

CLOTHING POLICY, 2015

Hope Global Outreach loves the community where you are serving! As you serve, your actions and appearance speak loudly and have the potential to influence the community's perception of Hope Church and, more importantly, Christ. Choosing modest clothing helps to avoid distractions and misunderstandings. We ask that you choose apparel consistent with the following guidelines.

Please Bring:

Mid-Thigh or Longer Shorts (or pants, knee-length or longer skirts)

You will bend, twist, sit, climb and crawl as you love and serve communities. Short shorts will only get shorter with these activities. Here's how we define short: Let your arms fall to your side – if your fingers touch skin, bring a longer pair.

Loose-Fitting Clothing

During the week your clothes may endure paint, sweat, mud and lots of love from children! Bring clothes that you can work and play hard in.

Tennis Shoes or Work Boots (Closed-Foot Shoes)

To prevent injury, you need to bring a pair of shoes that completely cover your foot. Bring tennis shoes or work boots that you don't mind getting dirty or wet at work sites and that you can wear in the kitchen. Flip-flops or sandals are appropriate to wear in the shower and while not on a work site.

One-Piece or Tankini Swimsuits

Some partner sites include swimming activities. Please choose modest, one-piece or tankini swimsuits for these occasions.

Please Don't Bring:

Apparel that distracts . . .

- Sleeveless tops
- Short shorts – including the recently popular running/track shorts
- Clothing that reveals undergarments, midriffs or chests
- Tight-fitting clothing – including leggings, yoga pants, etc. Good rule of thumb: If you weren't wearing leggings, would it still be an appropriate outfit?

Also, apparel that . . .

- Includes obscene, vulgar, abusive or discriminatory language or images
- Advertises or promotes alcohol, chemical, tobacco or any other product illegal for use by minors
- Represents hate groups, is gang-related, or contains threatening language

Why Not? We represent Christ in the communities that we serve. While community members may choose to wear these clothing items, we know that our wearing them often works against our efforts to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus and so we ask you to refrain. This distracting apparel can be disrespectful and damaging to our long-term relationships.

We don't want to be the "clothing police" and we know that you don't want us to be either. We ask for you to understand this clothing policy and follow it. GO staff will ask the leaders to enforce the policy by asking you to change your clothing if it is believed to be a distraction. We appreciate your help in creating a safe, respectful, distraction-free environment for your mission experience.