



MERCY MINISTRIES FOUNDATION

TEAM INFORMATION SHEET

Financial Information:

1. **Budget:** At least \$12 U.S. per person per day is required for food and lodging. This amount will also enable you to stay in an inexpensive, though comfortable guesthouse and eat Thai food. Hotels or resorts would be additional. This does not include transportation within the country nor other incidental costs. We ask for \$10 U.S. per person per day to cover our costs for transportation, food and incidentals that MMF provides to visitors.
2. **Outreach Host & Translators:** Please be prepared to pay for the food and travel costs of one or two helpers/interpreters during your outreach. This would include a Thai translator and possibly a hilltribe translator. A donation for the translator, in addition to the payment for his expenses would be expected, especially if he or she is with you for a number of days. Cost of helpers and translators is about 150 – 200 baht/day.
3. **Banking/Currency:** The current approximate exchange rate for the US dollar is around 36 baht to \$1. ATM's are available. You must have your passport with you to cash in travelers checks.

Visas:

Contact your nearest Thai consulate about the types of visas you will need to obtain. The condition varies for different nationalities.

Climate, Dress and Appearance

Thailand's climate is tropical with three seasons - hot (March to May), rainy (June to Oct.) and cool (Nov to Feb). You will want to wear light cotton clothing most of the time. Please bring clothes that are modest and neat, i.e. no sleeveless shirts or dresses. You cannot wear shorts in public (walking shorts acceptable). Please bring some casual clothes and a set of work clothes. Hair is also an important issue, i.e. ponytails for men are unacceptable as are other radical cuts like mohawks, etc.

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Gifts

The Thai pastors, village chiefs and team hosts appreciate a small gift from another country. T-shirts with country names on them, coffee mugs, postcards, key rings and other mementoes will brighten the day of the people who work with you. Copies of a team photo to use as a thank you card would also be appropriate.

Miscellaneous

1. Bring a bed mat or something to sleep on and a sleeping bag if you will be working in the villages. In the villages you will be sleeping on bamboo floors or possibly the ground. The villages get cold at night.
2. At present there are no required vaccinations that you will need to have to enter this country. Check with your local health department. Our recommendations are:
 - a) Hepatitis A and B
 - b) Typhoid
 - c) Tetanus

The Lord bless you and guide you!