—Ambassadors in Mission—

AIM Outreach Packet

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Greetings!

Ambassadors in Mission (AIM) and the Assemblies of God World Missions (AGWM) want to thank you for your desire to respond to the Great Commission—to go and preach the gospel to every creature (see Mark 16:15).

A successful mission demands teamwork. Your trip will be successful if you allow AIM and AGWM to help you plan, prepare, and participate in your mission. AIM and AGWM work closely to ensure that the needs on the field are met. For example, certain countries have needs, but no one wants to go and help them. Other countries are extremely popular and have a large appeal. We are careful to not over- or under-saturate an area.

This packet is filled with details that must be closely followed to make certain your trip will be a positive effort in helping our missionaries reach a lost world. Please pay close attention to the requirements, suggestions, and deadlines listed in this packet. They are provided to ensure the following:

1. AIM teams go *where* they are needed. At times, a group wants to go to a country where there is…
    - No need.
    - No missionary.
    - No missionary with time to facilitate the team.
    - No missionary capable of handling American teams.
2. AIM teams go *when* they are needed. AGWM advises AIM on current situations and events that help AIM teams go when and where needs arise.
3. AIM teams are aware of cultural differences. AGWM missionaries work with AIM to provide current and accurate cultural information.
4. AIM teams go to meet a need, not to be accommodated. AIM and AGWM work closely to ensure teams assist missionaries according to the mission statement of the missionary.
5. Training is profitable. Any advanced training will be valuable and will save you effort and money in the long run.

AIM has worked with AGWM to standardize AIM procedures and policies, and, subsequently, this packet. Our goal is to help our missionaries and national churches know what to expect from an AIM team as well as provide our students the best training, insurance, and mission experience possible.

We look forward to partnering with you. By following the instructions in this packet, you will help your team make a tangible contribution to the evangelization of the world. Together, we can be more effective in this mission. God bless you as you lead!

For His Harvest,

Ambassadors in Mission and Assemblies of God World Missions

Taking an AIM Trip

There are four types of AIM trips: church, district, national, and affiliate. National Youth Ministries (nym) encourages all of these trips and desires to make the name "AIM" remain consistent with its mission to send every AG student on a foreign or stateside missions trip before they graduate high school.

What to Expect

To better understand AIM, let's equate it to the fast-food world. When you walk into a McDonald's Restaurant®, you know what you are going to get, regardless of the location. In the same way, we have worked to standardize AIM trips so the missionaries, teams, and students know what to expect. With the current situations in our world, we must use extra caution and wisdom.

Each AIM trip must undergo an approval process (given in detail on the following pages). This approval simply informs all members of the team, Assemblies of God World Missions (AGWM), nym, and the missionary of your plans. With the long-term mission strategy in mind, AGWM can help coordinate and give direction so the missionary and the team have the best possible experience.

The following requirements were established to help accomplish our mission. They relate to the use of the term "AIM." Missions teams requesting AIM credit and recognition ***must*** follow all of these steps in order. If these steps are not followed, we ask that the name "AIM" not be used in conjunction with your trip.

If you are participating in a district, national, or Affiliate AIM trip, **please contact the appropriate office as soon as possible**. Many of the forms (e.g., consent forms, Medical Release forms, etc.) have differing "due dates." (The mandatory submission dates are at the discretion of the district, national, or Affiliate office, whichever is applicable.) You will receive all the due dates when you contact the appropriate office.

National and/or Affiliate AIM Trips

A national AIM trip is an AIM trip set up by the national AIM office. To obtain a current list of the national AIM trips, or details for a specific national AIM trip, visit www.aim.ag.org, e-mail aim@ag.org, or call 417.862.2781, ext. 4039. For more information about AIM Affiliate trips, or to learn more about our AIM Affiliates, please visit www.aim.ag.org/trips.cfm.

District AIM Trips

A district AIM trip is an AIM trip set up by your District Youth Director (DYD). To obtain a current list of your district's AIM trips, forms, and due dates, please contact your district office.

Church AIM Trip

A church AIM trip is an AIM trip that you, the local church, set up. It is not held in conjunction with a district, national, or Affiliate trip. The following requirements **must** be met for a trip to qualify as an AIM trip:

AIM REQUIREMENTS

*All steps listed below **must be** completed for your trip to qualify as "AIM" and for your church to receive AG giving credit.*

1. Secure a written invitation from the Assemblies of God world missionary(ies) with whom you will work. This invitation begins an approval process that will subsequently be approved by the appropriate AGWM area director and the AGWM Executive Committee. Please submit a copy of this letter with your team's AIM Outreach application form (see step 3).

2. Notify your DYD in writing of your AIM trip plans.

3. Complete the AIM Outreach Form (Stateside or Foreign) available at www.aim.ag.org. Send this form, along with the missionary's written invitation, to the national AIM office. These forms must be received **at least sixty days** prior to your trip for approval. (NOTE: Sixty days is the minimum time requirement to approve your trip. We recommend you secure approval as soon as possible.)

4. Obtain short-term insurance for *foreign* trips through **Brotherhood Mutual Insurance Company**. Call 800.876.4994 and request AIM insurance. Obtain short-term insurance for *stateside* trips through **Special Markets Insurance Consultants**. Call 800.818.7642, ext. 3, and request AIM insurance.

5. Obtain background checks for all adults 18 years of age and older participating in you AIM trip. In light of today's legal environment, churches assume unprecedented liability risks in the selection and screening of church workers. Background checks for all staff and adult volunteers of AIM teams are becoming increasingly important.

   One of the most significant legal risks facing the church world is the risk of negligent selection. *Negligent selection* means carelessness or a failure to exercise reasonable care in the selection of a worker. A finding of negligent selection dramatically impacts the liability of a church and/or its workers. It is suggested that each district and/or church check with the legal authorities in your state on the proper procedure for conducting the background or criminal records check. **Note:** All signature witnesses must be 18 years of age or older.

   As you receive leader applications, begin background checks. National Youth Ministries (nym) and the General Council Legal Advisor **require** that all churches, districts, and para-church ministries implement the **background check** as part of their standard screening process of all leadership in conjunction with AIM trips.

6. An Assumption of Risk form needs to be filled out and kept on file at your church for all persons 18 years of age and older who are participating in your churches AIM trip.

7. A fully completed and signed Parental Consent form needs to be kept on file for all minors who are participating in your churches AIM trip.

8. Complete the AIM Outreach Report/Assemblies of God Total Giving form (found at www.aim.ag.org).

AIM RECOMMENDATIONS

We recommend the following steps to ensure that you have a successful and safe trip.

1. Proper consents and liability release forms are essential in today's society. Make sure you provide your students all necessary paperwork well in advance (including application, medical release form, model release form—necessary for all photos taken of minors, additional insurance election information sheet, two mature Christian reference forms, and one pastoral reference form). An Assumption of Risk form must be signed by anyone 18 or older. Remind your students that it is their responsibility to make sure the reference forms are completed and returned in a timely manner.

FORMS AND RECORDS

1. Make one complete copy of each student and leader application, parental consent form, medical release form, Assumption of Risk form, and passport (when necessary). Leave the copies in your files with the reference forms and take the originals with you on your trip. Be sure someone in the office knows where the files are kept in case of an emergency.
2. Secure your passports early for international travel.

FORMS

GENERAL AIM FORMS

- ❑ AIM Stateside Outreach Form
- ❑ AIM Foreign Outreach Form
- ❑ AIM Outreach Report/AG Total Giving Report

STUDENT FORMS

- ❑ Student Application (3 pages)
- ❑ Assumption of Risk
- ❑ Parental Consent Form (4 pages)
- ❑ Pastoral Recommendation (2 pages)
- ❑ Mature Christian Reference (2 pages)

LEADER FORMS

- ❑ Leader Application (3 pages)
- ❑ Assumption of Risk
- ❑ Pastoral Recommendation (2 pages)
- ❑ Mature Christian Reference (2 pages)

BACKGROUND CHECKS

- ❑ Background Check Release Form