



one
WEEK
of your life
can change
his forever

BMDMI
MORE THAN MEDICINE



why is this necessary?

Life is Truly Hard for Many

It's hard to come face-to-face with the fact that half of the world's population struggles to exist on the equivalent of \$2 day or less. But it is a reality for many people – and many of them live closer than we imagine. With billions living in poverty, we can't stand by and hope it will get better on its own. We are called to serve or support those that do.

Can I Really Help?

While one person cannot change the whole world, many of us working together can make a HUGE difference in the lives of those in great need. At BMDMI, our heart is to share the love of Jesus and meet the physical needs of the poor living in Central America.

We've been sending volunteers to Honduras and Nicaragua to be the hands and feet of Christ for many years. But we can't do it alone; we need and want your help! We need all kinds of folks - medical professionals, dentists, teachers, preachers, cooks, support workers, children's workers, construction workers and many more.

The Big Question!

Would you be willing to give a week of your life to go to Honduras or Nicaragua on one of our Short-term Mission teams?

If so, read on! You will bless many and be blessed yourself.



what all does the team do in the village?

Each mission team is assigned a village in which to serve. While in the village, team members stay busy providing a variety of ministries and services, including:



- Medical clinic
- Dental clinic
- Eyeglass clinic
- Pharmacy
- Adult evangelism
- Children's ministry
- Clothing & shoe distribution
- Food distribution
- Team Kitchen
- Construction
- Veterinary ministry

On average, each BMDMI mission team has 45-55 members and will work with 2,000-3,000 villagers!

what is the schedule like?

Day 1: Fly to Central America with your team and then spend the night at the Mission Home in the capital city

Day 2: Travel to your assigned village; set up the various ministries and programs and get ready to begin! Attend an evening worship service.

Day 3: First full day of service in your assigned village! You'll be working from about 7:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. After dinner, you'll join the people of the village for evening worship.

Day 4: Same as Day 3

Day 5: Same as Day 4

Day 6: Travel back to the Mission Home in the capital city; visit the Children's Home and/or School.

Day 7: Sightseeing and souvenir shopping in the capital city

Day 8: Fly back to the States with your team.

who is BMDMI?

Baptist Medical & Dental Mission International

is a Christian non-profit organization that has been serving the physical and spiritual needs of the poor for the past 38 years. Our headquarters is located in Hattiesburg, Mississippi and our ministry focuses on the Central American countries of Honduras and Nicaragua.

BMDMI is made up of volunteers just like you. And of course we have staff and missionaries to help coordinate all the mission work.

Do I Have to be Baptist to Participate?

By no means. We welcome the involvement of our Christian brothers and sisters from denominations of like faith. At the back of this brochure you will find our doctrinal statements to see what we believe and teach.

Does it Cost Anything to Go on a Team?

Yes. Each team member pays his/her own expenses including your airfare, certain team expenses and the BMDMI team fee. The total cost per team varies from team to team, depending on your place of departure as well as miscellaneous team expenses designated by the Team Captain.

In general, each team member can expect to pay between \$1,700 - \$2,000. This covers all of your travel, accommodations and meals while you're in Central America. We also have full-time staff and missionaries on the field to take care of any emergency that might arise. You're in good hands!

How Do I Sign up?

If you know which team you'd like to go with, just contact the Team Captain directly to get an application form and see what else you need to do. Or you may look at the schedule of teams located on our website at www.bmdmi.org. You may click on the date of any listed team to see additional information and/or contact the Team Captain.

If you need some help finding a team, just contact us at our office in Hattiesburg; we'd love to help you. Our contact info is located on the back of this brochure.

what is expected of each team member?

The primary purpose of our Mission is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As a BMDMI team member you must:

- **Profess Christ as your personal Savior**
- **Be willing to support the doctrinal beliefs of BMDMI while on the field**
- **Be willing to serve where needed on the team**
- **Be willing to abide by the BMDMI dress code (see next page)**
- **Refrain from the use of tobacco products, alcohol or profanity while on the mission trip (including the flights to and from the field)**
- **Be modest and Christ-like in your behavior with other team members and people of Honduras and Nicaragua**
- **Complete a BMDMI team application and sign our covenant and release forms**

Please know that BMDMI reserves the right decline any application for team membership for any reason, but not limited to, theological differences or personal behavior/appearance deemed incompatible with its ministry and testimony. BMDMI will arrange for the early return (at the team member's expense) to the United States of any team member that does not adhere to each of these requirements.

for doctors, nurses, dentists, pharmacists & veterinarians...

If you are a doctor, dentist, nurse, pharmacist or veterinarian and you will be using these skills on the mission field, you must also submit the following documents to your Team Captain no later than 12 weeks prior to the mission trip:

- **A copy of your professional diploma**
- **A copy of your CURRENT annual license**
- **A clear copy of your passport's information page**
(your passport photo's facial features must be clear)

Only those professionals for whom BMDMI has obtained permits from the governments of Nicaragua or Honduras will be allowed to practice on the mission field. It is imperative that you submit these requested documents (and perhaps others as requested) in the time frame stated above.

what am I allowed to wear while on the trip?

Most Christians living in the remote villages of Honduras and Nicaragua dress very conservatively. In an effort to “become all things to all people,” (1 Cor. 9:22) BMDMI requires team members to dress in a manner that honors the culture/style of these believers. Therefore, you must adhere to the following requirements.

Ladies: While in the village (as well as traveling to and from the village on the mission bus), you must wear a knee-length dress or skirt. Tops may be sleeveless but no “spaghetti straps.” The days you fly down and back, as well as the day you spend sightseeing in town, you may wear pants or capris. All clothing should be modest and free of any questionable designs.

Men: You must wear long pants at all times when outside the privacy of your bedroom in the village and at the Mission Home. T-shirts are fine, though anyone preaching at a church service should wear a shirt with a collar at that time. All clothing should be modest and free of any questionable designs.

Exceptions:

- If pre-approved by your Team Captain, “scrubs” may be worn by those working in the clinics and the pharmacy during clinic hours. (However, ladies must change back into a skirt/dress before attending the evening worship service.)
- Men and women may wear sleeping shorts or pajamas while in the privacy of their sleeping quarters in the village and in their bedrooms at the Mission Home.

Additional Suggestions: Clothes should be comfortable, cool and casual. Shoes should be chosen for comfort and suitability for walking on rough terrain. A long bathrobe will be helpful when going to and from the showers. You will need to pack sufficient clothing for the duration of your trip as you will not have access to laundry facilities.

what should I pack?

- A sweater or light jacket for cool evenings
- Insect repellent and/or mosquito netting
- Moist towelettes for quick cleaning
- Antibacterial hand gel
- Shower shoes, small mirror, toiletries, towels, washcloths
- Two flat sheets, pillow, blanket or sleeping bag
- Personal medications
- A roll of toilet tissue in case of emergency
- Small can of Lysol
- Flashlight with batteries
- Small umbrella or compact rain gear
- Tape for closing souvenir boxes
- Ear plugs
- Camera
- Copy of your passport in your suitcase

are there things I shouldn't take?

We strongly suggest you do not bring the following items. BMDMI will not be responsible for any losses or damage to the following:

- ✘** Expensive or flashy jewelry. Consider leaving your diamond jewelry at home.
- ✘** Any piercing jewelry other than modest earrings. *Only ladies may wear earrings.*
- ✘** Too much money. Ask your Team Captain how much you should bring and bring it in 1s, 5s and 10s.
- ✘** Laptops, MP3 players or other electronic equipment.

things you must know...

Following is miscellaneous information that you need to know as you prepare for the trip. Please read over these carefully and contact your Team Captain or our Hattiesburg Office if you have any questions.

- You must have a valid passport that will not expire within SIX months of your scheduled mission trip. The airlines will not allow you to fly without this six-month validity standing on your passport. You may apply for a passport at the U.S. Postal office in your area or by visiting the U.S. Postal website at www.usps.com
- Pregnant women, people with chronic medical problems, and those who have recently had surgery should not participate on a team because of the difficult traveling conditions and village terrain.
- Check with your physician to see if he/she recommends any vaccinations or immunizations. The Mission does not require any inoculations at this time though we do encourage you to be up-to-date on your tetanus vaccination. Team members traveling November – April are encouraged to have a flu shot at least 6 weeks prior to departure.



what's the weather like?

The climate in Honduras is usually very warm in the day but cool in the evenings, especially if it rains. In Nicaragua, it is usually very hot during the day and may be cool in the evenings. Be sure to bring a sweater or light jacket for the evenings. The hottest months in both countries are March-May and the rainy (cooler) season normally begins in June and lasts through the end of the year.

do I have to speak spanish?

The official language in Central America is Spanish. The Mission will provide translators to accompany your team, so you don't have to speak Spanish yourself.

if I can't go, how can I help?

There is always much to be done before the trip, e.g. gathering and packing supplies. Check with the Team Captain to see how you might be involved. We also covet your prayers for our teams, that they would have safe travel and be effective in their ministry.

You can also consider making a donation to:

- Help pay for a team member who is willing to go but doesn't have the funds
- Help support a child at one of BMDMI's children's home
- Help support "Where Needed Most" within the Mission

To support a particular team or team member, contact the Team Captain. If you're interested in supporting the Mission itself, please contact our home office in Mississippi. You'll find the contact info on the back of this brochure.



"And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and **preaching** the gospel of the kingdom, and **healing** every sickness and every disease among the people."

Matthew 9:35

Doctrinal Statement

1) The Inspiration of the Bible: We believe the Bible is the verbally inspired Word of God. (Jer. 30:2, II Timothy 3:16, II Peter 1:20,21)

2) The Person of God: We believe God is supreme in His person, eternal in His being, absolute in His attributes, glorious in His perfection. We believe in the Trinity. (Gen. 1:1, Isa. 6:1, Deut. 6:4, Matt. 6:9)

3) The Person of Jesus Christ: We believe in the virgin birth of Christ, His deity and sinless life, His vicarious death, His bodily resurrection, and in His personal, premillennial return. (Matt. 1:18,20, II Cor. 5:21, I Cor. 15:3-4)

4) The Person of the Holy Spirit: We believe the Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Godhead. We believe that He executes the plan of God for our conviction and salvation. From the time of conversion, the Holy Spirit resides in the body of the believer and empowers him/her for His service. (Col. 2:9, Matt. 10:16, John 14:16)

5) The Fall of Man: We believe that man was created in the image of God and by choice fell into sin and death. Hence, every person is sinful and under condemnation to eternal judgment. (Gen. 2:16, Gen. 3:1,7, Rom. 5:6,11)

6) The Salvation of Sinners: We believe that the salvation of sinners is wholly of grace, and that Jesus Christ is the only way of salvation. (Eph. 2:8,9, John 3:16, John 5:24, John 3:36)

7) The Freeness of Salvation: We believe that the blessings of salvation are made free by the Gospel to all who repent of their sins and accept Christ as their personal Lord and Savior, and that nothing prevents the salvation of the greatest sinner but his own inherent depravity and voluntary rejection of the Gospel. (Rom. 3:24, Eph. 2:8,10, Titus 3:5)

8) The Security of the Believer: We believe that those who receive Jesus Christ as their Savior are eternally secure. Our security rests on the finished work of Jesus Christ. As a result, we have assurance. (II Tim. 1:12, Rom. 8:35,39)

9) The Doctrine of the Church: We believe that the visible church is a congregation of baptized believers, practicing New Testament principles, believing its doctrine, observing its ordinances, and exercising its autonomy. (Matt. 16:18, Eph. 3:10,11, I Cor. 3:11)

10) The Doctrine of Heaven and Hell: We believe in the eternal blessedness of the saved in Heaven and the eternal punishment of the lost in Hell. (I Thes. 4:13, John 14:1,6, Matt. 25:31,46, Rev. 20:10,15)

Team Activities Department



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