

SUMMER APPLICATION for Short Term Missions Santa Barbara Community Church

Application Process

1. Applications will be reviewed by May 15th of each year by SBCC's Missions Group.
2. The selection process will not be governed by the particular deadlines of the applicant(s).
3. We recommend the following process for those seeking to be supported by SBCC:
 - a. Be a member of SBCC for at least 1 year.
 - b. Recommend being a regular committed member of a homegroup.
 - c. Have your homegroup pray for you in this decision and support your desire to go into the mission field.

Missions and SBCC

- ✓ **SBCC's Missions Thrust:** to support ministries that promote a local church emphasis, to grow missionaries out of our own local body, and to make our Christian witness overt.
- ✓ **Mutual edification:** our hope is that we will have a reciprocal relationship with each missionary. We want missionaries sent out from SBCC to return to the church to teach, encourage, inform, and stimulate our church body.
- ✓ **Long-term vs. short-term:** we recognize that God usually uses short-term mission trips to cultivate a calling to the mission field; as a result, we will often give some financial support to these trips on a case-by-case basis. Nevertheless, in terms of percentages, the majority of our missions giving will be devoted to long-term missions work.
- ✓ **Sending Church:** SBCC desires to be a sending church. We are seeking to develop and send members of our body to the mission field. We affirm the need for missions agencies to assist the church in their sending efforts. The church and the mission agency become partners in training, sending, and sustaining the missionary.
- ✓ **Balance:** we seek to be balanced in our missionary endeavors between foreign, local, and social justice concerns.
- ✓ **Speaking up for the voiceless:** we will give priority to places and people who lack a voice, whether through lack of fiscal & social resources (as in a Third World country), or through lack of vital church presence (e.g., in most of Western Europe).
- ✓ **Prayer:** we will pray as a church regularly for missions and missionaries, and encourage the body to grow in missions-mindedness. At one level, every member of the body will be involved in missions.

Application Questions

Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper. These questions will help us to get to know you better.

- *How did you become a Christian?*
- *Describe your decision process in regard to becoming a short term missionary.*
- *What will your ministry entail?*
- *If you are serving with a particular missions agency, how did you select it?*
- *What are your expectations in your relationship with SBCC once you return from the mission field? Please be specific.*
- *How do you plan on raising your support? Be as detailed as possible.*
- *How many contacts do you plan on contacting who do not attend SBCC? Please give at least one personal reference.*
- *Please return Summer short term application to Kathy Roberts, missions@sbcommunity.org.*

Expectations

As stated earlier, with whomever SBCC sends out, it is our hope to have a relationship of mutual encouragement and support. We ask missionaries from SBCC to do the following:

- ✓ Complete a brief report and submit it to the Missions group after you return.