



u.s. international health alliance

Code of Conduct

We encourage the following code of conduct because being an American healthcare provider practicing medicine in geographically isolated areas of Central America entails a certain degree of respect and inherent risk. In order to minimize the risks involved and to maximize your experience as a guest in another community we ask that you follow these guidelines to demonstrate your respect and sensitivity to the differing cultures which you will encounter.

People in the villages and the towns are very modest with respect to dress and personal conduct. For this reason we anticipate that each individual will dress and behave in a manner which respects the customs of the local population. More specifically this means:

- No inappropriate dress – such as short shorts, bare midriffs, spaghetti strapped tops, see through clothing. (See PACKING LIST)
- No alcohol in the small villages. Very discrete use of alcoholic beverages.
- No political activism.
- No use of illegal drugs.
- No inappropriate relations with local people. Health providers are regarded with respect. We anticipate that each individual will act in a respectful manner to the patients, to their hosts within the villages as a whole, and to their co-workers. Inappropriate behavior on the part of one person will reflect on the mission as a whole, in the present and in the future.
- Most individuals in the villages and small towns retire shortly after dusk and it is rare to see a young woman alone after dark. We anticipate that all participants will be back to the Mission House by 10 p.m. At other times we ask that each individual sign out giving us notification of your approximate location and time of return.
- While the Mission House does have a housekeeper – it is anticipated that each individual will be responsible for maintaining reasonable cleanliness to their personal space.

In order to make your stay more enjoyable we ask that you bring with you a willingness to experience your surrounding with new eyes. This includes willingness to:

- Immerse yourself in a new culture and respect cultural differences
- Try new and different and foods
- Learn/use a new language
- Have limited water usage for bathing
- Use outdoor toilet facilities and be accepting of other inconveniences that go hand-in- hand with living in the rural villages

I _____, have read and understand this Code of Conduct.

PLEASE PRINT

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____