

VOLUNTEER AGREEMENT

Assumption of Risk and General Release

THIS IS A LEGAL DOCUMENT – READ CAREFULLY BEFORE SIGNING

Mission and Purpose of Program Participation: The mission of Richmond Global Health Alliance (RGHA) is to support, financially and logistically, the global health and international service efforts by faculty, students, and alumni of the University of Richmond and Virginia Commonwealth University and our strategic partners. As a participant in RGHA education and service activities including without limitation, any international travel (the Program), I _____, hereby voluntarily agree to further this mission and willingly participate in these service and education efforts. My signature below confirms my understanding and agreement with the following:

Risks, Health and Safety: I understand that, although the RGHA has made reasonable efforts to assure my safety while volunteering in the Program, there are unavoidable risks involved in travel overseas. I therefore understand that there is no guarantee that the Program is free of risk of personal injury or property damage or loss. These risks include but are not limited to injury, including sickness or death to me; damage or loss to my property; and general risks associated with visiting a foreign country with different laws, regulations, and medical care, including exposure to different diseases or other natural, health, criminal, weather, and cultural risks – any of which may occur as a result of my participation in the Program, or may occur due to airline and ground travel associated with my participation in the Program. I understand that I am responsible for obtaining any recommended immunizations before traveling to my destination. I carry valid and current medical insurance, and will travel with my insurance card. RGHA has no responsibility for any medical expenses I may incur. I will take every precaution to safeguard my health and safety and to protect my personal belongings from damage or theft. I acknowledge that RGHA recommends I never travel alone, particularly at night. I understand that RGHA is not responsible for matters that are beyond its control, and that it cannot warrant the safety or convenience of the circumstances under which I will be traveling, living, or working.

Release of Claims: I hereby assume all risks for any injury surrounding my participation in the Program, and to the fullest extent allowed by law I release RGHA, its officers, board members, and other volunteers from any and all liabilities, claims, or demands for damages for personal injury, disability, death, property damage, or other loss of any kind that I may sustain as a result of my participation in the Program. I further agree to indemnify and hold harmless RGHA, its officers, board members, and volunteers from any and all loss, liability, damage, or costs that it or they may incur as a result of my participation in the Program or arising from any of my acts or omissions.

Expectations for Exemplary Conduct: I understand that each foreign country has its own laws and standards of acceptable conduct, including those related to dress, manners, morals, politics, drug use, and behavior. I recognize that behavior that violates those laws or standards could harm RGHA's relations with those countries and the institutions therein, as well as my own health and safety. I will become informed of and abide by all such laws and standards for each country to or through which I will travel during my participation in the Program. I agree to conduct myself at all times in a respectful, courteous, cooperative, helpful, friendly, fun, enthusiastic, caring, safe, and responsible manner. My participation in the Program may be terminated at any time if I fail to comply with conduct expectations.

Photo Release: I grant RGHA permission to photograph, videotape, or otherwise record my participation in the Program, and to use, edit, sell or distribute any such images for the promotion of RGHA. I also grant permission to RGHA to use, edit, sell or distribute any images that I may obtain during the Program and share with RGHA.

Binding Effect, Construction and Forum: I certify that I am age 18 or older, and acknowledge that this contract will bind members of my family, my spouse, heirs, assigns, and personal representative. This contract will be construed under the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia, which will be the forum for any lawsuits filed under or incident to this agreement or to the Program.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Email: _____

RGHA Rep Signature: _____

Cell: _____

Signature: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Emergency Contact Number: _____

Emergency Contact Email: _____



Richmond Global Health Alliance



EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE HEALTH AND SAFETY PLAN

This document will detail our plans and policies regarding any individual or group emergencies that may occur while traveling abroad, and preparations to avoid or mitigate same.

Release Form and Travel Insurance

Based on the underlying risk in traveling abroad and the nature of medical mission work in isolated regions of Peru, we require all participants to sign a release form acknowledging the risks inherent in the trip. Additionally, all participants must have health and travel insurance that, at minimum, covers basic medical care and overseas emergency evacuation. The purpose of this requirement is to ensure our ability to organize and provide all appropriate care in the event of an emergency.

Safety

All participants are responsible for taking all reasonable steps to ensure their safety while participating in RGHA activities. All participants will execute a participation agreement and release. During the trip, all participants agree to follow directions by the RGHA leadership. Given the remote nature of our work and limited resources, individual responsibility for safety and prevention is essential to avoiding emergency events. In the event of violations of the trip rules or engaging in unsafe activities, the participant(s) may be removed from further participation in the trip. RGHA will work to arrange for transportation to Lima and suitable accommodations. All expenses associated with an expulsion are the responsibility of the participant, and must be reimbursed by the participant, to include any additional expenses incurred by other RGHA participants as a result of the expelled participant's actions. No refund of trip expenses will be provided.

Smart Traveler Enrollment Program (STEP)

The RGHA leadership will provide information about our trip, including the identity and travel plans of all US citizens/nationals who are traveling abroad with RGHA to the U.S. Department of State, through the Smart Traveler Enrollment Program. (<https://step.state.gov/step/>)

Medical History

All participants are required to fill out and provide a medical history noting significant medical conditions and including current medications. This will be compiled confidentially and available to the trip medical leaders. If medical care is needed during the trip, confidentiality will be maintained except as necessary to coordinate evacuation or other health care needs (i.e. obtaining a medication from the pharmacy). Participants with significant cardiac or pulmonary history, or other chronic conditions are responsible for speaking directly with one of the trip physicians regarding participation in the trip. All trip participants are urged to discuss their particular health, safety, and trip participation with their private physicians as well, and to address any specific medical needs they may have.

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Vaccinations /Travel Medications

Overseas travel participants are responsible for ensuring that they are up-to-date on required vaccinations which may include: Typhoid, Yellow Fever, Hepatitis A, and other routine shots. Participants are advised to travel with any prescription medications they require and consider having available any over-the-counter medications that they anticipate needing. We will discuss with all participants recommended prescription medicines as part of the trip planning process. For further information regarding travel to Peru, participants are referred to: <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/traveler/none/peru> or a local travel clinic.

Medical Care

As the majority of the trip is traveled in conjunction with healthcare providers and the leaders of the trip include physicians, care will be provided as needed. However, if further care or referral is needed, the trip leaders will serve as intermediaries with both in-country physicians, insurances and physicians at home. We will travel with a limited amount and scope of supplies to provide emergency care; much of the care will be provided using local resources or through evacuation.

Evacuation

In collaboration with our overseas hosts, RGHA will endeavor to have a vehicle and driver available or the ability to arrange a vehicle and driver in the event that an individual participation requires medical evacuation. One trip leader will travel with any individual needing medical evacuation and medical personnel are available to accompany if needed.

The decision and method for evacuation will be determined by medical necessity. Given the isolated nature of the locale in which we work, if the medical team believes that evacuation is required for any participant, they will be evacuated to Lima. All participants are required to abide by the decisions of the RGHA medical team in this regard. On arrival in Lima, further options can be discussed with the participant, family, trip leader and, if pertinent, university officials.

Notifications

All participants will be required to provide an emergency contact that will be kept informed in the event of an emergency or evacuation. In most cases, pertinent university officials will also need to be informed. Every effort will be made to notify emergency contacts as soon as possible and involve them in decisions regarding care. A list of contact names and numbers for our group will be given to trip participants to share with family in the event one of our participants needs to be contacted while we are overseas. Note that we are traveling in remote access where internet and cell phone service is not always available.

Emergency Expenses

As needed, certain evacuation expenses may be initially covered by RGHA or its host partners. RGHA or the participant will contact the travel insurance or other applicable insurance company to seek reimbursement. For any expenses incurred by RGHA and not covered by insurance, reimbursement will be requested from the participant who will reimburse RGHA for any expenses, including for any accompanying staff, incurred in evacuation.

Last Update: 3/20/14