

## **MAKING THE MOST OF YOUR MISSION TRIP**

### **Ideas for Building Your Support Team**

One of the most important things you can do as you prepare for your Mission Trip is to build a support team around you. While many people might think this is just about raising funds, it's so much more. It's an opportunity to go deeper and think of this as building a support team that will work along side of you – praying for you and encouraging you every step of the way. From the moment you begin your preparations, and right through the completion of your Mission Journey, the idea is to involve as many people in your mission experience as possible.

You will need to enlist Prayer Supporters, and, if you are unable to pay for the complete costs of your trip, you will also need to enlist Financial Contributors. One of the most effective and proven methods to raise individual funds is to write a letter asking for support. When sending your letter, don't think in terms of mass distribution; rather send it selectively to friends and family, co-workers/co-students, and church members you know personally. You will find a sample letter included in this guide.

As you seek people to be on your support team, don't just look for those whom you think will give money. Remember, if the prayer support is in place, everything else – including finances – will fall into place.

As you begin, prepare a list of about 100 names for sending your support team letter. Remember that it's okay to have at least 50% of your names be non-Long Hollow Baptist Church members. Think about friends, relatives, work associates, neighbors, Christian contacts, and even non-Christians. Don't be surprised if God opens a door of witness as you share your excitement about being involved in God's adventure. God may also use you to encourage others to consider their involvement in church and missions!

As people respond to your letter, be sure and list their names on your **My Support Team** page. Make sure you record all the names and responses so you can thank your support team and send them a report after your Mission Trip.

## **My Support Team**

Prayers Supporters:

Financial Contributors: