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## I. The Open House – Overview

### 1) *Quickies*

**Abbreviations:** Just a quick reminder:

- **COAR Children’s Village (COARCV)** – located in Zaragoza, El Salvador, Central America. It was founded by a Cleveland Diocese mission team priest in 1980 as a war orphanage and continues to provide residential foster care today. It is wholly administered by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of San Salvador. Its 80-acre campus not only contains several small houses for the residential children but also contains the COAR school, clinic, guesthouse(s), large chapel, cafeteria, and various other buildings and activities such as a soccer field, basketball and volleyball court, band practice field, and a large agricultural section (corn, beans, organic/sustainable practices gardens, and sometimes chickens.)
- **COAR Peace Mission (COARPM)** – located in Wickliffe, OH (just outside Cleveland) is the outreach office for the COAR Children’s Village and the primary contact for all visitors.

**Currency:** US\$

**Electricity:** US/Canada compatible

**Weather:** hot and humid

### 2) *What and where*

- COAR Peace Mission invites you to visit the COAR Children’s Village in Zaragoza, El Salvador. Many people have asked through the years whether they can visit COAR. Of course you can, but it has always been hard for individuals to organize a trip. We are trying to remedy that with this “Open House.”
- Teach English to our students in the morning
- Spend afternoons and weekends at important sights such as St. Romero’s home and the grave site of the Four North American Churchwomen (detailed itinerary will develop as reservations are confirmed)
- Spend quality time (craft projects, soccer games, etc.) with the internos, children who live at the COAR Children’s Village, again, the itinerary will develop as reservations are confirmed.
- Stay in the retreat center adjacent to COAR; trip number limit: 20. All rooms have bathrooms, single occupancy (or doubles available upon request.)

## COAR Open House – Application and guidelines

### 2023 dates: June 28 (Wednesday) – July 5 (Wednesday)

COAR Peace Mission \* 28700 Euclid Ave. \* Wickliffe, OH 44092 \* voice: (216) 269-1710  
e-mail: [info@coarpeacemission.org](mailto:info@coarpeacemission.org) \* <http://www.coarpeacemission.org>

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- COAR Peace Mission staff will accompany the group as guides all day at all events. Keep in mind that none of the COAR Children's Village staff speak English.
- Selection and approval of applications will be made by COAR Peace Mission staff based on application submittal date and length of relationship to COAR – *so apply early!*

### 3) When and deadlines

- Minimum 4-night stay (pick your own arrival and departure dates within the dates of the open house, above)
- **Now**
  - Apply for a passport; if it expires within six months of your trip you'll need a new one before you go.
- **April 1**
  - Completed application form submitted via e-mail to [info@coarpeacemission.org](mailto:info@coarpeacemission.org)
  - Original signatures, submitted by post to COAR Peace Mission office, 28700 Euclid Ave., Wickliffe, OH 44092
  - Proof of US/Canadian health insurance and emergency medical evacuation insurance.
  - If minor: Notarized permission for minor to travel (from non-accompanying parent); a copy of this document must be part of the application; the airline will not board you without this.
  - If adult (18 and over): **To be included with the application: proof of completion of child-abuse prevention training;** these classes can fill up quickly, sign-up now. Virtus is a registered trademark and offered by most Catholic dioceses. Other training is acceptable (e.g. Methodist Church's Safe Sanctuaries, Boy Scouts of America's Youth Protection training.)
- **May 1**
  - 100% of fee to COAR office
  - Copy of flight reservations to COAR office (*sign-up for trip cancellation insurance!!!*)

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**4) Who**

- Under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian
- Health
  - There will be lots of walking including stairs and hills
  - Power outages are frequent
  - No ability to accommodate food allergies
  - Consult your own doctor for vaccinations or medications.

**5) Cost**

- \$250/day (\$200 deductible) including arrival and departure days, includes
  - Airport pick-up and drop-off
  - All meals
  - Single room accommodations
  - All excursions
  - Donations to various projects that we will visit

**6) Airfare and other responsibilities for the traveler (you)**

- You must purchase your own airfare.
- Trip cancellation/interruption insurance - You can purchase this from the airline or other 3<sup>rd</sup>-party providers.
- Health Insurance: proof of US/Canadian health insurance coverage required.
- Traveler health insurance, “emergency medical evacuation” required – This pays for emergency departure from El Salvador for medical or other reasons. Costs vary with the options selected. Suggested site: <http://missionaryhealth.net/>
- Visa - The fee for US and Canadian passport-holders for a tourist visa is US\$12 and must be paid in cash at the airport in San Salvador upon arrival. This fee is NOT included with your fee to COAR. Passport-holders from other countries should check with your local El Salvador consulate or embassy.
- Extra cash for snacks or souvenirs or small donations at local churches: most people find \$50-\$100 enough (small bills, \$5’s and \$1’s.)
- Photocopy of your passport information page: Carry this with you in El Salvador and leave your actual passport locked in the guesthouse. It is also useful to leave copies with your emergency contact person.

**7) Cancellation and refunds**

- *We reserve the right to cancel for any reason at any time (e.g.: too few people sign-up, earthquakes, etc. – so purchase airline/trip cancellation insurance!)*
- If traveler cancels:
  - Before May 1: 100 % refund
  - Between May 2-June 1: 80% refund
  - Between June 2 – departure date: 50% refund
- If COAR cancels at any time:
  - 100% refund

## II. Solidarity

Solidarity comes from identifying with the impoverished community that we serve:



**"When we speak for the poor, please note that we do not take sides with one social class. What we do is invite all social classes, rich and poor, without distinction, saying to everyone let us take seriously the cause of the poor as though it were our own."**

- St. Romero, 9/9/1979

Any visit to El Salvador will confront you with poverty. A visit to COAR will bring the poor into your heart. Our children have few "things" like toys or clothes, but they have the most important things: nutritious food, safety, education. As you get to know the circumstances of the individual children who touch your heart, poverty takes on a deeper reality.

### ***1) Preparing yourself and your supporters...***

Involving friends, family, and church members in your trip before you go will enhance the experience as well as provide support when you return. Fundraisers for a specific project that you can attest to when you return will also bring your community into your experience. If asked, we can create a web page of your visit to share with folks back home.

### ***2) Reading and movies ...***

There are many books, movies, and documentaries about El Salvador. We encourage you to view or read these before the trip. We keep an updated list on our website: FUN STUFF > LESSON PLANS AND RESOURCES  
<https://coarpeacemission.org/lesson-plans-and-resources/>

### ***3) Food, entertainment, travel, walking...***

We encourage you to leave electronic entertainment devices behind. The children's school and house routines must be respected - that means early to bed and early to rise – (the children wake up at 5 am!) The food available at COAR is healthy and wholesome but simple. Travel by bus on poor roads

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will be hot, dusty, bumpy, and long. Most sites, including COAR, require lots of walking.

**4) *Mass, prayer, worship...***

COAR is a Catholic school run by the Archdiocese of San Salvador. You are welcome to attend mass at the school during the week. Sunday obligation will be arranged as the schedule develops.

**5) *Donated goods are discouraged***

We discourage drives for tangible goods that would have to be transported to El Salvador. In addition to the transport and customs expense, a mature understanding of charity requires that we respond to economic realities: it helps build El Salvador's economy if we buy goods there.

Purchasing in El Salvador gives storeowners, truckers, and many others jobs. It signals where there is real demand for products so that sustained growth in the economy can be recognized. It helps break the cycle of dependency.

### III. More details

#### 1) *El Salvador basics*

- El Salvador uses US\$ currency. Canadians should bring US currency. There is no way to visit an ATM or otherwise get or exchange cash.
- Credit cards are accepted many places, but verification is often down. Travelers' checks are not accepted most places.
- Electricity: US style plugs and current
- Most North American cell phones will work in El Salvador. Check with your carrier on details and prices.
- However, if circumstances arise where you need to use or contact a Salvadoran phone: Country code +503. If you are trying to dial a Salvadoran phone from the US you will need to first enter the "+" plus-sign on a smart phone or dial 011-503-. . . Conversely, if using a Salvadoran phone in El Salvador, you must enter "+1" to access the US or Canada before entering the area code and number.
- Time zone: El Salvador will be two hours behind Eastern Standard Time in June and July. (In other words, they do not have daylight-savings-time; so, when our time shifts an hour, they move between Central Time and Mountain Time.)

#### 2) *Emergency contact information*

Emergency contact (dial them as US/Canadian numbers):

+1 (216) 269-1710 (our mobile phone with the group in El Salvador)  
[info@coarpeacemission.org](mailto:info@coarpeacemission.org)

- Your COAR guides will carry a cell phone that receives and can call internationally. HOWEVER, as in all developing countries cell service can be intermittent and can go down for hours or days.
- E-mail: The guesthouse where we stay usually has wifi. Depending on your mobile plan you may be able to access the cell signal for email/data. HOWEVER, access is always intermittent.

#### 3) *Medical*

- No smoking on the COAR grounds. At the guesthouse smoking is only allowed in designated areas outside the guesthouse.
- As with most developing countries, care must be taken with hygiene and food. There are also special considerations in tropical climates from insect-borne diseases such as Zika and Dengue Fever.



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- Consult your own physician or medical travel specialist for medications, vaccinations, etc. General information can be found at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: <http://www.cdc.gov>
- COAR cannot tell you what is appropriate for your situation and comfort level.
- Emergency situations: travel insurance for emergency medical evacuation is required.
- **COVID:** Most places in El Salvador will require facemasks. Please bring enough for your entire stay.
- Common sense health precautions:
  - Do not eat raw fruits or vegetables, ice, or food from small vendors unless advised to do so by your guide. Most cooked food from reputable restaurants or preserved food from stores is acceptable; however, check with your guide. All food served at the guesthouse and COARCV cafeteria is washed and prepared hygienically.
  - Do not leave food in your luggage (bugs!)
  - Bring bug repellent in case flies or mosquitoes become annoying and to help prevent mosquito-borne illness.
  - Bring hand-sanitizers and disinfectant wipes for excursions
  - Check your shoes before putting them on (spiders and scorpions)

#### 4) Security

Violence from the war ended with the peace accords of 1992. However, as with most poor countries, criminal violence and other random crimes are prevalent.

- The guest house is behind a security fence and its walls adjoin COAR's, which are patrolled by security guards 24/7/365.
- The vehicle entry to the guest house and both vehicle entrances to COAR are guarded and the guards are asked to be very careful about anyone trying to enter after dark.
- Never leave the group while on excursions. Never leave the guesthouse grounds or the COAR grounds without consulting the COAR Peace Mission guide.
- Common sense security precautions:
  - Do not wear expensive jewelry (leave it at home) or wear flashy clothing that attracts attention to you as a wealthy tourist
  - Do not carry more cash than necessary
  - Be aware of your surroundings and belongings at all times
  - Do not take public transportation or otherwise take excursions separate from the group

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- Details of the security situation in El Salvador can be found at the U.S. Consulate's web site: <http://travel.state.gov>
- Do not give your phone number or US address to a Salvadoran unless you *want* to be contacted directly by that person and his/her family members in the US when you return.

### 5) *Guest house accommodations*

- Single rooms are provided. Double rooms are available upon request.
- Sheets, pillows, and a bath towel are provided.
- Each room has a bathroom with sink, toilet, and (cold) shower.
- Limited laundry facilities (for hand washing and clothesline to dry.) Iron and ironing board usually available.
- Drinking water provided in large dispensers; you can use them to fill your personal water bottles.
- Running water for showers and washing occasionally gets shut-off due to the general shortage of water in El Salvador. The guesthouse will store water in buckets, drums, and concrete tubs and use small basins for all washing when the water in the tap is off. You will love a bucket shower!

### 6) *Meals*

- All meals are included and depending on the itinerary will be from the COAR cafeteria, the guest house kitchen, or the occasional restaurant.
- Salvadoran food is heavy on corn tortillas, beans, rice, vegetables, and chicken. Vegetarians are usually easily accommodated, but no special meals for vegetarians can be guaranteed.
- No special meals for food allergies are guaranteed.

\*\*\*\*\*

### *Special Section – Table Manners – “Buen Provecho”*

- Salvadorans have *excellent* table manners:
  - They chew with their mouths closed.
  - They NEVER blow their noses at the table and NEVER into the table napkin. (They excuse themselves to another room to blow their noses.)
- Salvadorans *never* leave food on their plates:
  - If you aren't sure if you will like it, don't take much onto your plate or order it in a restaurant.
  - Do not disparage the food. It will offend the cooks and Salvadorans who take pride in their national cuisine.

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*If you are eating, Salvadorans will greet you with the phrase, “Buen provecho,”  
both approaching the table and leaving. Loosely translated it means,  
“Enjoy your meal”*

*In places of severe poverty, food is not taken for granted, thrown out, or criticized.  
They always thank God for what they have.*

\*\*\*\*\*

**7) Additional gifts and donations**

- Please do not make donations directly to the COAR Children’s Village:
  - They cannot issue a receipt valid for U.S. or Canadian tax deductions.
  - You should not carry more cash than is absolutely necessary.
  - It can encourage a false impression of your wealth, North Americans, COAR itself, and it can encourage a sense of dependency.
- Please do not give candy to the children. Too many people do this, and it has become a problem for their teeth!
- Please do not bring gifts like coloring books, etc.:
  - It is better for the economy of El Salvador that goods be purchased in the country.
  - When visitors bring goods it gives the employees, children, and surrounding community a false impression of wealth that COAR does not have.

***Your greatest gift is yourself, your presence, your solidarity.***

**8) What to pack?**

- El Salvador is HOT, and sometimes also rainy (during May - November, it rains heavily once or twice a day.) Pack light. Wear socially appropriate clothing - you will stand out no matter what you wear, and you will represent COAR and your country.
- Make sure to check latest airport security measures for what you can carry-on, etc.
- Packing guidelines:
  - Do not pack uncomfortable shoes, or overtly sexy clothing. Despite the heat Salvadorans rarely wear shorts or overtly sexy clothing. It will be interpreted as a sign of disrespect or an invitation for unwanted attention.
  - Pack a flashlight, bug spray, sunscreen, hat, personal water bottle
  - Pack light-weight pants (like khakis), capris, or skirts (not too mini)
  - Pack good walking shoes; have an alternative to open-toed sandals because there is lots of muck in the streets, especially when it rains.

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- Pack something nice for mass on Sunday (polo shirt and khakis are OK; ties or blazers unnecessary; women can wear nice pants).
- Pack an umbrella – lightweight and compact. Check current regulations regarding checking umbrellas (vs. carry-on). You will probably find it too hot to wear a raincoat.
- Pack swimsuit (reasonably modest - no string bikinis) (towels are provided by the guest house).
- Bring shampoo, toothpaste, etc. - COAR has a limited supply of the basics in case you forget, but there is no place to buy these near COAR.
- Pack light - the only clothes storage in the guest house is a small closet for hanging clothes. You will be living out of your suitcase for most of the time.
- SHORTS AND SANDALS – the eternal struggle: despite the heat Salvadorans rarely wear shorts or sandals. Shorts may be worn at the guest house, *only*. Sandals are appropriate but not always practical for the excursions.

#### 9) *Social media, photos, etc.*

- You are welcome to take pictures and videos for personal use. Please show courtesy by asking people if you may take their picture. However, all the internos are used to pictures – they love it.
- ***Please DO NOT POST ON SOCIAL MEDIA*** any pictures or identifying stories of the COAR children or staff without the permission of the COAR Peace Mission guide. Some pictures or the child's circumstances may make it humiliating or dangerous to post to social media.
- We ask that you agree to let us take pictures of you at any time. However, we won't identify you without your permission.

#### 10) *Itinerary*

- We will develop the daily itinerary as we receive applications with dates.
- Most weekday mornings we will be teaching English in the high school.
- Most weekday afternoons and weekends we will visit sites important to COAR's history, El Salvador, or other interesting sites. Priority will be given to these sites, and we will try to make sure every visitor has a chance to visit them at least once:

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### **St. Romero's Residence at Divina Providencia - San Salvador**

Saint Romero was assassinated while saying mass at the convent chapel on the grounds where he lived. His residence is a museum of his personal effects. There is a small gift shop.

### **UCA/Museum of the Jesuit Martyrs, their housekeeper, and her daughter - San Salvador**

The UCA (University of Central America) has a small, lovely campus in San Salvador. The residence where the six Jesuits, their housekeeper, and her daughter were murdered in 1989 is maintained as a museum. The campus chapel also contains compelling art inspired by these events. There is a place to buy posters at the museum.

### **Shrine of the Four Church Women – near San Pedro Nonualco**

The site where the bodies of the four North American Churchwomen, murdered in December 1980, were found is located in a lovely rural area about a 2-hour drive from COAR. There is a small chapel.

### **La Libertad and Beaches**

The coastal city of La Libertad is approximately 30 minutes from COAR. While famous as a surfing destination, it is dangerous for swimming. After a tour of the town, we might visit a beach club up the coast to experience the beautiful beaches of El Salvador and the restaurants that overlook them. This is not frivolous. Salvadorans are proud of their country's beauty, and it informs a comprehensive picture of the opportunities and challenges that our COAR children face when they enter into their economy as adult citizens.

### **Campo visit and mass**

“Campo” means country, or countryside. We will travel to see the types of impoverished towns and neighborhoods that the COAR children come from. This may be either in the hillside towns served currently or historically by the Cleveland Latin American Mission Team (La Libertad, Teotepeque, Chiltiupán) or neighborhoods near Zaragoza, depending on how the agenda develops.

### **Romero's Tomb at the Cathedral - San Salvador**

Saint Romero is buried in a crypt under the Cathedral in the heart of downtown San Salvador. Traffic in the capital can be quite congested. Therefore, it is usually best to visit on Sunday when there is less traffic.

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<u>Main Sites:</u>	<u>Drive times (approx):</u>	<u>Minutes:</u>
✦ San Salvador Airport (SAL)	Airport – La Libertad	60
✦ San Pedro Nonualco – Chapel of 4 Churchwomen	La Libertad – COAR	30
✦ <b>Zaragoza – COAR Children’s Village</b>	COAR – San Salvador (central)	30
	La Libertad – Teotepeque	45
<u>In the city of San Salvador:</u>	Teotepeque – Chiltiupán (no direct route)	45
✦ University of Central America (UCA)	San Salvador – San Pedro Nonualco	90
✦ Cathedral and Romero tomb		
✦ Romero home and museum		
<u>Cleveland parishes:</u>	La Libertad – San Pedro Nonualco	60
✦ Teotepeque		
✦ Chiltiupán		
✦ La Libertad		

## IV. COAR Open House Application

***Instructions:***

- Print, sign (or have your parent or guardian sign) the completed release form,
  - Email it to: [info@coarpeacemission.org](mailto:info@coarpeacemission.org)
  - Mail original signatures to:  
COAR Peace Mission  
28700 Euclid Ave  
Wickliffe, OH 44092
  
- If any required information is left blank, or if you cannot answer “yes” to any terms of the release information, you may be ineligible to travel to COAR. Please contact our office with any questions or concerns.

***1. Your Personal Information (all fields required)***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Passport number: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Passport expiration date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address Line 1: \_\_\_\_\_

Address Line 2: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State/Prov , Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Work/day Phone (if none, write “none”): \_\_\_\_\_

Home/evening Phone (if none, write “none”): \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone (if none, write “none”): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

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Travel Dates: \_\_\_\_\_

*If known at this time:*

Airline, flight number, arrival: \_\_\_\_\_

Airline, flight number, departure: \_\_\_\_\_

***2. Emergency Contact Information (\* required)***

Emergency Contact Full Name\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to you\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Work/day Phone (if none, write “none”)\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Home/evening Phone (if none, write “none”)\*: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone (if none, write “none”)\*: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional information (if necessary):



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**3. Release Form – COAR Peace Mission (\* required)**

Yes	No	<i>Place a check mark in either the Yes or No box for each item*</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I voluntarily join the trip to El Salvador, named above. In that capacity, I will be traveling to El Salvador, volunteering at COAR Children's Village and visiting pertinent sites.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I grant to COAR Peace Mission, COAR Children's Village, and the Archdiocese of San Salvador, its representatives and employees the right to take photographs or videos of me and my property in connection with my visit to COAR, including preparation for the trip, while in El Salvador, and events afterward and further authorize them and their assigns and transferees to copyright, use, and publish the same in print and/or electronically.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I agree that COAR Peace Mission, COAR Children's Village, and the Archdiocese of San Salvador, may use such photographs and videos of me with or without my name for any lawful purpose, including for example such purposes as publicity, illustration, advertising, and web content.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I grant to COAR Peace Mission, COAR Children's Village, and the Archdiocese of San Salvador, its representatives and employees the right to use any photos or videos that I take and give to them for any purpose such as publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content, with or without attribution.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I understand that the COAR children are minors. As such, I will NOT publish in any way (social media, web sites, newsletters, etc.) any photos or videos of the children taken at COARCV. Note: photos or videos taken at the COARCV school or outside of COARCV may be used by me in a way that is respectful of the subject's dignity & privacy.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I understand that if I choose to share my personal information (e-mail, phone number, address, social media) with anyone in El Salvador, including the COAR children and staff, I am inviting them to contact me, stay in contact with me, and pass on my contact information to others.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I recognize and assume all risks of travel to, from, and within El Salvador, a country with extreme poverty and crime and often very difficult conditions.

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Yes	No	<i>Place a check mark in either the Yes or No box for each item*</i>
		On behalf of myself, my family, heirs, representatives, executors, administrators and all other persons making any claim by any reason of any relationship to me, I hereby release and hold harmless COAR Peace Mission, the Archdiocese of San Salvador, COAR Children's Village, and any of their affiliates, subdivisions, officers, directors, trustees, teachers, employees, advisors, agents and representatives from any claims, damages, costs, including attorney fees, or other liabilities resulting from personal injury, property damage, or other losses of any kind in any way connected with participation in this program.
		I understand that sponsoring organizations take no responsibility for my medical care or the availability of medical services during this trip.
		I understand that if my behavior endangers the children or staff of COAR, my group, or myself, or if my behavior is disruptive to the group or to COAR, as determined by the COAR Peace Mission or COAR Children's Village staff, I may be asked to leave COAR and El Salvador at my own expense. I understand that if my minor child is asked to leave, he/she will be accompanied by an adult, also at my expense.
		<p><b><i>(For 18 and over)</i></b>            I have attended training to recognize and prevent child abuse:</p> <p>Name (e.g.: "Virtus"): _____</p> <p>Date: _____</p> <p>Location (e.g. Boy Scout Troop #324, Cleveland Heights, OH):            _____</p>
		<p><b><i>(For 18 and over)</i></b>            I have attached a certificate or other proof of child abuse prevention training.</p>

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**Visitor Agreement for COAR Children’s Village**  
**A component of the Institutional Regulations of COAR-CV**

COAR-CV has instituted a Zero-Tolerance Policy regarding the violation of child & teen rights.

*[This is a translation of the COARCV release form required of all volunteers and visitors.]*

I, thereby, promise to follow the current policies documented below:

Yes	No	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Respect the visitation schedule established by the institution;</li> <li>➤ Present appropriate identification upon entering the installation;</li> <li>➤ Check-in with the administration or ask the guards to inform the housemothers in the houses that I intend to visit that I have arrived;</li> <li>➤ Accept that the visit will be directly or indirectly supervised by COAR-CV staff;</li> <li>➤ Visit with the children in a visible location, preferably, the Casa Comunal or the Gazebos.</li> <li>➤ Maintain the appropriate personal space with each child or teen;</li> <li>➤ Avoid using any type of inappropriate, dishonest, denigrating, or abusive language or gesture;</li> <li>➤ Dress appropriately to the nature of the institution which means not revealing inappropriate cleavage or revealing clothing;</li> <li>➤ Avoid lending cellphones, Ipods, or any electronic devices to the kids; this also applies to making cash loans or loans of any item of value to any of the kids or teens at COARCV. Any infraction of this policy will bar your bringing a cellphone with you to your next visit.</li> <li>➤ In the event that a child or teen behaves in front of you in a seductive manner, withdraw from their presence, do not respond to that behavior in any way, and report that behavior to the appropriate authorities;</li> <li>➤ Care for and respect the property and buildings on the grounds of COAR. Assist in cleaning up after your visit by placing trash in the appropriate receptacles.</li> <li>➤ Respect the Communication Policies of the institution regarding communication with the children residing at COARCV: Outside communication with the children should go through the director or social worker during normal business hours. It is not permitted for children to receive phone calls placed to the cell phones belonging to their housemothers.</li> </ul>

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Yes	No	
		<p>I agree to refrain from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Being found in a state of inebriation or under the influence of any illicit drug;</li> <li>➤ Bringing into COAR any type of weapon</li> <li>➤ Bringing into COAR alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or any substance that could be harmful to the health of the children and teen residents;</li> <li>➤ Making any improper or violent behavior on the grounds of COARCV;</li> <li>➤ Publishing through any media videos or pictures showing the faces of the children and teen residents of COARCV;</li> <li>➤ Asking any of the children about their past (family) history;</li> <li>➤ Giving any object of value including cell phones, Ipods, jewelry, or money to the children and teens;</li> <li>➤ Entering any residence without authorization;</li> <li>➤ Mistreat, abuse sexually / physically / emotionally any of the children or teens;</li> <li>➤ Participating in any sexual activity with the children or teens including exposing them to pornographic material;</li> <li>➤ Walking arm-in-arm, hugging, kissing, touching or carrying any of the children or teens in a way that is inappropriate or lacking cultural sensitivity;</li> <li>➤ Making sexual jokes or innuendo or behaving in a provocative way towards any member of the COAR community;</li> <li>➤ Disrespecting or encouraging others to disrespect any of the authorities at COARCV.</li> </ul>
		<p>I am aware of the obligation of the Institution to report any infraction of this policy to the appropriate authorities. Further, I will abide by the sanctions imposed due to any infraction such as temporary or permanent suspension of visitation rights.</p> <p><i>“Every person possesses the same Human Dignity: when you trample on other people’s dignity, you are trampling on your own” (Pope Francis: 2014)</i></p>

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**4. Medical Information (\* required)**

***Privacy Statement:***

COAR understands that privacy concerning personal medical information is important. We will make every effort to keep this information confidential.

Travel Insurance Company name: \* \_\_\_\_\_

Travel Insurance policy number: \* \_\_\_\_\_

Travel Insurance authorization contact phone number: \* \_\_\_\_\_

Medical Insurance Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Policy Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Authorization Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Physician Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Primary Physician Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

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*A. Describe any existing medical condition or limitations (if none, write "none"):*

*B. List all prescription medications you are currently taking, or may require, and the condition(s) for which they are required (if none, write "none"):*

*C. List any allergies, especially to drugs or insects (if none, write "none"):*

*D. List recent immunizations (if none, write "none"):*

Date of last Tetanus Booster \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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**5. Medical Releases (\* required)**

<b>5.a Medical Release to Treat</b>		
Yes	No	<i>Place a check mark in either the Yes or No box for each item*</i>
		<p>If we are unable to reach your designated emergency contact, <b><i>you must choose someone who will be with us in El Salvador [default: Susan Barnish].</i></b></p> <p><b><i>For minor children:</i></b> I authorize:</p> <p>_____ to make decisions regarding my minor child regarding admittance to any hospital or medical facility for diagnosis and treatment. He/she may request and authorize physicians, dentists, staff, technicians, or nurses, to perform any diagnostic procedures, treatment procedures, operative procedures and x-ray treatment. I have not been given a guarantee as to the results of examination or treatment. I authorize the hospital or medical facility to dispose of any specimen or tissue taken.</p> <p><b><i>For adults:</i></b> If I am unconscious or otherwise unable to participate in my treatment I authorize:</p> <p>_____ to make decisions regarding admittance to any hospital or medical facility for diagnosis and treatment. He/she may request and authorize physicians, dentists, and staff, technicians or nurses, to perform any diagnostic procedures, treatment procedures, operative procedures and x-ray treatment. I have not been given a guarantee as to the results of examination or treatment. I authorize the hospital or medical facility to dispose of any specimen or tissue taken.</p>

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<b>5.b. Medical Risk Release</b>		
<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Place a check mark in either the Yes or No box for each item*</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I have completed the immunization and medical information portion of this release accurately and completely.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I understand that travel to El Salvador may expose me to several diseases endemic to that region, including, but not limited to: dengue fever, chikungunya, malaria, and zika virus. I understand that COAR Peace Mission and COAR Children’s Village cannot protect me from exposure to these diseases or offer effective treatment. I have consulted my own health professional about the risk of exposure to diseases, including, but not limited to: the possibility of transmitting these diseases to others upon my return, the risks to pregnancy, and the risks to my own health. I take responsibility for my decision to visit El Salvador fully cognizant of these risks.



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**6. General Understandings (\* required)**

Yes	No	<i>Place a check mark in either the Yes or No box for each item to indicate that you understand the conditions you are likely to encounter on this trip. Please discuss any questions or concerns about these items with your group leader.*</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I understand that travel in El Salvador may be difficult and uncomfortable, hot, dusty, and with unexpected delays; that COAR and other sites require walking and climbing; that electricity at COAR and excursion sites is limited and unreliable. I understand that food availability and preparation is limited in El Salvador and special dietary needs or restrictions (e.g.: vegetarianism, peanut allergies) may not be accommodated. I feel that my general physical health is sufficient for this trip.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I understand that COAR exists to serve the best needs of impoverished children. I want to participate in COAR's mission by respecting the children's schedule, honoring any requests made by the housemothers, teachers, or staff regarding the well-being of COAR, and bringing any concerns about my understanding of these requests to my group leader.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I understand that El Salvador has a tragic and complex past, through which many people I meet will have lived and suffered. I will ask any questions about that time and receive the answers humbly and with the understanding that I may not have the language ability or experience to judge the actions or opinions of those Salvadorans who share their experiences with me.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I understand that the needs of my group must be respected and I will follow the established schedule, participate in group activities and reflection times, and be considerate of my fellow-travelers.
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	I understand that if my behavior endangers the children or staff of COAR or my group I may be asked to leave COAR and El Salvador at my own expense.

***7. General Questions***

*Please take a moment to consider these four (4) questions. The answers need not be long, but we hope they will be well-considered so that your experience at COAR will be as rich as possible:*

- A. What do you understand to be the purpose of your visit to COAR?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. What are you curious about regarding COAR, El Salvador, the developing world, or the poor?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- C. What do you feel you can bring to fellow-travelers in this group and what do you hope to gain from the group?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- D. How do you plan to follow-up your experience at COAR?

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I have carefully reviewed the foregoing and this form in its entirety, and by signing below agree to its terms with full understanding of its meaning and effect.

Signature of participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of parent or guardian : \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***Parent or Guardian Information:***

Print name of parent or guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Address, Street, City, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail or other contact information: \_\_\_\_\_

***Return signed original to:***  
COAR Peace Mission  
28700 Euclid Ave  
Wickliffe, OH 44092-2585