

# STOVE TEAM

## Statement of Understanding

StoveTeam is a guest in the country that we serve. Our priority is that we have a positive effect on the lives of host country and our volunteers. StoveTeam has been and is a role model in these communities and we act accordingly. In this respect we:

- a. Represent the United States
- b. Represent U.S. technologies and/or other systems
- c. Represent StoveTeam and our affiliated organizations.
- d. Represent institutions within the country where we are working that benefit from our work
- e. Respect the local culture and morés of the people we serve

We want our volunteers to have an experience that honors themselves, their family, their community, their church or other organization. Therefore we:

1. Avoid the consumption of alcohol during the actual field time of the mission. The definition of that time is from the time a volunteer enters the bus from the originating city, until they arrive in the "rest and relaxation" portion of the trip, alcohol is not to be consumed. When in the "rest" phase, if a volunteer desires to drink, please drink responsibly. It is strongly suggested that, volunteers who have personal issues with alcohol and/or this policy, not go on StoveTeam trips
2. In the area of romantic involvement, StoveTeam simply asks people to be adults and recognize their role in the mission, the group, and the effect on their personal and family life. Culturally the Indigenous populations are very conservative and do not openly exhibit their romantic interest. It is considered disrespectful and therefore we abstain from forward behavior.
3. We want to leave people their dignity and do not want to create hordes of children chasing through the streets begging from outsiders. Therefore, we do not give things out, such as candy, gum, money, photos etc. except through a StoveTeam staff person.
4. StoveTeam staff pays for services rendered by "locals", therefore, volunteers should never attempt to pay for services outside of the areas of normal commerce.
5. We respect the culture where we work as to mores and societal appearance. Therefore, we respect the issues of the culture by wearing clothes or manners of clothes that are appropriate.
6. Personal conduct should always be above question.

### Notes:

- (1) **Conduct detrimental to StoveTeam by any team member or employee is cause for that person not to be invited for further StoveTeam projects. The team leader or management will make such determination.**
- (2) **If necessary team leaders or management reserve the right to return an individual to the United States, such individual forfeiting any rights to financial or other remuneration.**

I Understand and agree to conduct myself in a manner consistent with the above statement.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

StoveTeam is delighted to have you as a volunteer. The experience will hopefully be richly rewarding and, perhaps life-changing. Your suggestions are welcomed and encouraged.