeks prior to departure:**

* + - 1. **Application**- filled out on-line with uploaded **scans of the passport (COLOR), medical training diplomas for all health care providers**
* **Passports must be valid for 6 months from the date of departure FROM Honduras.**
* **All documents must be renewed in time to meet the team due date (9 weeks prior to departure) in order for the individual to be a participant on the team.**
	+ **Health Care providers**: Diplomas are required all health care providers, including but not limited to: Registered Nurses-RN, Licensed Practical Nurses- LPN, Certified Nursing Assistants- CNA, Nurse Practitioners- NP, Physician Assistants- PA, Physical Therapists- PT, Scrub Technicians- CST, Certified Registered Nurses- CRN, Certified Registered Nurse- Anesthesia- CRNA, Student Registered Nurses Anesthesia, Audiologists, Registered Dental Hygienists, Dental Assistants
	+ **Physicians/ Dentists (including residents)**:
		- Medical/ dental school diplomas (1st trip to the hospital)
		- Residency certificates (1st trip to hospital)
		- Board Certification (residents and not all doctors have this certification)
		- medical/ dental license current for the year of the mission trip
		- DEA license current for the year of the mission trip
			1. These documents are submitted to the Honduran College of Medicine and are used to obtain the temporary Honduran medical/ dental licenses needed to practice medicine/ dentistry in Honduras
			2. If the MD/dental or DEA license is up for renewal and the new one will not be received before the 9 week deadline, submit the license that will expire. When the license is renewed on-line, submit the on-line renewal confirmation, then submit the new license when it is received.
* Team members must indicate their acceptance of the Lifestyle and Social Media Statements, as well as the Consent, Assumption of Risk, Release of Liability, Waiver and Indemnification as stated on the application. Parental acceptance of the waiver is required for any team member under the age of 18 years; a copy of this waiver is found at the end of this manual
* **trip payment**- paid on-line as part of the application process
	+ Team members may have others support their trip by using the “Donate” tab on the Health Caring Services website and making a donation to a specific team member
	+ Team fee refunds: if a refund is requested, it must be approved by the Health Caring Services administration and the initial credit card fee will be deducted from the refund; team fee refunds are not guaranteed; Instead of a refund, a team fee made be donated to Health Caring Services to support the Hospital.
	+ There is also an option for people to make donations to a specific team to help cover team expenses of supplies, etc.

**Information due 4 weeks prior to departure:**

1. **itinerary sent from the airline**- send to the HCS team administrator- jillcw8812@yahoo.com
	* All team members are to arrive and depart on the same day; midday arrivals are accommodated by the main US airlines.
	1. Team member’s complete itinerary is needed in case there are travel issues enroute
2. **Travel Insurance policy with emergency evacuation coverage of $500,000**- send to the HCS administrator- jillcw8812@yahoo.com; more information below

**10) Team Cancellation Policy**

Team safety is our top priority. If for any reason HCS feels the team's safety could be in jeopardy when traveling in Honduras, HCS reserves the right to cancel the trip.  This would be done only after thoroughly investigating the situation with our overseas directors.   Every effort would be made to reschedule but there is no guarantee.  HCS will not be responsible for any expenses lost due to the cancellation and advises team members to investigate the purchase of trip cancellation insurance. See information below under “Travel” section.

**11) ARSA (Agency of Sanitary Regulation) Inventory forms**

- these forms must be filled out by the team leader and submitted to HCS administration- jillcw8812@yahoo.com- **at least 6 weeks prior to departure for Honduras.**

- Team leaders must work with HCS administration to make sure forms are submitted in time to receive the documentation to have supplies clear through customs.

- see the end of the Team Leader Manual for detailed instructions

- Inventories for sterile, non-sterile and pharmaceutical supplies will be sent to you along with your Team Leader Schedule of Due Dates and Responsibilities chart and Team Leader Manual.

- If your team is carrying medical supplies into Honduras, ARSA officials will check the forms and luggage. Team leaders are responsible to make sure all forms are available to those team members bringing in supplies.

- **YOU MUST COMMUNICATE ALL ARSA RULES TO YOUR TEAM MEMBERS. VIOLATION OF THESE RULES MAY LEAD TO THE CONFISCATION OF ALL SUPPLIES BEING TRANSPORTED.**

**12) Travel:**

Team leaders must stay current and have pertinent information that is needed to prepare for travel to and from the USA and Honduras.

1. <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/> or . <https://travelbans.org/north-america/honduras/>,or <https://hn.usembassy.gov/covid-19-information/> or similar information site.
2. All travelers entering or exiting Honduras must have a **Pre-check form**. This form can be acquired 2 ways:
3. Fill out the form at the official Honduran site for free: <https://prechequeo.inm.gob.hn/Register> the form cannot be applied for more than 72 hours from the time of departure; travelers will receive a confirmation email which they should print and carry with them; team leaders can obtain detailed information on how to fill out this form that can be shared with their team members
4. Apply for the form through [www.iVisa.com](http://www.iVisa.com) not more than 30 days before departure; iVisa will send you the Pre-check form you need for travel within 24-48 hours of departure; print and carry this form with you when traveling; there is a fee for this service; HCS recommends using iVisa for the obtaining of the Pre-check form.

**Travel Insurance:**

- All team members are required to submit proof of purchase of a Travel Insurance policy that includes Emergency Evacuation with coverage of at least $500,000 in case of a medical emergency.

- Each team member is responsible for purchasing a policy that covers their personal coverage needs, i.e. extended housing and food expenses, additional medical care in Honduras, personal needs, etc., in addition to the required $500,000 evacuation coverage

- Each team member is responsible to know the policy’s requirement for the covering of pre-existing conditions.

- This policy will be submitted with the team member's airline travel itinerary, at least 4 weeks prior to departure to Honduras, sent to HCS Team administrator- jillcw8812@yahoo.com

- Insurance policy must be carried with team member while traveling.

- Suggestions:

  -  Travelex has a policy that covers the requisite evacuation insurance. To Enroll by phone:  Call Travelex at: 800.228.9792; for access to the Borton Overseas’ policy, reference the following when enrolling: Location number: 23-0384; enroll on-line and use the same location number.

  - Current members of Rural Metro can purchase coverage for evacuation from outside the USA. Each person would need to make this purchase individually and know the terms of the policy.

 - There are many companies that provide coverage for evacuation; the team member must make sure the coverage meets the required $500,000 minimum. Airline policies usually do NOT offer enough evacuation coverage

**Arrivals into San Pedro Sula:**

- Team members will be transported to and from the airport in **San Pedro Sula** **(SAP**).

- **All team members arrive into Honduras on the same day, with arrivals being mid-day, and will depart the hospital on the same day.**

- If arrival or departures are NOT on the specified team travel dates and special transport has to be arranged, there will be a charge to cover hospital expenses; this fee will be paid at the Hospital upon the arrival of the team member who is responsible to make sure this fee is paid. The team leader will be notified by the HCS administrator who will then communicate the necessary information to the team member.

- Flights that do not coordinate with the team dates MUST BE REVIEWED FOR APPROVAL BEFORE tickets are purchased.

**- Night arrivals will not be accommodated by hospital transport. Team members should not arrive at night**. A night arrival will necessitate team members spending the night in San Pedro Sula at their own expense. The Hotel Copantl has airport pick up, English speaking staff and is safe. (more information on the Copantl below)

- Adoption Airfares- travel agency- has been used by other teams and team members. They have been most helpful in navigating the purchase of tickets and when there are issues to be dealt with. tabitha@adoptionairfare.comm

**Navigating through the airport and tipping suggestions:**

**-** Many team leaders are seasoned leaders and have this process worked out, but for those who are new leaders, we offer the following suggestions.

- If the entire team is arriving on the same flight;

* + The team leader (or designated person) can act as the leader/ organizer when gathering and processing team members and baggage through customs.
	+ After going through immigration, choose one Honduran porter and have him (with whatever help he chooses to enlist from his fellow porters) collect all the baggage and usher everyone and all baggage through customs, including the ARSA check, at the same time and take the baggage out to the waiting transportation.
	+ Medical supply trunks will be checked; make sure ARSA documents are available. ARSA forms should be carried by group leaders and the person who checked the supply trunks.
	+ One team member should handle the tipping to the one designated porter who then can share it with those who help. Tip money can be collected from team members, if desired. ($2/ bag minimum)
	+ Getting the baggage loaded is where it gets tricky, as other porters want to jump in and help and then expect tips. Stand firm- 1 porter gets tipped for everything/ everyone.
	+ Each team member is responsible to make sure their baggage is collected in baggage claim, taken through customs and loaded onto the vehicle.
	+ **All hospital drivers will have some sort of identifying sign or badge from the hospital.  If unsure, ask the driver for identification.**
	+ Once all the baggage is loaded onto the hospital vehicles, have team members use the restrooms or purchase food as needed. Remind the team members to not dawdle- get their food and return to the vehicles quickly.
	+ Be sure to have leaders do a **head count BEFORE leaving the airport**. Don’t leave anyone behind.
	+ **Expect chaos!!! You’re in Honduras.**

- If your team members are arriving on different flights and at different times:

* + It helps to pre-arrange people to be leaders of the groups of arriving team members. Share with them the process outlined above before leaving the USA and who will be in their arrival group.
	+ Hospital transport is arranged according to flight arrivals into Honduras. The leader will have to decide whether to have everyone wait in the baggage claim area and proceed through customs together or to have groups go through customs with their baggage as they are ready. Once you pass through customs, there is no reentry into the secured area. Make sure everyone knows how to find the Hospital transport, who to tip and when to meet for departure from the airport.
	+ ARSA forms should be carried by group leaders and the person who checked the supply trunks.
	+ Each person is responsible to make sure their baggage is collected at baggage claim, taken through customs and loaded onto the vehicle.
	+ It is helpful for the leaders to have a list of flights and who is arriving and when. Team leaders can get this information to share with the designated leaders from your team chart available from HCS administration- jillcw8812@yahoo.com
	+ If there is a delay of a flight, the leader should have the hospital driver call the hospital and decide how to handle that delay. Hopefully, those who are delayed have already the team leader and the hospital and arrangements have been made.
	+ Once all the baggage is loaded onto the hospital vehicles, have the team members use the restrooms or purchase food as needed. Remind the team members to not dawdle- get their food and return to the vehicles quickly.

**In case of travel issues**

**Team leaders must make sure that their team members know how to contact them AND the Hospital personnel in case of travel issues.**

**Team leaders must make sure that their team members have the information in their team manuals about how to handle travel issues.**

**A team leader’s responsibility is to think through situations and communicate information to team members, helping them to know what to do in case the best laid plans are thwarted.**

**Team leaders should have all team members travel information with them while traveling so as to know how to track their team members in case of travel issues.**

- The following detailed information is provided for team members in case there are issues related to travel and you will be delayed in your arrival in San Pedro Sula.

- Keep this information with you as you travel.

- N.B.- it may be very expensive to use your cell phone for phone calls within Honduras; make every attempt to make contact with the hospital and/ or hotel before you leave the USA

* To dial a Honduran phone # if you are IN Honduras try these sequences:
	+ + (hold the “0” key until the “+” appears)- 504- the local phone #

or

* + 011-504-the local phone #

- If a team member(s) encounters travel complications and isn’t arriving when scheduled:

* + If possible, BEFORE leaving the USA, the team member should communicate with their team leader via phone, or, if necessary, text or e-mail; give your new arrival time and flight information; your team leader will stay in touch with the hospital and you, if possible
	+ BEFORE leaving the USA, a phone call made to Erika- hospital administration- 011-504-9729-0720 and 011-504-9773-5934; Noemi Santos- hospital coordinator- 011-504-9572-6640- is also a contact; provide your new arrival time and flight information
	+ Your team leader/ you and Erika, Noemi and the Hospital driver will formulate a plan for pick-up and with Hotel Copantl if your arrival is later than 5pm
	+ **After arrival in Honduras BEFORE 5PM:**
		- 1. team member should proceed through immigration, collect baggage and go through customs and ARSA check; upon exiting customs, look for a man who would be holding a sign with the hospital and team member’s name
			2. AFTER arrival IN Honduras, contact Erika and/or Noemi- using the instructions and numbers listed above; use an airline employee for assistance, if necessary
			3. if no one is there from the hospital for the pick-up, the team member should not wander about the airport; go to Wendy’s Restaurant and wait there; Hospital personnel will always have an ID badge or Hospital sign
	+ **Should the arrival be AFTER 5PM, staying at the Hotel Copantl will be necessary with transport to the Hospital the following day:**
		1. **BEFORE leaving the USA, email or call at the hospital using the contact information listed above, providing the new arrival time and airline**
		2. BEFORE leaving the USA, if possible, **make a reservation at the Hotel Copantl; if you cannot make this call before leaving the USA, upon arrival in Honduras, call from the airport using airline employee help, if necessary; the hotel has English speaking employees**
	+ Telephone from IN the USA: 011-504-2556-8900, 011-504-2556-7890, 011-504-2561-8900
	+ Telephone from IN Honduras: use the calling instructions above with these local phone #s: 2556-8900, 2556-7890, 2561-8900
		- * Talk to the reception and tell the hotel you are with the Hospital in Sula- Hospital Socorro De Lo Alto
			* **give the hotel your arrival time and airline and flight number; ask to be picked up at the airport**
	+ Hotel Y Club Copantl

Boulevard del Sur

Residencial Los Acros 1 calle, 50432

San Pedro Sula, Honduras

* + - **the Hotel will send a shuttle or a taxi to the airport and have a sign with your name**
		- **once at the Copantl, have the hotel contact Erika (#s above) at the hospital to let her know of your arrival there and find out transportation arrangements**
		- **enjoy a night and a delicious breakfast in a lovely hotel!**

**13) Team Meeting: When the team assembles at the hospital, the team leader should hold a team in-service the first night or 1st morning, before surgery or clinic begins.**

Some items to be covered in the Team Meeting:

* + - 1. Remind team members that the team is entering into the hospital’s system and procedures that are in place 24/7/365 and respect needs to be given to the hospital’s way of doing things.
			2. Remind the team of the lifestyle agreement they agreed to when they applied: refraining from alcohol consumption, cursing, smoking and drug use while in Honduras
			3. Emphasize Patient Privacy and Social Media Policy to team members.  The policy is specific to photos and videos team members might be taking. Team leaders must familiarize themselves thoroughly with this policy.
			4. Meal schedule: timeliness is important for the kitchen staff. Meals will be set aside for those who are unable to make the designated timesif the kitchen staff is informed before the kitchen closes. Frequently team members will make up these plates.
			5. Toilet paper does not go into toilets… use waste bins.
			6. Do not drink tap water.
			7. The risks when leaving the grounds alone are very real, therefore team members are not to go off the grounds without an escort from the hospital. The team leader will make arrangements through the hospital administration for transportation and an escort if there is a specific reason for someone to leave the campus.
			8. Hondurans- adults or children, including the interpreters- are not to be invited into the team house.
			9. Keep ALL valuables (passport, money, cameras, jewelry, etc.) in a secured place; there are lockers inside the OR suite (each person brings their own padlocks); these will need to be shared. Keep the Team House locked- main doors and sleeping rooms.
			10. Should the team house lose power wait 10-15 minutes and the generator will be activated. Someone will take care of flipping the circuits in the team house as the generator is activated.

- Team leaders add items to the in-service agenda as they determine their team needs.

**14) Meals**

- All meals are eaten in the Team House and are prepared by the Team House staff.

- If team members with special dietary needs or allergies, encourage them to bring food that will meet those needs as the Team House staff is not able to cater to special diets.

**15) Tour and trip extensions:**

- Team leaders are responsible for making all arrangements for these tours/ trip extensions. ALL tours and trip extensions must be scheduled at the END of the team’s scheduled time of working at the hospital.

- Team leaders must inform HCS administration of tour/ trip plans 6 weeks before the trip so the hospital can advertise your team working dates accurately. Jillcw8812@yahoo.com

- It is the encouragement of Health Caring Services that a licensed tour company is used so as to help ensure the safety of the team while traveling about Honduras.

- **HOTEL COPANTL- San Pedro Sula:**

**Please note: Health Caring Services advises that team not spend time in San Pedro Sula for safety reasons. The decision to spend time there is made by the team leader and team members.**

1) Team leaders will be responsible for making all arrangements for team stays at the Hotel Copantl.

 - [+504 2516-8900](https://www.google.com/search?gs_ssp=eJzj4tVP1zc0TDLLqCooKks2YLRSMaiwSDMzM022TDUwMjYwNDAxtjKoSDVKsjRNTDQwAcI08xQv3oz8ktQcheT8gsS8khwAlGcUAA&q=hotel+copantl&oq=hotel+copanttl&aqs=chrome.1.69i57j46i13i175i199l3j0i13i30l5.8441j0j15&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8)

 - <https://hotel-copantl-convention.business.site/?utm_source=gmb&utm_medium=referral>

2) Information you will need:

1. Call the Copantl and get quotes and availability for rooms
2. To make reservations, you will need:
	1. Name of each person(s) in every room, indicating type of room- single or double
	2. Confirmation of the date of the reservation

3) Rooms are paid for at check-out by each individual

4) Reservations at the restaurant at the hotel are made by the team leader. Time and date of reservation and # of people is required information.

**16) Coffee orders:**

- If your team is going to order coffee to take back to the USA, that coffee order must be handled by you, the team leader, or someone you designate, with the orders taken and submitted to the HCS administration. (bertmary@bellsouth.net ) **at least 2 weeks before you arrive in Honduras**.

- Information concerning package sizing and prices of the coffee can be obtained upon request.

- The team leader will collect all monies and make payment for the coffee upon its arrival at the hospital and distribute the coffee to the team members.

 **17) HCS support role for teams in Honduras**

**-** HCS will arrange transportation, lodging, and meals for the time you are at the hospital.

- HCS will also arrange for all physicians’/dentists’ / medical professionals’ licensure to meet the Honduran government’s requirements.

- If there are issues regarding your team that arise, the administrative team will communicate with the hospital staff after the team leader informs us of that issue.

**Team Leader Schedule of Due Dates and Responsibilities**

Team Leaders,

This letter acknowledges that your Team Leader Commitment form has been received and your mission trip has officially been scheduled on the hospital calendar for the dates listed below. Please check to make sure they are accurate.

It’s time to start recruiting and putting your team together.

1. Below you will find the **Team Leader Schedule of Due Dates and Responsibilities**. It is a much condensed version of the Team Leader Manual.
2. NOTHING REPLACES READING THE TEAM LEADER MANUAL. The manual has been updated as of July, 2022 so as to be complete with new HCS policies and procedures. We cannot stress strongly enough that you read the Team Leader Manual at least once a year to refresh yourself with the procedures and information needed to lead a team.
3. Attached to this email is the new **Team Member Due Date Information Form**, created as a way to get information to your team members efficiently. We are hoping that it avoids confusion for them and lightens the load for you. The **Team Member Due Date Information Form** should be emailed to every person as they commit to serving on your team, along with the **Team Member Manual** to be read annually by every team member.

If you ever need any help or information, please get in touch with us. We want to support you as your proceed and put together the strongest team.

This is done with the LORD’s guidance and help and we are here to assist you in that work.

Blessings.

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| **Hospital Socorro de lo Alto Team Leader’s Information** |
| **Team:** your team name is inserted |
|  **Team dates:** your team dates are inserted**Arrival date into San Pedro Sula:** your date inserted**Departure date from the hospital:** your date inserted |
| **Team documents due date:** **ARSA Supply and Pharmaceutical Inventories due:** **Itinerary/ Insurance Policy due date:** |
|  | **Date due** | **Description** | **Who** |
| **­­­­Scheduling a Team/ Team Dates Request** | As early as possible- hospital team calendar fills early | Review the Hospital calendar on the [www.Healthcaringservices.org](http://www.Healthcaringservices.org) website to see what dates are available; email HCS administrator to request desired dates: Jill Wilson- jillcw8812@yahoo.com  | Requested dates are “penciled” onto the calendar; this is only a request until the Team Leader Commitment form is received; When the requested dates are approved, the team leader will be instructed to proceed in filling out of the Team Leader Commitment form |
| **Team Leader Commitment form** | Immediately after team date request is approved | Submit the Team Leader Commitment form on-line- <https://www.healthcaringservices>.org/teams/team-leader/  | When this form is received and information is accepted, team dates will be secured on the calendar. You will then receive 1) an acceptance letter from the HCS administrator, 2) this Team Leader Schedule with instructions as to how to proceed, 3) the Team Member Due Date and Information form, and the Team Leader Manual and Team Member Manual. ARSA instructions and supply inventory formsIf at any time, you have questions, contact HCS Administrator- Jill Wilson- jillcw8812@yahoo.com  |
|  | **Date due** | **Description** | **Who** |
| **Team Leader & Team Member Manuals** | Read immediately; Send to team members immediately after they are recruited | Team Leader and Team Member Manuals are provided for your effective leadership; new policies and procedures are included | Team leaders are responsible for all the information in the TL & TM Manuals. Many glitches are avoided if you take this information in early in your leadership responsibilities and send to your team members upon acceptance on your team. |
| **Team basic information**  | When team member is recruited | Send Team Member Due Date and Information form; send them Team Member manual | Inform all team members of team due dates, application process, documents, etc., required; have them read the Team Member Manual Each team member is responsible for the information contained in the TM manual |
| **Travel- \*\*\*\*see TL & TM manuals for details concerning these requirements** | 4 weeks prior to trip | Inform team members of travel requirements:- registration with Honduran government: <https://prechequeo.inm.gob.hn>; confirmation of registration must be carried - itinerary and Travel Insurance with $500,000 per person evacuation coverage due date- suggested: registration with US STEP program: <http://step.state.gov>- airport, arrival and departure dates and times; any exceptions to the above dates need to have prior approval from HCS administrator; fees for special transportation needs will be incurred by the team member | All team membersAll team members need to arrive at and depart from the hospital on the same days; midday arrivals into San Pedro Sula only |
| **Team Member Application** | 9 weeks prior to departure for Honduras | Application, documents, passport- color copy of picture and signature pages (valid for 6 months AFTER departure FROM Honduras), acceptance of Lifestyle and Social Media policies and Waiver, payment <https://www.healthcaringservices>.org/teams/application/ | All team members- medical personnel and non-medical personnel- others may donate to a specific team member by going to the “Donate” button the on the web site.  |
| **1st year Physicians/ Dentists/ Residents documents** | 9 weeks prior to departure for Honduras; uploaded on application | Medical/ dental school diploma, residency certificate, Board certification\*,DEA and MD/ DDS license valid for dates of the mission trip | 1st year on an Hospital Socorro de lo Alto mission trip MD/ DDS/ residents\*- residents do not have resident certificate or board certification, not all doctors have board certification |
| **All Physicians/ Dentists/ Residents documents** | 9 weeks prior to departure for Honduras; uploaded on application | MD license, DEA license, Board certification\* valid for the dates of the mission trip | All MDs/ DDS, including residents\*- residents do not have board certification, not all doctors have board certification |
|  | **Date due** | **Description** | **Who** |
| **Medical personnel documents** | 9 weeks prior to departure for Honduras; uploaded on application | Diploma from training program; license current for dates of the mission trip | All health care providers, including but not limited to: Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, Physical Therapists, Audiologists, Surgical Scrub Technicians, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthesia, Student Registered Nurse Anesthesia, Student Physical Therapists, Dental Hygienists, Dental Assistants, Certified Registered Nurses |
| **ARSA Inventories** | 6 weeks prior to departure for Honduras; sent to Jill: jillcw8812@yahoo.com | Sterile & Non-sterile Supplies/ Pharmaceutical Inventories of what the team will be bringing into Honduras; N.B.- these forms do NOT apply to what is shipped for the container | Read all instructions on the Instructions sheet to avoid having your supplies and medications confiscated at customs.  |
| **Travel Documents** | 4 weeks prior to departure from USA; uploaded on web site | Airline itinerary showing whole itineraryCopy of Travel Insurance policy with evacuation coverage of at least $500,000 per person | All team members |
| **Tour/ post mission work transportation** Details in TL manual | Trip and tour plans must be submitted at least 6 weeks prior to your trip dates. Submit these plans to Jill at jillcw8812@yahoo.com  | Team leaders are responsible for making all arrangements for these tours/ trip extensions.  | Team leader must arrange transport, lodging, etc., and transport to the airport following the tour. Transportation and all tour costs are paid for by team members. It is the encouragement of Health Caring Services that a licensed tour company is used so as to help ensure the safety of the team while traveling about Honduras.  |
| **Hotel Copantl-** Details in TL manual | Trip and tour plans must be submitted at least 6 weeks prior to your trip dates. Submit these plans to Jill at jillcw8812@yahoo.com  | Team leaders make all contacts with the Hotel and all reservations for rooms, dinner and transport to the airport |  |
| **Coffee Orders-**Details in TL manual | 2 weeks prior to departure from USA | If the team leader desires to place a coffer order for team members, see the procedure in the Team Leader manual |  |

**Team Member Due Date Information Form**

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| **Hospital Socorro de lo Alto Team Members’ Information** |
| **Team:** your team name inserted |
|  **Team dates:** your team dates inserted**Arrival date into San Pedro Sula:** your team date inserted**Departure date from the hospital:** your team date inserted |
| **Team documents due date:** your team date inserted **Itinerary/ Insurance Policy due date:** your team date inserted |
|  | **Date due** | **Description** | **Who** |
| **Team Member Manual** | **Immediately--** sent by team leader to team member when the member is recruited | The Team Member manual has the pertinent information for you as a team member: HCS policies, travel information to be carried with you while you travel in case of travel changes, Travel Insurance with Emergency Evacuation coverage, application, documentation, fees and payments, etc. **Every team member should print and read this manual.**  |
| **Team application and documents**<https://www.healthcaringservices.org/teams/>application/ | 9 weeks prior to departure for Honduras \* | Application, passport- legible color copy of picture and signature pages, all documents listed below, acceptance of Lifestyle and Social Media statements and Legal Waiver as stated on the application, payment  | All team members- medical/ dental personnel/ health care providers and non-medical personnelTeam members can have others donate to their trip expenses by directing them to the “Donate” tab at [www.healthcaringservices.org](http://www.healthcaringservices.org) ; donations are tax deductible  |
| **1st year team member Physicians/ Dentists/ Residents documents** | 9 weeks prior to departure for Honduras \* | Medical/ dental school diploma, residency certificate, Board Certification\* | 1st year on an Hospital Socorro de lo Alto mission trip MD/ DDS/ residents- \*not all doctors have Board certification; residents do not have residency certification or Board certification |
| **Physicians/ Dentists/Residents documents** | 9 weeks prior to departure for Honduras \* | MD/ DDS license, DEA license, board certification current for dates of the mission trip | All MDs/ DDS/ residents |
| **Health Care Provider documents** | 9 weeks prior to departure for Honduras \* | Diploma from training program; professional license current for dates of mission trip | ALL health care providers, including but not limited to: Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, Physician Assistants, Physical Therapists, Audiologists, Surgical Scrub Technicians, Certified Registered Nurse Anesthesia, Student Registered Nurse Anesthesia, Dental Hygienists, Dental Assistants, Certified Registered Nurses |
| **Travel Documents****- also required for travel:** **1. Pre-check form****2.COVID documents****- see the Team Member Manual for details** | 4 weeks prior to departure \* | Airline itinerary showing whole itineraryCopy of Travel Insurance policy with evacuation coverage of at least $500,000 per person- submitted to: HCS administrator- jillcw8812@yahoo.com  | All team membersN.B.- for coverage of pre-existing medical conditions, travel insurance must be purchased within a company determined period of time of the INITIAL payment for the trip (i.e. team fee) and cover the full cost of the trip- see Team Member Manual for information and suggestions |

**\* It is the responsibility of each team member to make sure all the required documents are submitted by the dates indicated. These dates are established in order to follow the Honduran College of Medicine’s requirements, as well as making arrangements at the hospital.**

**If the documents are not submitted on time, the team member will be removed from the team roster. If there are any expenses that have been incurred, these will be the sole responsibility of the team member.**

**See the Team Member Manual for more information.**

***Consent, Assumption of Risk, Release of Liability, Waiver, and Indemnification***

I understand that all mission trips abroad carry with them significant risks. Although Health Caring Services, Inc., a Kentucky nonprofit corporation (“HCS”), has taken reasonable and prudent steps to reduce foreseeable risks, they still exist. Accordingly, in exchange for my, and my minor child(ren), if applicable, being allowed to participate in the upcoming mission trip to Hospital Socorro de lo Alto (the “Hospital”) to provide health care services to local Hondurans, coordinated by HCS and the Hospital (the “Mission Trip”), I agree, on behalf of myself and my minor child(ren) who accompanies(y) me on the Mission Trip (individually and collectively, “I,” “me,” and “my”), to be bound by each of the following:

1. Voluntary Participation. I understand and confirm that my participation in the Mission Trip is voluntary. My participation in the Mission Trip is as a servant-learner and I will adopt that attitude when interacting with my fellow team members, the people I meet during the Mission Trip and the Hospital. I will abstain from making derogatory or offensive remarks or arguments regarding people, politics, sports, religion, race or traditions. I agree to support the mission of HCS, the Hospital, and the cause of Christ on the Mission Trip. I agree to respect and follow the advice of HCS concerning attire, drinking, smoking, drugs and cultural traditions that will help me to honor the mission and integrate into the local community.

2. Identification of Risks. I understand that there are certain dangers, hazards, and risks inherent in participation in the Mission Trip, including, but not limited to, those associated with travel to and from the Hospital; inadequacies of lodging; patient care inside and outside of the Hospital; unstable political situations; different and under-developed facilities; uncertain medical, transportation, and communication infrastructure; possible acts of terrorism; and health hazards due to contaminated food and water, diseases, pests, or poor sanitation. I understand that my participation in the Mission Trip may involve risk of injury and loss, both to person and to property. I also understand that the risk of injury may include the possibility of permanent disability or death, **and further may include the risk of exposure to novel coronavirus (collectively, with any mutation or variation, “COVID-19”)**. There may be other risks of participation in the Mission Trip, some of which may not be known or reasonably foreseeable at this time. I further understand that some of the premises, facilities, and equipment used in connection with the Mission Trip may not be owned, maintained, or controlled by HCS or the Hospital. I understand that this Consent, Assumption of Risk, Release of Liability, Waiver, and Indemnification is intended to address all of the risks of any kind associated with my participation in any aspect of the Mission Trip, including, particularly, such risks created by actions, inactions, fault, or negligence on the part of HCS, the Hospital and their respective directors, officers, employees, agents, volunteers, successors, or assigns (collectively, the “Releasees”), including, but not limited to, risks created by the following: (a) **the risk of exposure to COVID-19**; (b) my physical, emotional, and psychological limitations and/or discomfort; (c) the physical, emotional, and psychological limitations and/or discomfort of others; (d) the use and/or condition of premises on which various Mission Trip activities may occur; (e) the lack or inadequacy of policies, rules, or regulations with respect to the Mission Trip; (f) the failure of Releasees to foresee or protect me from actions, inactions, fault, negligence, recklessness, or intentional or criminal misconduct of other persons; (g) the inadequacy or unavailability of medical facilities, treatment, and/or professionals; or (h) the lack or inadequacy of supervision by Releasees.

**3.** **Assumption of Risk**. I assume all risks, known and unknown, foreseeable and unforeseeable, in any way connected with my participation in the Mission Trip, **including (but not limited to) risks associated with exposure to COVID-19**. I accept personal responsibility for any liability, injury, loss, or damage in any way connected with my participation in the Mission Trip, **including (but not limited to) risks associated with exposure to COVID-19**.

**4. Release of Liability and Waiver. I release and hold harmless Releasees from any and all liability for and waive any and all claims for injury, loss, or damage, including attorneys’ fees, to the fullest extent permitted by law, in any way connected with my participation in the Mission Trip, even if caused in whole or in part by the negligent acts or omissions of Releasees, including (but not limited to) risks associated with exposure to COVID-19 (a “Claim”). This release and waiver does not apply to gross negligence or intentional misconduct of Releasees.**

**5. Indemnification. I agree to indemnify and to hold harmless Releasees from any Claim or expense, including reasonable attorneys’ fees for the legal counsel of Releasee’s choice, in any way connected with a Claim. This includes, but is not limited to, the cost of defending any Claim I, or any member of my family, might make, or that might be made on my behalf, or on behalf of any of my family members, that is released or waived by this instrument.**

6. Policies and Exposure Notice. I agree to abide by all policies, rules, regulations, guidelines, and instructions of HCS, the Hospital, and the Honduran government including policies and safety measures intended to mitigate exposure to COVID-19, and to notify HCS or Mission Trip personnel immediately at any time prior to my departure or during the Mission Trip if I learn that I have, or may have been exposed to, or diagnosed with, COVID-19.

7. Consent to Medical Treatment. I authorize HCS and the Hospital to provide to me, through medical personnel of their choice, customary medical assistance, transportation, and emergency medical services should I require such assistance, transportation, or services as a result of injury or damage related to my participation in the Mission Trip. This consent does not impose a duty upon HCS or the Hospital, to provide such assistance, transportation, or services. I will assume the responsibility of all medical bills incurred as a result of such assistance, transportation or services. Additionally, should it be necessary for me to return home due to medical reasons, disciplinary action or otherwise, I will assume full responsibility for payment of all transportation costs.

8. Severability. If any provision (or portion of any provision) of this instrument is held to be invalid or unenforceable, that provision shall be enforceable in part to the fullest extent permitted by law, and such invalidity or unenforceability shall not otherwise affect any other provision of this instrument.

9. Applicable Law. In order to provide certainty in the law to be applied to the construction of this instrument, this instrument shall be governed, construed, and enforced in accordance with the law of the State of Kentucky without regard to its choice of law principles.

10. Modifications. This instrument may not be changed orally, and no modification, amendment or waiver of any provision contained in this instrument, or any future representation, promise or condition in connection with the subject matter of this instrument shall be binding upon any party hereto unless made in writing and signed by both parties.

11. Binding Effect. In the event of my death or incapacity, this instrument shall be effective and binding upon my heirs, estate, next of kin, executors, administrators, assigns and representatives and shall inure to the benefit of Releasees.

**I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND ALL PARAGRAPHS OF THIS CONSENT, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER, AND INDEMNIFICATION. I UNDERSTAND THAT I AM GIVING UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY AGREEING TO IT. I AM AGREEING TO THIS CONSENT, ASSUMPTION OF RISK, RELEASE OF LIABILITY, WAIVER, AND INDEMNIFICATION VOLUNTARILY.**

**PHARMACEUTICAL, STERILE AND NON-STERILE INVENTORY INSTRUCTIONS**

**FOR THE TRANSPORT OF SUPPLIES, MEDICATIONS AND EQUIPMENT TO HONDURAS**

Due to new regulations from the Honduran agency ARSA (Agency of Regulation of Sanitation) we will be following the following protocols.

**PROTOCOLS:**

1. All supply trunks/ suitcases will be labeled with TEAM NAME, HOSPITAL NAME and ARSA INVENTORY
2. \*\*\*\* ALL STERILE SUPPLIES and ALL MEDICATIONS MUST BE WITHIN DATE TO 4 MONTHS FROM ENTERING HONDURAS. i.e. January arrival- everything must be in date through April, February arrival- everything in date through May, etc.
3. There are 2 categories of supplies- STERILE and NON-STERILE and there are corresponding inventory sheets for each.
4. Medications need to be listed on Pharmaceutical inventory.
5. If all the team members are entering Honduras on the same flight, then one set of inventories is needed for the contents of the trunks. List the flight and assign a group leader on the top of the inventory.
6. If team members are entering Honduras on different flights, each flight/ group will need a separate set of inventories with the contents of those trunks listed. List the flight and assign a group leader on the top of the inventory.
7. Personal medical devices such as stethoscope, pulse ox are permitted in your personal baggage.
8. Items purchased such as toys, clothing, gifts, crayons, coloring books, etc., should be removed from original packages and placed in zip-lock bags and/ or made to appear as not new. Candy purchased for children in the village must be transported in personal luggage out of original packaging.
9. NO food items can be packed in supply or instrument or medication trunks. Food must be carried in personal luggage and we suggest bringing a sales slip for purchased food items in case it is requested at customs.

**PROCESS:**

1. The team inventories and due date for those inventories will be emailed to you when the rest of your leadership information comes, which is after your team dates are set and your Team Leader Commitment form is received.
2. Team leaders will oversee the filling out the inventories provided, making sure all required information is filled out. (See lists below for Pharmaceutical, Sterile and Non-sterile items.)
3. Team leaders submits completed inventories to HCS Administration- Jill Wilson- jillcw8812@yahoo.com - at least 6 weeks prior to arrival into Honduras.
	1. Why 6 weeks? These inventories must be collated for each team by the HCS administration and sent to the Hospital for translation and completion; they are then submitted to ARSA a minimum of 4 weeks before your trip date before anything is allowed to be brought into the country; a certificate is granted by ARSA allowing supplies and medications to enter the country.
	2. **Supplies and medications that do not receive prior approval will be taken away at customs upon arrival in Honduras, possibly along with the entire trunk.**
	3. **YOU MUST COMMUNICATE ALL ARSA RULES TO YOUR TEAM MEMBERS. VIOLATION OF THESE RULES MAY LEAD TO THE CONFISCATION OF ALL SUPPLIES BEING TRANSPORTED.**

**PROCEDURE TO PREPARE INVENTORIES:**

* It is better to over-check items (column #1) and overestimate quantity brought than to not have something on the list or underestimate quantities when going through customs.
* ALL items on Pharmaceutical, Sterile and Unsterile Inventories go in as “DONATED”; no cost should be listed.

**STERILE INVENTORY:**

1. All items with expiration dates must be within the 4 months of the team’s arrival into Honduras. See #2 under Protocols.
2. The sterile inventory form must have the following columns completed by the team leader:
	1. Column #1: place a check mark if the item is being packed for Honduras
	2. UNIT column:
		1. If possible, package all LIKE items in Zip-lock bags- gallon/ quart/ pint; each Zip-lock bag becomes a “UNIT”.
		2. If it is not possible to put items into a Zip-lock; estimate how many items are being brought into the country.
	3. LOT #
	4. MANUFACTURE’S NAME
	5. EXPIRATION DATE
3. If an item is not listed on the Inventory, add that item to the form at the bottom and complete the required columns.

**NON-STERILE:**

1. If the supplies are NOT within the 4 month expiration date requirement, they must be unpackaged to be re-sterilized at the Hospital.
2. The non-sterile inventory form must have the following columns completed by the team leader:
	1. Column #1: place a check mark if the item is being packed for Honduras
	2. UNIT column:
		1. Wherever possible, package LIKE items in Zip-lock bags- gallon/ quart/ pint; each Zip-lock becomes a “UNIT”; items do not have to be counted
		2. If it is not possible to put items into a Zip-lock, estimate how many items are being brought into the country.
3. If an item is not listed on the Inventory, add that item to the bottom of the form and complete the columns.

**PHARMACEUTICAL INVENTORY:**

1. All medications must not expire within the 4 months after the team’s arrival in Honduras. See #2 under Protocols.
2. The pharmaceutical inventory form must have the following columns completed by the team leader:
	1. Name of the medication
	2. UNIT column: # of vials, syringes, bottles, etc
	3. CONCENTRATION: dose as found on the container
	4. PHARMACEUTICAL FORM: tablets, capsules, injection, etc… how is the medication administered to the patient
	5. LOT #
	6. MANUFACTURE’S NAME
	7. EXPIRATION DATE
	8. Do NOT fill in “COST$” column
	9. All medications will be donated