



BE DISCIPLED. MAKE DISCIPLES.

Simpson University WorldSERVE *Partnership Values and Expectations*

Purpose

As our motto “Gateway to World Service” states, Simpson University is committed to developing *world servants* who play a vital role in God’s Story of redeeming the lost.

Process

Each fall, we invite students to join a **WorldSERVE Team** which takes them on a year-long discipleship journey including a short-term service project the following spring or summer. Our main objective for all students participating on a WorldSERVE Team is that they would BE DISCIPLED in order to MAKE DISCIPLES.

Our team members first commit to *being* disciplined through a semester of intensive training, mentoring, team building and preparation. They are then sent around the country and globe, joining with God to *make* disciples as they partner with long-term workers in sharing the gospel, praying for the lost, caring for the poor, and furthering God’s plan of redemption for the nations.

Values

We believe that *short-term* mission projects are only as effective as they are a catalyst to advance the *long-term* mission strategy on the field, AND to affect *long-term* change in the individual who goes. Because we are equally committed to transformation in our students *and* among the lost, we aspire to build our field partnerships around the following foundational values.

***Invitation:** We wait to be invited by field workers who desire for us to join them in their work. We will not invite ourselves or assume that we are needed/wanted everywhere. We won’t just go where *we want* to go, but where we have been requested to help with a specific field ministry. We will watch to see where God is working and join Him!

***Vision:** We long for unreached peoples to hear the Good News. We desire for our students to minister alongside field workers who are directly reaching the lost, therefore we are willing to go to dark and difficult places to bring light and further Christ’s church. We pray to be part of the work in Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist and Atheistic nations.

***Strategy:** We endeavor to serve merely as tools for furthering the impact of our field partners. We do not wish to carry out our own plans or have ministry tasks created for us, but rather to assist in strategic opportunities for accomplishing the long-term goals on the field. We will humbly accept any assignment that will advance Kingdom work.

***Relationships:** We are excited to be part of ministry projects that put our teams in direct contact with local people. We are willing to do labor-related activities but also desire to build new friendships and have meaningful conversations. We desire that our daily assignments will allow us to interact with and invest in relationships during our short stay.

***Development:** We believe that even short-term teams can take part in development work not merely relief and charity projects. We aim to come as learners rather than heroes and not perpetuate a wide separation between Giver and Receiver. We do not wish to do something local people can/should do themselves or create unhealthy dependencies.

***Mobilization:** We pray our students will be inspired to join God in his global mission long-term. We seek relationships with field workers who will actively share their passion for the lost, pour into our students, and mobilize them to find their purpose in reaching the unreached. We expect our students to be disciplined and challenged by our field partners.

***Learning:** We desire for our students to have a significant educational experience “outside the classroom.” We train faculty and staff mentors to guide them in their cross-cultural learning and ask that our field partners would also expose them to the history, food, religion, and traditions of the area, teaching them to have God’s heart for all people.

***Community:** We encourage personal growth to happen within community. We stress to our teams the importance of praying together, spending time in God’s word, debriefing regularly, and sharing joys and struggles. We expect that their daily schedule and accommodations would allow for this necessary aspect of doing “life together” on the field.

***Organization:** We appreciate working with field partners who are well-organized and who value safety, accountability, and structure for our teams. We desire clear and consistent communication (as possible) throughout the pre-trip planning, updates while on the field, and honest feedback afterwards, so that we may better our partnership together.

***Stewardship:** We aim to be prudent with our donors’ financial gifts while also providing necessary resources for the work. We strive to operate on a budget that would total less than \$50 per person per day on the field.

What Our Field Partners Can Expect From Simpson University WorldSERVE

***Mature Leadership:** We choose our team leaders carefully, seeking wise, spiritually-grounded, and gifted students. They are prepared from October through May to guide their peers in serving, learning, and growing together.

***Staff Mentorship:** A trusted Simpson employee (staff or faculty) is matched with each WorldSERVE team. The Staff Mentor meets regularly with the student leader to help direct and disciple them, and spends time training and preparing with the whole team. Many mentors also join the team on the field for a portion or for the entire length of the trip.

***Extensive Training:** From January to May, our teams participate in regular trainings with our staff, covering cultural sensitivity, sharing the gospel, spiritual warfare, language learning, resolving conflict, Biblical basis of missions, etc. Teams also participate in a workshop day, 30 Hour Famine intensive training weekend, and a send-off retreat.

***Team Preparation:** Individual teams meet together once a week during the spring semester for intentional team building, task preparation, language practice, culture learning, accountability, prayer, and Bible study.

***Logistics:** Our office arranges the team’s travel plans, organizes necessary documents, processes donations, formulates budgets, provides leader support, communicates regularly with the field, and shares necessary details with the team.

***Security:** For our field partners in creative access regions, we exercise the utmost caution in our communication and prepare our teams to follow strict security guidelines.

***Prayer:** Not only do we regularly lift up our students as God prepares them for ministry, but we also pray for our field partners’ needs and for the advancement of the Kingdom where they serve. We desire to know and care for our partners beyond the mere exchange of trip-planning details.

***On-field support:** While a Simpson WorldSERVE team is on the field with our partners, we seek to have frequent communication with the student leader, mentor, and field worker so as to encourage their ministry and spur them on as needed. Our field partners may look to us for help in dealing with difficult situations, team conflict, or safety issues.

***Follow-up:** When teams return from their service projects, we take time to debrief with the student leader and the staff mentor, as well as encourage all team members to join our Returner Retreat and follow-up discipleship group. We also ask for honest feedback and suggestions from our field workers and evaluate the partnership together.