



Dear Team Leader,

Thank you so much for your accepting the call to lead a team to God Cares Schools in Kampala, Uganda. We are excited about your trip and so very happy about the opportunity to host your ministry efforts! We want to make your trip as successful as possible and it is our prayers that this packet will assist you in that process.

I will be your team contact at Buyamba Uganda and am looking forward to working with you, the team leader, to make this a significant experience for your whole team. I would suggest that you begin to pray with your team right away about what it means to be called as a short-term missionary. We have included the Buyamba trip philosophy we use on our Buyamba ministry trips to help guide you. Remember that the goal is to serve these children and grow the school. You will be welcomed with open arms!

There are many questions that you will have in the coming months about how to prepare, what to bring and how to plan. We have included many ideas to help you along. Please read through the Mission Travel Team Information, and complete the forms included in this packet at your earliest convenience.

Travel dates, lodging and projects all need to be approved by the Buyamba Office. Please contact me directly when you have a general idea of when you may want to travel and we will check the Team Trip Calendar to secure your date. Due to the complexity of serving a team well in Uganda, it is our hopes to spread the trips out so there is little to know overlap if possible.

God Cares School is a Christian School and therefore we ask that mission trips be Christ centered and all sharing be from a biblical perspective. This will be a Christian School environment and only that worldview is accepted here as to not confuse the students. We are relying on you, the team leader to know your people. Please use the application process in your screening and if available, it would be appropriate to run some kind of background check.

Please contact me when you are ready to begin this process and we will begin our journey together. The Dongo family is the authority at God Cares School and will take the lead as your guide in Uganda. Enclosed you will find a lot of information, along with forms that must be filled out and returned to our office before your trip.

We are praying for you! God bless you and your efforts to serve these amazing children who need so much. In a country stripped from war, disease, and starvation, your love and efforts will make such a difference! AND it is our prayer that it will also be a life changing experience for each one of you.

Blessings,

Julie Dimas
Executive Director



TEAM LEADER DIRECTIVES

Buyamba is humbled by your initiative to partner together in blessing the children of God Cares School. Please communicate with your team regarding *important* instruction before partaking on this mission with us in order to ensure safety throughout your experience:

- Buyamba is the sole U.S. operational fundraising organization for the God Cares Schools and the Dongo Family in Kampala, Uganda.*
- Do not trade e-mails, mailing addresses, Facebook usernames, or any personal contact information with God Cares students (unless they are a University student). The use of Facebook is against school policy due to accessibility and lack of money. All personal information should be communicated through the social worker only.*
- Do not give any money to students or their parents. All donations should be done through Buyamba only.*
- Do not take students or school staff out of the classroom for personal communication regarding sponsorship or interest to sponsor. All information regarding sponsorship should be communicated with the social worker or Buyamba in the U.S. only.*
- Inquire with the school office regarding students' needs and gifts. Please do not ask the students directly.*
- Personal belongings should be left in designated room by social worker or you may carry it with you at all times.*
- Do not give gifts to students directly. All gifts and communication regarding students should be done through the social worker.*
- Do not make promises to students (i.e. 'I will bring you a gift the next time we meet', 'I will write you every day when I return home'). While intentions may be well meaning, Ugandans take your words as a promise.*
- Appropriate dress is necessary in order to be respectful and set an example as guests of God Cares School and the country of Uganda. Please see attached Mission Team Travel Information Guide for what to wear for it is culturally important.*
- Please communicate all trip plans and schedules with the Buyamba office. No follow-up private trips will be allowed unless cleared with the Buyamba office.*
- Connect with us on Facebook or e-mail regarding your trip. We would love to share your team's experience!*

I have read the Travel-Information Guide and I am aware of the need for travel insurance, shots, etc.

Team Leader's Signature: _____

Date: _____



BEFORE DEPARTURE

When gathering your team, please ensure the following:

1. Please know we are placing our trust in you as a leader that you know who you are bringing on your trip. Applicants should be screened and approved by leadership before accepted. **Note:** *Sample Buyamba trip applications are available for help.*
2. Before you leave, please complete the following **4 weeks before departure:**
 - **Team Leader Directives**
 - **Before Departure Form**
 - **Team Member Requirements**
 - **Team Follow-Up Report (when you return)**

All forms must be scanned or e-mailed to Julie@ugandabuyamba.com or sent to: Buyamba Inc, 3625 E. Thousand Oaks Blvd. #265, Westlake Village, CA 91362

Please attach or e-mail FLIGHT ITINERARY

Request invitation letter from Julie Dimas to apply for Visas

TEAM ROSTER

Organization/Team Name: _____

Travel Date(s) from: ___/___/20___ **to:** ___/___/20___

Lodging Preference (To be scheduled by Uganda office) _____

Team Project Ideas: _____

<u>First and Last Name</u>	<u>Mailing Address</u>	<u>E-mail</u>	<u>Contact Phone</u>	<u>Passport #</u>
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			TOTAL TEAM #	



TEAM MEMBER REQUIREMENTS

Please read and initial the following:

_____ **TEAM PHILOSOPHY**

WE SERVE TO:

- ❖ *Glorify God, to bring about His Kingdom, here, now*
- ❖ *Be a witness for Christ; therefore we must know Him and be ready and willing to share the gospel*
- ❖ *Be a Christian witness in all we do. Others should see Christ in us despite cultural differences. This may mean we adjust so they can see Him – our freedom cannot cause another to stumble or to reject the message because of the messenger. (For example, we ask that you do not consume alcohol during mission trips to Uganda, even outside the school grounds. According to Dongo, the children have seen this usage as they pass by the locations where it is being consumed, thus sending a wrong message to the children).*
- ❖ *Present a Christ centered worldview based on scripture. If asked, we will not present a non-Christian worldview, even if that is your personal belief*
- ❖ *Love the children and young adults of the God Cares Schools and the people of Uganda we come in contact with – they must be treated with the utmost respect. While socializing with team members is good and appropriate, when the object of our love is present, love them first*
- ❖ *Because we believe that God uniquely wants us to go. We believe that He has something unique in His plans for us going. We must be open to every situation that He places us in, from the airport going until we return home again*

Please read and initial the following:

_____ **TRIP DISCLOSURE PARTICIPANT LIABILITY RELEASE:**

Short-term mission trips can be extremely strenuous & stressful. They may include long air/train/bus rides of 10-24 hours in duration. Participants are required to carry their own luggage. Restrooms are not always readily accessible. The housing/meeting rooms may not have air conditioning & may not have adequate heating. There can be a considerable amount of walking between the housing & meeting locations in addition to climbing many flights of stairs. The summer months in much of the world are very hot/humid & this might affect your overall strength/energy. The air quality is poor in many locations. All of these factors may aggravate certain health conditions & medical facilities in most countries where we travel may not provide adequate care. A medical statement from your doctor may be requested.

Please read and initial the following:

_____ **PARTICIPANT LIABILITY RELEASE**

Given the risk in travel, especially due to unstable world conditions, I am willing to accept full responsibility for all risk & hereby release, waive, discharge, covenant not to sue, agree to indemnify & hold harmless, the trip/project & Buyamba, Inc. & its officers, directors, agents, affiliates, employees & ("Releases") from any & all damages, liability, causes of action, or any other form of liability, past, present or future, & whether caused by the negligence of Releases or otherwise, arising out of or relating to my presence or participation in the trip/project & any activities related thereto, including but not limited to, physical or emotional Injury or illness, criminal victimization, terrorism, imprisonment & legal proceedings or any actions taken by Releases. This Release shall be binding on heirs, my executors, legal representatives & myself. By signing below I am agreeing that all information is accurate and I accept all policies, covenants & statements listed in this application.

Signature of Participant: _____ **Date:** _____