

Support Development

One essential component of short-term mission projects is raising support. There are many people who desire to become involved in partnering with you, but they are not always certain how they can help. You must approach the process of support development with an attitude of confidence that what you are doing is Biblical and pleasing to God. We pray that you will accept with confidence that it is appropriate for those in the Lord's work to be supported, and it is also right to ask others to support you in the Lord's work. Several Scriptures are listed that we pray will help you with this process:

Philippians 4: 10 - 19 Support for Paul

Luke 8: 1 - 3 Financing in Jesus' Ministry

I Chronicles 29: 10 - 16 David's Prayer

Acts 20: 35 The Blessing of Giving

Your church, family, and friends can support you in several different ways. They can support you spiritually by praying. Prayer, by far, is the most important support you will receive. It will become the foundation on which other support is built. Prayer will be your greatest need, as well as your greatest blessing.

10 Ways Your Church, Family, and Friends Can Offer Support

- Provide for some of your personal expenses
 - Provide Supplies for the project
 - Form a Prayer Support Team
- Hold a commissioning service to bless and encourage you before the project
 - Write notes of encouragement which you will open each day of your trip
 - Go with you to the airport to see you off
 - Hold a short prayer just before you board the plane
- Give you a small package with items of encouragement - poems, note cards, special Scriptures
 - Welcome you home as you arrive at the airport
 - Allow you to share your experience

In addition to these ideas, there are many ways that you will find that your friends and family will want to partner with you and offer you support before, during, and after your mission project.

Support Letters

On the following pages you will find an example letter for seeking support, that may be used as a guideline in developing your personal support letter. Be specific in sharing details about your decision to go on a short-term mission project, as well as where you will be going. Make your letter personal and spiritual. Mention your financial need and where to send support. Provide clear instructions on how checks should be written.

You should enclose a stamped, addressed return envelope to where the money needs to be sent. You should also list any specific prayer needs that you may want your partners to pray for you.