



be a World Changer | www.goservglobal.org

(515) 448-3131

office@goservglobal.org

310 East Broadway | PO Box 193

Eagle Grove, IA 50533

We at GoServ Global are so excited that you will be joining us on a mission trip to India. The needs are great and we are happy you chose to serve those less fortunate through GoServ Global. We know your experience will change you in many ways and transform your life. Whether you spend time with the pastors or play with the orphan children, know that you will touch the lives of many in India ... and they will touch yours as well.

Blessings,

Paul van Gorkom
GoServ Global Executive Director

310 E. Broadway, PO Box 193 Eagle Grove, IA 50533 515.448.3131

office@goservglobal.org

www.goservglobal.org

GoServ Global shares God's love by responding to disaster, empowering sustainable community development and creating world change through hands-on involvement.

November 2017

Indian Culture

You will be traveling to Orissa, India, which is located on the east coast of India, near the Bay of Bengal. India is approximately one-third the size of the United States and has 4 times the population (1.2 billion people). This makes it the second most populous country in the world, behind China. Rich in history, vibrant culture, and diversity, India is the birthplace of 4 world religions: Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism. Despite the growth of megacities such as Mumbai and Delhi (both >15 million people), 70% of the population still resides in rural areas, and 60% work in agriculture. Although India is one of the fastest-growing economies in the world, the level of poverty is high. The topography is varied, ranging from tropical beaches to foothills, deserts, and the Himalayan Mountains. The north has a more temperate climate, while the south is more tropical year round.

In India, you will see people living in extremely substandard conditions. You will see Indians going to the bathroom and bathing in public. Unfortunately we can't help every person we come in contact with. However, you will have an opportunity to bring quality of life to several people on this trip. Your efforts will make a difference in specific Indian lives. The people of India are kind, friendly and hard working. Unfortunately they have very few opportunities to provide a better life for themselves. You will find them to be very entrepreneurial, always ready to work or jump on an opportunity to provide for their family.

Communication

India is home to 27 different languages and over 2,000 different dialects. The people in this region speak Oriya.

Weather

Southern India is always warm. It starts heating up around February and by April, many places experience daily temperatures exceeding 105 degrees. In late May, signs of the approaching monsoon start appearing that last until October. Orissa State cools some in the winter into lows in the mid 50's.

What is the food like?

Most people in India eat rice, lentils, and curry vegetables. They also eat spicy food. If our hostess serves it, it will be fine. Do not eat stuff off the street (vendors). Restaurants – Do not eat undercooked or raw meat or the skins of raw fruits & vegetables. When in doubt, ask the advice of our host regarding food safety. Please be gracious! Our hosts will roll out the red carpet for us, feeding us in ways they rarely afford themselves. They sacrifice for our comfort and to honor our visit. DO NOT COMPLAIN ABOUT THE FOOD! There is nothing more embarrassing than bad attitudes of loud, entitled Americans! Consider taking small portions to sample, first. If you have dietary restrictions or things you simply cannot tolerate, you might consider packing granola bars, peanut butter, or other dry snacks. Be mindful, however, that food attracts insects and other critters, so store things in tight containers.

GoServ Global Projects in India

GoServ Global works with Sunny Raul, the head of DREAM INDIA, a nonprofit that reaches out to the unreached people in Orissa, focusing on underprivileged children and orphans as well as sharing the message of salvation to the people of India. Pastor Sunny is married to Kuni who is the head of staff at the Emmanuel English Medium School run by DREAM INDIA. Pastor Sunny & Kuni have two children, Jack and Jimmy.

Emmanuel Boarding School

Pastor Sunny Raul and his wife, Kuni, operate a Boarding School – Emmanuel School - for 80 children ages 4-12 in NE India. Emmanuel School provides meals, education, medical care as needed and a safe place to live for underprivileged children and orphans. These children come from families who live in extreme poverty. The parents are either beggars or laborers who make \$2 a day if there is work. However, if there is no work, they will not have food for that day. These children would not have the opportunity to attend school if it weren't for sponsorship.

Pastor Sponsors

Under DREAM INDIA, Pastor Sunny also works with numerous pastors and families who serve in some of the most neglected tribal villages in India. These pastors share God's love in areas where animism, witchcraft, idol worship, and Hinduism are the norm.

Where will we be staying in India?

GoServ Global will be using rooms at the school set aside for visitors. Beds and A/C are provided. They are safe, clean and relatively modern. There is hot water, electricity to charge camera, phones, etc. (no electrical adaptors are needed) and WIFI is sporadic.

Shhh.....

One give away identifier about Americans is the noise they make everywhere they go! It will be evident enough by our appearance that we are foreigners, however, when we are in the markets, restaurants, or other public places, please tone it down a bit.

EMERGENCY CONTACT INFO

Kristen Berg
(GoServ Global India Director)

831-917-6096, cell
840 Front Street
Garner, IA 50438
kristenpaul2@gmail.com

Sunny & Kuni
(Project leaders in Orissa)

Sandesh Raul
L.N. Street
Goutan Nagar
Dist – Rayagada
Post Code- 765001
Odisha
India

Cell: 91-437-915-987

GoServ Global Contact Info:

310 E. Broadway, PO Box 193
Eagle Grove, IA 50533
515.448.3131
Office Email - office@goservglobal.org
www.goservglobal.org
Facebook Page: GoServ Global
Twitter: @GoservG

Paul van Gorkom (Exec Dir) – paul@goservglobal.org
Mary Graham (Dev Coord) – mary@goservglobal.org
Amy Kuns (Office Mgr) – amy@goservglobal.org

Schedule: Do not expect our hosts to operate their schedules in the way you are used to at home. Plans change frequently for many reasons so it is essential to just go with the flow. Expect long waits for things and keep yourself occupied. Concepts like convenience and predictability are not part of many places in the world. Be gracious. Demonstrate Christ-likeness especially if you feel inconvenienced or surprised by changes. We ask that you come with an open heart to serve. Please do not grumble or complain publicly. Express concerns privately to your trip leader.

TRIP LOGISTICS

Approximate Cost of the Trip: \$130/night plus airfare per person

Includes lodging, transportation, food, and a T-shirt

GoServ Global will make all ground transportation arrangements in India. Road conditions can be rough & our transportation accommodations will be crowded.

Payment:

Monies due to GoServ Global must be received in our Eagle Grove, IA office one month prior to trip departure.

Approximate Money exchange rate: \$1.00 US = 65 Rupees. We will exchange some money - your GoServ Global guide will take care of this.

To Prepare for Your Trip:

Medical: GoServ Global policy: Each person going on a trip to India is responsible to contact his/her physician to prepare for the trip. It's best to go in as soon as possible as some vaccinations take time to have a full effect. Doctors may vary on what is recommended but we have seen the following: **tetanus, hepatitis A & B, typhoid, influenza, pneumonia,** as well as **malaria meds like doxycycline.** It's also often recommended by doctors to bring **Cipro or a Zithromax** (antibiotics used only if one experiences gastro-intestinal illness). You can tell your doctor that you will be in eastern India.

www.cdc.gov/cholera/general: CDC does NOT recommend cholera vaccines for most travelers, nor is the vaccine available in the U.S. To avoid getting cholera, drink only bottled, boiled or chemically treated water and bottled/canned carbonated beverages. Avoid tap water, fountain drinks and ice cubes. Wash your hands often with soap and clean water. **Use bottled water to brush your teeth and to wash and prepare food. Do not ingest water – be mindful in the shower!**

Passport: If you do not already have a passport, apply at least 4 months prior to leaving. Make several copies of your passport: 1 for GoServ Global, 1 for your team leader, 1 to leave at home, 1 for your suitcase. **If your passport is within 6 months of expiring, you may not be able to leave the U.S.**

VISA: You will need a VISA as well. Apply at least 6 weeks prior to leaving. Give a color copy to your GoServ Global team leader.

What to expect when we arrive:

Fill out immigration papers on the plane. **ADDRESS to FILL OUT:**

Sandesh Raulo

L.N. Street

Goutan Nagar

Dist – Rayagada

Post Code- 765001

Odisha

India

- **You'll receive a green card at the airport – put it inside your passport & keep that for your return trip. You'll need it to leave India.**
- **Going through immigration: You are a tourist, helping at an orphanage in Rayagada.**
- GoServ Global recommends that you carry your own luggage. Saying "no" firmly is what is necessary. Be sure to keep a close eye on your bags. Let your host select porters as needed.

PACKING LIST

Money belt
Hand Sanitizer
Wipes
Earplugs
Sunblock
Bug Spray
Phone Charger
Bible
Camera
\$200 cash
Dramamine if needed
Pictures of your family- to show the kids
Small backpack/ day bag
Snacks like granola bars, trail mix, etc.
Crystal light/ or other flavors to add to water
Passport and VISA
Flashlight
Journal
Toiletry items & feminine products
Prescription Medicines
Backup glasses/sunglasses
Credit card – handy at the airport and a select few locations in India
Hat
Water Bottle
Wear modest clothing
Tshirts (dri-fit work great), shorts, pants, tennis shoes, work shoes – you might consider leaving your clothes in India when the week is over
Clean clothes for the trip home
Swimsuit
Crafts for Kids: Bubbles, soccer balls, bracelets, crafts – talk with GoServ Global team leader first
Bring one suitcase to leave there with stuff if you want
Bring one carry-on and a backpack – Check airline for size restrictions with 1 qt ziplock for liquids
Power adapters are not needed. Our host will provide them.

It's helpful to choose a duct tape or ribbon color for your entire team to use to help identify your luggage.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS

- Be sensitive – avoid judgmentalism; not better or worse, just different
- Overall principle – be flexible!
- Don't point and criticize
- Culture shock – often an all good or all bad response. Be aware of how you are processing things and discuss with the team
- Please heed all directions given to you by your Indian hosts or the GoServ Global team leader.
- Please be patient. Our two cultures are different; you will be living in their culture so be respectful.
- Come with a great attitude and being open to what God has in store for you.
- Represent GoServ Global in an honorable and mature fashion at all times
- Inform GoServ Global team leader of plans whenever you are away from the team
- Volunteers under the age of 18 must be accompanied by parent or designated adult guardian.
- Be Humble (you won't save the country)
- Don't promise anything you can't deliver
- The only difference between you & them is where you were born
- Do not give out personal information like email or phone number. Talk with your GoServ Global leader first if you want to stay connected with someone you meet in India.
- Carry a backpack or put in a place designated by your GoServ Global leader, with water at all times.

SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY:

Many team participants enjoy sharing their mission trip experience on social media. GoServ Global encourages all team members to exercise discretion to avoid any dishonorable content such as racial, ethnic, sexual, religious, or physical disability slurs. In addition, do not disclose or use confidential or humiliating content. For example, ask permission before posting someone's picture or publishing private conversations.

REMEMBER

- Dress in an appropriate manner & do not display any sexual behavior that is inconsistent with Christian values
- Be mindful of how you display affection between adults and children so that does not lead to a misunderstanding due to cultural differences. Do not touch a child/youth in an inappropriate manner.
- Do not use any discipline that humiliates or frightens a child – there is NO exception to this rule
- While volunteering either on or off the grounds, do not be under the influence of alcohol or use, possess or be under the influence of illegal drugs

MISSION TRIP CHECKLIST

1. **Speak with GoServ Global Rep to Secure Trip Dates (allow at least 6 months prior to trip)**
2. **"Like" GoServ Global on Facebook & "Follow" GoServ Global on Twitter**
3. **Recruit Prayer Team Members (6-10)**
4. **Receive Volunteer Packet at Initial Orientation**
5. **Secure Team Leader to Handle Financials**
6. **Hold World Change Sunday at your church or with your community group**
7. **Turn in GoServ Global Volunteer Forms, Prayer Partner List & Copy of Passport to Office – at least two months prior to trip departure**
8. **Begin Fundraising for Trip & for GoServ Global**
9. **Purchase Airline Tickets (GoServ Team Leader will plan and purchase)**
10. **Apply for a Passport if you don't already have one (allow 6-8 weeks)**
11. **Final Payment to GoServ Global Office at least one month prior to trip departure**
12. **Contact Your Local Media about Trip**
13. **Hold Final Team Meeting with GoServ Global Leader to discuss last minute details prior to trip**

UPON YOUR RETURN

1. **Fill out Evaluation & Return to Team Leader**
2. **Contact Local Media about Trip**
3. **Share Quotes/Pictures with GoServ Global – mary@goservglobal.org**
4. **Hold a Team Celebration**
5. **Become a GoServ Global Ambassador**
 - a. **Pray for GoServ Global**
 - b. **Assist with Events**
 - c. **Support GoServ Global's projects**