



Chennai, India

July, 2011

Missions Trip Info



Scan to apply for the trip online!

Schedule Overview

3/20/11	Sunday	Launch Meeting
4/3/11	Sunday	Application Deadline
4/10/11	Sunday	Team Meeting
5/1/11	Sunday	\$1800 Airfare Deposit Due, Turn in Passports
5/8/11	Sunday	Team Meeting
6/5/11	Sunday	Team Meeting
6/24 - 6/25	Fri - Sat	Team Building Retreat
7/1/11	Friday	90% Support Deadline
7/16/11	Saturday	Depart for Chennai
7/30/11	Saturday	Return to Denver

Note: Team members are required to attend all meetings, and to meet all deadlines. Dates are subject to change.

Tentative Budget (Per Person)

Airfare (Denver to Chennai)*	\$2,000
Lodging, Food, & Ground Fees	\$850
Team Building	\$150
Travel Visas	\$125
Misc & Contingency	\$375
Estimated Trip Cost	\$3,500

*** Note: Airfare costs subject to change. The estimated cost is based on pricing as of 3/1/11. The budget does not include personal spending money, medical costs (insurance and/or immunizations), or passport fees. Costs must be paid in full before departure!**

Immunizations

There are no required immunizations to enter India, but several are recommended. Learn more at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention Website. <http://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/destinations/India.aspx>. If you have any questions, check with your doctor or a travel nurse.

Travel Documents

You must have a current passport to enter India. Submit passports to your team leader by team training on May 1 so we can submit applications for visas to the Indian consulate. See the State Department website for more information. http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html.

Support Raising

While each individual team member will be ultimately responsible for his or her own trip costs, we will approach support raising as a team effort by encouraging each other, sharing ideas, and working on projects together. **We highly encourage you to build a support team as a prayer and financial base for your ministry on this trip.** If each team member has at least ten people giving and praying, our impact will grow exponentially! It will undergird you and provide a great platform to share what God is doing in your life. Team members will be expected to send out a support letter to family, friends and other potential ministry partners as soon as possible. The sooner the better; give time for a response before your support deadline. We will also discuss different ideas for raising support as a group.

- 1) To receive a tax deduction, supporters must make their checks payable to Denver United Church, an IRS 501(c)(3) organization. Note India and your last name in the memo line. Supporters may also donate online at www.denverunited.com, and can designate your fund account.
- 2) All funds raised in excess of your trip costs will go to the India trip general fund, and the team leader/executive pastor will distribute funds where most needed.

A word on the philosophy of support raising:

It's Biblical! The Apostle Paul raised support for his ministry, both through his work as a tentmaker and from churches and individuals who gave to fund his ministry. See the book of Acts and Paul's letters for numerous examples.

The basic principle that you need to understand is that people are giving to the Lord (His work) and not to you personally. If this is the first time you have raised money "for yourself," it may seem awkward the first few times you ask or when the first checks arrive. It is a little scary at first, but the more you ask and the more support you get, the less intimidating it feels. Actually, the more you realized what you are doing and for Whom you are working (the Lord), the better it feels.

You need to have a sense of purpose when you ask and there is no greater purpose than God's will or the Lord's work. Do you have a vision or idea of how the Lord may use you? Do you have a vision of what He may accomplish in your life and those around you as a result of this trip? God desires for all to enter His Kingdom, and for every person to have one chance to hear about His waiting forgiveness. If you do anything that helps lead one person one step closer to Christ while on your trip, then you are doing the greatest work on Earth.

If you agree that you are doing a great thing in responding to an opportunity that the Lord has given you, why shouldn't people give? As you approach your people you need to have an expectant heart that they will want to give and be a part of what you are doing. Do keep in mind that not everyone is called to go and not everyone is led to give and that's okay. But you will find that more people are ready to give than you expect, so learn to ask expectantly. Your maturity is in realizing God will provide through people eventually and it is simply a matter of applying yourself, asking in faith, and discovering who and where they are.

Adapted from www.jesusfilmmissiontrips.org/pdfs/mpd_manual.pdf

Support Letter Outline

Introduction: Begin with a couple of sentences to grab their attention and tell them why you are writing. You may want to include a quick run-down on recent events in your life. This could be the first time they've received a letter from you.

Announcement: Tell them what God is calling you to do. Announce the trip or project and share your vision of how God will use you. Share why you need to go. Cast a vision or paint a picture for the need.

Further Details: Share more specifics about the trip (purpose, strategy, what you will specifically do). Share what you can expect to see accomplished.

Partnership: Express your need for others to help send you (focus on a sense of teamwork and partnership between you and the reader).

The Ask: Share the total amount you need as well as your deadline and make a personal appeal for them to consider a gift of \$500, \$250, \$100 or some other amount. Checks should be made payable to Denver United Church and mailed to **1873 S Bellaire #750, Denver, CO 80222**. "India" and your name should be written in the memo line. Donations to your trip cost can also be made online at www.denverunited.com.

Close: Thank them for their consideration of partnering with you in this wonderful opportunity.

Support Letter Example

March 1, 2011

Dear Joe,

God has given me the opportunity to participate with my local church, Denver United Church, on a missions trip to Chennai, India from _____, 2011. The team I will be traveling with will be _____. Our team will serve alongside _____, to care for God's people building relationships and showing love as we minister in Jesus' name.

I am writing to ask you to prayerfully consider joining our team through your support. First, please partner with me in praying for the people we will be serving, for my health and effectiveness as a team member, and for the many details of this trip.

Second, please consider supporting me financially for this outreach. The cost of this two-week trip is \$3500. If you would like to join my team in this way, please make your tax-deductible gift by a check payable to Denver United Church and send it to 1873 S Bellaire #750, Denver, CO 80222. Put India and my name in the memo line. You can also give online at www.denverunited.com, and select my name under the India trip. My trip costs are due by _____, so any help you can give would be most appreciated!

If you have any questions, I'd love to talk more about my trip. My cell is _____, or email dale@hotmail.com, or 123-456-7890.

Thank you for praying about being a vital part of our team.
Sincerely,

Dale Jones

(Add a handwritten note to personalize the letter.)