

## Simpson University WorldSERVE

Dear Parents,

Since 1994 Simpson has sent over 1000 students to more than 45 countries to be part of God's Great Commission.

We are very excited to launch the team members out "to be discipled and make disciples", but we understand that you may have some questions or concerns. Foremost on your mind is probably thoughts for your son or daughter's safety. While no one could give a 100% guarantee that he/she will be free from every danger, we are committed to doing whatever is possible to keep your student out of harm's way:

1. We have carefully developed our partnerships with the in-country workers whom our teams serve alongside. They underwent an approval process to be able to host a team, which included solid assurance that they are capable to handle crises should they arise.
2. Included in the cost of each trip is the purchase of the Overseas Travelers Protection Plan for each participant. This insurance covers medical expenses and emergency help if needed.
3. We have access to top-notch crisis prevention and intervention, namely through the US State Department and a Christian organization which specializes in protecting overseas workers. ([step.state.gov](http://step.state.gov) and [projecttaken.com](http://projecttaken.com))
4. WorldSERVE has an emergency cell phone number which will ring on 3 different Simpson staff member's phones, so we are available 24/7 to assist team members in any emergency.
5. The Team Leaders all have experience in foreign countries and have gone through extensive training to prepare them for guiding their team members on the ground, including never allowing anyone to venture out alone.
6. Finally, and I think most importantly, as followers of Jesus, we place our lives in the hands of a loving and caring Father. He is the only one who can truly protect us. We will most certainly pray that He keeps us safe and healthy, while ultimately praying for trust, obedience, and the opportunity to build His kingdom.

Aside from safety concerns, you may also be curious as to how you can stay in touch with your son or daughter during their time on the field. Since it is *vital* that our team members stay focused on their ministry and because they may have limited access to phone or internet, we have set up some avenues to assist in communication both ways:

1. Team leaders are required to send us frequent updates which we will post on our WorldSERVE blog at [www.blogs.simpsonu.edu/worldserve](http://www.blogs.simpsonu.edu/worldserve) and on our facebook page at [www.facebook.com/suworldserve](http://www.facebook.com/suworldserve)
2. In many of the countries where our teams will be serving, the field workers have requested that our students be *very cautious and/or limited* in their internet and phone use. The reasons range from it being a nuisance for the field worker, a distraction from the team's purpose, or a potential threat to the ministry in secure locations. We desire to honor our partners' wishes as much as possible, and thank you for your understanding and cooperation as well.
3. The WorldSERVE office has collected emergency contact information for each student, and you can trust that we will be in direct and immediate connection with you should any crisis arise on the field.
4. In case of a family emergency at home, please call our WorldSERVE **emergency number** at 530-522-8524 and we will determine with you how to best inform your student and follow up as needed. (This number is for *emergencies* only).
5. For all other questions, concerns or any need to contact your student, please email [missions@simpsonu.edu](mailto:missions@simpsonu.edu) and we will promptly reply. (*Please do not contact the leader or field worker with a question/concern before contacting us*)

We are so grateful to be partnering with your son or daughter in reaching the nations. Thank you for trusting us and blessing these teams as together we send them out! If you have further questions or would like to talk with me, please feel free to call me at 530-226-4978 or email me at [tosborne@simpsonu.edu](mailto:tosborne@simpsonu.edu) .

Sincerely,  
Travis Osborne  
Director of Spiritual Formation, Simpson University

***"Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." Psalm 46:10***