

LOVE AND HOPE MINISTRIES

"Comforting the Distressed"



GUIDE TO SHORT-TERM TRIPS TO INDIA AND HAITI

LOVE AND HOPE MINISTRIES
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You are receiving this information in response to your inquiry about participating in a trip either to India or Haiti. There are a few things to consider before beginning the initial steps that will take you on the journey of a lifetime. Please read this packet in its entirety before contacting the ministry with questions. Most of your questions should be answered here.

INTRODUCTION

Jesus told His disciples to take the Gospel to the world. The Church does that through the preaching and teaching of the Word of God, and through practical means like distributing clothing, and providing a place to sleep in His Name. We are to minister to the spiritual and physical needs of our fellow man. People cannot see the love of Christ until it is demonstrated through practical means through His people. Whether you are able to minister the Word of God to the lost or even pastors, or you distribute clothing to widows and toothbrushes to orphans, you are a tangible representative of our Lord and Savior. You will represent Him through your words, your actions, and your reactions.

With the eternal and spiritual responsibilities and rewards in mind, we cannot and must not romanticize the notion of missions. While our hearts may burst within us with Christ's compassion for hurting humanity, there is something that we must keep in the forefront of our minds. We are not taking a leisurely vacation to a luxury island.

We are stepping onto third-world soil. We are jumping across the oceans and landing in less than favorable conditions. On these trips, **YOU WILL NOT BE COMFORTABLE**. The language is different, the climate is different, the food is different and may not be appealing to our American palate. The customs are different, the people are different, and even the way the churches and Christians worship are different. Be prepared to be stretched physically, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually.

With these things in mind, let nothing deter you from obedience to the call of the Spirit. Whatever challenge you face can be met by the One who has faced it all before you. Christ emptied Himself of all of His heavenly rights and privileges. You will have to lay aside every "American right" in order to herald the message of the Kingdom. Do not expect to be treated like royalty just because you are from America. Christ came from the culture of the Throne room, to the ancient Near Eastern sea-side. You will have to step from the rich soil of America where everything comes to you in a split-second and every environmental stimuli is pleasing to your senses, to foreign soil where things will probably NOT go the way you planned, will take very much longer than expected, and to a land where your eyes, ears, nostrils, and taste buds will be assaulted on a constant basis. America is VERY comfortable, and we take just about everything for granted. India and Haiti are VERY uncomfortable, and you will be very thankful for the blessings God has granted when you arrive home. But please keep in mind; the natives of these countries endure these conditions all the time! In spite of all

this, you will have the joy of putting a smile on the faces of many children. In addition, you will also participate in the unspeakable joy of the unsaved who will accept Christ as their personal savior and will be baptized in water. You will have a chance to go to villages to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ and at the same time you will enjoy beautiful scenery and picturesque of villages and village life. Regardless of what may come to you as uncomfortable, you can overcome it through the grace of God, and by tightly holding the hand of the One who knows what you are enduring. Rely on Christ, and all of Heaven's help and resources are yours.

ABOUT LOVE AND HOPE MINISTRIES

Love and Hope Ministries started with a vision and burden given by God to Rev. Jabez and Mrs. Gloria Rapaka while attending Regent University Graduate School. The vision was to help the children, widows, elderly, and pastors in India and Haiti. By the leading of the Holy Spirit, Rev. Rapaka incorporated Love and Hope Ministries in India and in the United States on March 4, 2004.

MISSION STATEMENT

Love and Hope Ministries believes in meeting the spiritual needs of people through evangelism, church planting and discipleship. We also believe in meeting the physical, educational, emotional and social needs of the poor, needy, destitute, abandoned, neglected and the unwanted of society by providing food, clothing, shelter, medical care and education.

VISION STATEMENT

Love and Hope Ministries' vision is to bring God's Love and Hope to those who are without hope in the society through the life-changing and life-giving Gospel of Jesus Christ. We also seek to provide humanitarian aid to alleviate their misery and suffering.

THE NEED: HAITI

Haiti's current population is more than 8 million. Haiti ranks as the most "food insecure" country in the Western Hemisphere, and the second most politically unstable country in the world. The majority of the population does not have ready access to safe drinking water, adequate medical care, or sufficient food. For most Haitians, daily life is a struggle for survival. The statistics on Haiti are alarming:

- 10% of children in Haiti will die before the age of 4.
- 7% (300,000) of the children in Haiti are enslaved as young as 3 years old! They often suffer sexual, emotional, and physical abuse and even death.
- 45% of the Haitian population is illiterate.
- 30% of the population is ill and/or underweight.

- 70% of the population lives below poverty level.

Land and Climate: Haiti covers 10,714 square miles of the island of Hispaniola, which it shares with the Dominican Republic. It is just a little smaller than the state of Maryland in the USA. Haiti is significantly mountainous. Its climate is warm and humid. The average temperature in the mountains is 66°F, while at Port-au-Prince it is 81°F. Spring and autumn are rainy; whereas December to February and June to August are dry.

Language: Haitian Creole is the language of daily conversation. French is used in government and business. Only the educated people speak French. Haitian Creole is a unique mixture of French and African languages.

Religion: 80% of Haitians are Catholic, while Protestants claim 16% or more of the population. The organized religion of Haiti is Voodoo (worship of spirits), which is practiced to some degree by a majority of Haitian Catholics.

Food: Haitians usually eat rice and beans every day, although a main meal will often include meat, salad and a vegetable. Rice and corn are staple grains. Spicy foods are most popular.

(Source: Culturegram, Vol.1, Orem, UT: Axiom Press, 2004).

THE NEED: INDIA

India is the second most populous country in the world with a population of 1.03 billion. Of the estimated 400 million children, 300,000-500,000 are in prostitution, while 47% under age three are malnourished. There continues to be a high incidence of child labor and unschooled children, and girls remain particularly disadvantaged.

Of the 496,453,556 females living in India, 8% (40 million) women are widows. Many widows are forced to beg for money in India to pay for food, as there is no government structure to aid this huge segment of the population. In the state of Andhra Pradesh, where Love and Hope Ministries is located, the female population is 37,682,594. Out of this 37-plus million, 8% (1.5 million) are widows.

Land and Climate: India, covering 1, 269 square miles, is roughly one third the size of the United States. Most of the country experiences three basic seasons: hot summer (March-May), rainy (June-October), and cool winter (November-February). Temperatures rarely go below 40°F in January or reach above 100°F during the summer.

Language: India is home to several hundred languages, of which 33 have 100,000 or more speakers. Eighteen languages have official status: Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sindhi, Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu and Urdu. Hindi is the national language spoken by at least 30% of the population. English is also the official language, and is the language of government, business, science, education and national communication.

Religion: India is the birthplace of Hinduism, Buddhism, Jainism, and Sikhism. It is also an adopted home for Zoroastrianism. About 80% of Indians are Hindu.

Food: Diet depends on region. Rice is the main staple in South India and wheat bread (roti) is the main staple in North India. Indian food is usually hot and spicy. Different types of curry (eggs, fish, meat, or vegetables in a spicy sauce) are popular.

(Source: Culturegram, Vol. 4, Orem, UT: Axiom Press, 2004).

Things to take care of in preparation for your life changing trip to India or Haiti

- (1) Read this guide carefully.
- (2) Pray about going. When you are sure about going, proceed to the other steps.
- (3) Investigate the culture and religion of the country you are about to enter.
- (4) Apply for your passport at your local Post Office at least 6 months in advance of your departure.
- (5) After receiving your passport, apply immediately for your visa at: <http://indiavisa.travisaoutsourcing.com> or <http://www.indianembassy.org> for India. Submit form and fee to address provided. **There is no visa needed for Haiti at this time.**
- (6) Purchase plane tickets (at least \$2,000 for India, and \$700 for Haiti) at least 2 months in advance.
- (7) For first-time travelers, the total cost of the trip to India is approximately \$3,600 (\$3,100 for others) and the total cost of the trip to Haiti is approximately \$2,100 (\$1,600 for others).
- (8) Check with your local hospital about the necessary vaccinations. Please obtain vaccinations at least 6 weeks prior to your departure.
- (9) Purchase the needed items for safe and healthy travel.

(10) Bathe EVERY step in prayer.

Note: This is only an information packet and is not a legal contract.

I. General Guidelines:

1. How to apply for your Passport:

● Apply for your passport at your local Post Office at least 6 months prior to your trip. It takes at least 6 to 8 weeks to get the passport from the passport office. You can obtain a passport in 2 weeks or so, if you pay an additional processing fee of \$60. Your passport will be valid for 10 years.

Passport Requirements:

Apply for your passport at your local Post Office at least 6 months prior to your trip.

1. Proof of US Citizenship
2. Proof of Identity
3. Two Recent color Photographs
4. Fee: \$97 (if you are 16 years or older) and \$82 (if you are under 16 years of age).

● **Please check with your local Post Office for current information on passport requirements and fee.**

2. How to obtain a Visa:

● Soon after receiving your passport, apply immediately for your visa or at least six weeks in advance of your departure at: <http://indiavisa.travisaoutsourcing.com> or <http://www.indianembassy.org>. For India, submit visa application and fee to address provided. There are other locations, such as Houston, Chicago and San Francisco at which you can apply for a visa, based on your state of residence.

● Do not forget to send your passport and self-addressed envelope along with your visa application and fee so that the Indian embassy can return your passport with a visa in the mail. **Please make a photocopy of your passport before mailing it to Travisa Outsourcing.**

You can apply for a visa in person at Travisa Outsourcing in New York or Washington, DC. Visas can be issued on the same business day, if the applications submitted between 9.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.

Visa requirements:

Note: You need to apply for a visa soon after you receive your passport or at least six weeks prior to your departure.

1. **Visa** application form should be filled in legibly and clearly, in bold (capital) letters in black/blue ink only. Incomplete and illegible applications may not be processed. You can download the application from the Indian Embassy website.
2. **Passport:** It should have a minimum validity of six months on the date of application with at least two blank pages.
3. **Photographs** : 2 latest identical passport size photographs (black/white or color) depicting **front pose** against light background

4. Visa Fee: Visitor's Visa fee \$60 in US funds. It will be valid for 6 months. You can obtain a visa for 10 years for \$150 in US funds. Please log onto the Indian Embassy website for current information on visa requirements and fee or Travisa Outsourcing website at <http://indiavisa.travisaoutsourcing.com/>.

In case the applications are deposited in person at the counter, visa fee can be paid in cash or by Cashier's Cheque/Certified Cheque or Money Order made payable to ***Travisa Outsourcing***. (PERSONAL CHEQUES / CREDIT CARDS are not accepted). If the applications are submitted by mail, please do not send in the cash. Money orders must be made payable to the Embassy of India, Washington or New York, etc based on your state of residence.

- **Please apply for a visitor's Visa only.**
- **Currently, there is no visa needed for Haiti.**

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Travisa Outsourcing
1731 21st. St. NW
Washington, DC 20009
Phone: (866) 631-7296
Fax: (202) 299-0687

Addresses of Indian Embassies
Consulate General of India
3 East 64th Street
New York, NY 10021
(Between Madison Ave & 5th Avenue)
Tel : 212-774-0600
Fax : Central 212-861-3788

Consular Wing
2536 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008
Telephone: (202) 939-9806
Fax: (202) 797-4693

3. Vaccinations:

In order to receive travel vaccinations, please contact your **local medical clinic**, or **hospital** or **Passport Health**. Please obtain vaccinations at least 6 weeks prior to your departure.

You need to get **at least the following** vaccinations and pills:

- Hepatitis B
- Typhoid
- Malaria pills

Note: Typhoid shots are valid for only two years. You can take typhoid virus orally and it is good for 5 years. Hepatitis B is valid for 10 years. **All travelers should take malaria pills every time they leave the country.**

You are encouraged to get additional vaccinations if you would like to, based on your health needs.

Vaccinations are expensive and it may cost you more than \$500 to get all the necessary shots. Sometimes your insurance will cover the expenses of your shots.

4. Food:

- You will eat authentic native foods that are delicious. Cooks will be hired to prepare food that is suitable for Westerners in India. In Haiti, you will eat at the Hotel where you will be staying or you will dine at Pastor and Mrs. Gabriel Molien's (Gloria's parents) house, based on the situation.
- Rice is the main staple in South India. Different types of curry (eggs, fish, meat, or vegetables in a spicy sauce) are popular.
- Haitians usually eat rice and beans every day, although a main meal will often include meat, salad and a vegetable. Rice and corn are staple grains.
- Food costs about \$30 per day per person in India.
- Food costs about \$45-50 dollars per day per person in Haiti.

5. Accommodations:

You will be staying in an air-conditioned room in a hotel.

In India, you will be staying at:

Manya Guest Lane
22C-2-6 Chandurivari Choultry Street
Power Pet
ELURU-534002
Phone: 011-91-8812-226922/552345

The cost to rent a room in India is about \$40 per night per person. It is a private room for one individual.

Auberge du Quebec
Thor 65, Rue Cordoue ou Thor 67
#15 Carrefour
C.P. 2001--PORT-AU-PRINCE
Haiti HT6110
Phone: 011-509-234-0436/1880

The cost rent room in Haiti is about \$75 per night per person. It is a private room for one individual.

5. Currency & Exchange Rate:

- The currency in India is the rupee. One US dollar currently equals approximately 40.00 rupees or more, based on the Stock Market.
- The currency in Haiti is the gourde. One US dollar currently equals approximately 25.00 gourds or more, based on the Stock Market.

6. Purchasing airplane tickets:

- Love and Hope Ministries is currently working with a travel agent in India. The travel agent will book the tickets for you.
- The cost of plane tickets is about \$2,000 for India, and \$700 for Haiti. Tickets must be obtained **at least 2 months in advance.**
- Once the tickets are booked, **they may not be refundable.** **Love and Hope Ministries cannot be held responsible.**

7. Due Dates:

- Those who are going to India in December must submit their application along with a check for their plane fare by October 1st. The remainder of the money is

due by November 1st (except expenses for vaccinations. First-time travelers should obtain their vaccinations at the local hospitals).

- Those who are going to Haiti in August must submit their application along with their plane fare by June 1st. The remainder of the money is due by July 1st (except expenses for vaccinations. First-time travelers should obtain their vaccinations at their local hospitals).

II. Safety Guidelines

- It is important on these trips that you do not eat, drink, or take anything (food or other items) given to you by anyone, other than those approved by Rev. Rapaka.

- Do not leave your possessions unattended or under anyone's supervision without checking first with Rev. Rapaka.

- Be vigilant of your surroundings since there is lot of thievery and pick pocketing (especially political unrest in Haiti).

- Do not give your e-mail address, phone number, mailing address, or other personal information to anyone because of increased terrorist threats to American lives.

- Remember to keep your personal identification, passport, plane ticket, travel itinerary, money, and credit cards (only Visa Card accepted in India) on your person at all times.

- Do not go anywhere with anyone for any reason unless so directed by Rev. Rapaka.

- Also, be sure to photocopy your passport and other identification and give several copies to family members and hide in several pieces of your luggage in case of an emergency.

- Please leave all valuables (watches, jewelry, wedding rings, etc.) at home except cameras and camcorders. You must keep your cameras and camcorders with you all the time. Buy a cheap watch at Wal-mart.

**IT IS BETTER TO BE VERY, VERY CAUTIOUS THAN VERY VERY SORRY,
ESPECIALLY IN A FOREIGN COUNTRY!!!**

III. Other Guidelines

1. Customs and behaviors

i. Kissing and holding hands

- While in either Haiti or India, do not be hesitant to ask if certain behavior and actions are appropriate in these countries. What is normal, natural, and acceptable in America may not be elsewhere. For example, a husband and wife will have to refrain from holding hands and kissing in public in India and Haiti, because any public display of affection between married couples is a taboo.
- It is important to follow the instructions of Rev. Rapaka, and not to be hesitant to ask him or natives from the respective countries regarding the appropriateness of action and behavior.

ii. Other cultural issues:

- Women have to cover their heads in church services in India and Haiti. **Please purchase a veil that will match all your outfits.**
- Please take off your shoes and keep them under your chair out of reverence for God in church services in India (does not apply for Haiti).
- In Haiti, people do not like their pictures taken, use caution when you take pictures. When you take pictures of a house, please obtain permission from its owner.

iii. Wearing make-up and jeans/pants

Wearing make-up and pants or jeans may be acceptable for women in America and in India, **but only unsaved women do so in Haiti**. We must become like the culture that we are in, in order to reduce any barrier or offense toward the Gospel. We must remember that we are responsible to do all we can to minister the Gospel, and remove any potential hindrances.

iii. Dress

- Be sure to wear long-sleeved clothing and CLOSED TOE shoes in India.
- In Haiti, bring along clothing to change into that would be appropriate for 110+ degree weather. **Women should not wear pants or jeans in Haiti.**

Suggested Items to bring with you for your trip

1. Germ-X (large container and several refillable travel-size).
2. Normal toiletry items (shampoo, soap, shaving cream, deodorant).
****It is VERY important that all the products you bring be unscented. Fragrances will attract mosquitoes which may be carrying malaria or other diseases.****
3. Bug repellent for BOTH skin AND clothing (found in sports department of stores like Wal-Mart). Spray clothes just before you pack and it should last for two weeks.
4. Alcohol and iodine wipes.
5. Band-aids, triple-antibiotic and anti-fungal ointments, and other first-aid items.
6. Anti-gas / antacid medication, and an anti-diarrheal medication.
7. Motion-sickness medication (Bonine, Dramamine or Sea band bracelets).
8. If you have trouble with your ears, you can purchase a product called Earplanes. You can also wear earphones for noise reduction on the airplane.
9. Benadryl (for allergic reactions), Tylenol (pain reliever/fever reducer), etc.
10. Advil Cold and Sinus, cough/cold strips, or your preference for cold medicine.
11. Personal battery-operated fan with extra batteries for personal comfort in hot temperatures.
12. A small squirt bottle to put water in to help cool down.
13. Hard candy (children and adults of EVERY country love them, and they also keep your throat from being dry if the air is dry and dusty.)
14. Visine.
15. Vitamins to help maintain your immune system. Look at ways to strengthen your immunity BEFORE you go, while you are there, and when you return home.
16. Water purification drops or tablets.
17. Sometimes the food may not agree with your taste or digestion, so packing tuna fish pouches, granola bars, Slim-Jims, crackers, instant oatmeal and other small food items to leave in your room or bring along in a backpack is acceptable.

18. Water is your main beverage in India, and it will either be hot or room temperature. Bring along single-serving Gatorade, tea, or other water-flavoring powders.
20. Hand wipes, and anti-bacterial wipes may come in handy to sanitize hard surfaces in your hotel room or other areas.
21. Baby wipes and small packs of tissue to carry on you.
22. Bring 6 rolls of toilet paper for India as their bathroom customs are different.
23. Backpack to carry items to villages and bring necessary emergency items with you.
24. Small flashlight.
25. Fanny pack.
26. Money belt to wear under your clothing.
27. Locks for all luggage, even carry-on luggage, as it may have to be checked later.
28. Voltage converter for India (Haiti's electricity is the same as the US).
29. International calling card (can be purchased in India or Haiti).
30. Purchase travel insurance if desired (it is not included in the total cost of your trip).
31. Purchase travel suitcases that will be suitable for international trips.
32. Umbrella.

Miscellaneous Guidelines

Do not forget to bring your passport, air tickets and travel shot records with you.

1. PACK ALL FOOD AND DRINK ITEMS, ALL TOILETRY and FIRST AID ITEMS IN A ZIP-LOCK BAG, AS ITEMS MAY BE PUNCTURED OR CRUSHED DURING TRAVEL. You can also use it for food storage.

2. Bring along a camera and/or camcorder if desired.
3. Check airline for updated baggage weight and other restrictions. Currently, you are allowed to take two 50 lbs. suitcases with you.
4. Mark luggage for quick and easy identification.
5. Wear loose-fitting and comfortable clothing and shoes during airplane travel.
6. Wear one of your outfits during travel in order to conserve luggage space.
7. Don't pack pairs of shoes. Instead put only one shoe from each pair in each suitcase.
8. If you would like to bring items for the children, please limit your items to small size and light things like tooth brushes, pens and pencils, pencil sharpeners, highlighters, tooth pastes (small size), soaps (small size), etc.
9. If you would like to give monetary gifts or any other gifts to people you meet or children in India or Haiti, please give them to Rev. Rapaka and he will handle them for you.

Projected Expenses for a Mission Trip to India

• Airplane ticket =	\$1,800
• Air-ticket within India	\$100
• Visa fee =	\$60
• Travel shots (first-time visitors)=	\$500

- Food (breakfast, lunch and dinner) = \$30 per day
- Accommodations (Manya Guest Lane)= \$40 per day
- Transportation within India (Rental car, driver, gas, etc) = \$30 per day
- Miscellaneous expenses = \$150

Total Price= approximately \$3,600 per person for ten days for first-time travelers.

Total Price= approximately \$3,100 per person for ten days for others.

Note: *There may be an increase in the expenses due to currency exchange or the season of the year that we are traveling. Love and Hope is not responsible for the changes in price.*

Destination: Eluru

State: Andhra Pradesh, India

Duration of the trip: 10-15 days

Dates: From second week of December to third week of December

The tentative work we will do while we are in India

- Visiting and sharing the love of Jesus to children in Love and Hope Children's Home.
- Visiting and sharing the love of Jesus to children of Love and Hope Public Schools.
- Distributing bicycles to poor pastors.
- Distributing clothes to widows, children, and the elderly.
- Conducting a Gospel and healing crusade in Eluru.
- Visiting villages to share the Gospel and visiting churches to strengthen the believers and ministering to children.

Note: When ready to book tickets, please contact Love and Hope Ministries for current prices and information.

Contact Person: Rev. Jabez Rapaka

Phone: 757-424-1296

E-mail: loveandhope@juno.com

Projected Expenses for a Mission Trip to Haiti

- Airplane ticket = \$ 650
- Exit fee = \$50

- Travel shots (first-time visitors) = \$500
- Food (breakfast, lunch and Dinner) and transportation expenses = \$50 per day
- Accommodations (Auberge Du Quebec)= \$75 per night
- Miscellaneous expenses = \$150

Total Price= approximately \$2, 100 per person for a week for first-time travelers.

Total Price= approximately \$1, 600 per person for a week for others.

Note: *There may be an increase in the expenses due to currency exchange or the season of the year that we are traveling. Love and Hope is not responsible for the changes in price. The cost of living in Haiti is higher than in India. Hence, you can expect accommodation and food expenses to be slightly higher for Haiti than India.*

Place: Carrefour, Haiti

Duration of the trip: 7 days

Dates: Third week of August (usually August 16 to 22)

The tentative work we will do while we are in Haiti

- Visiting and sharing the love of Jesus to children in Children's Home.
- Ministering to over 300 children at a convention.
- Distributing clothes, books and school supplies to poor children.
- Ministering to pastors, and their wives at a convention.
- Visiting Love and Hope Bible Institute to minister to future pastors, evangelists and ministers.

Note: When ready to book tickets, please contact Love and Hope Ministries for current prices and information.

Contact Person: Rev. Jabez Rapaka

Phone: 757-424-1296

E-mail: loveandhope@juno.com

Mission Trip Participation Application and Agreement Form

1. Full Name:

2. Address:

a. Phone:

b. Cell Phone:

c. E-Mail:

3. Emergency Contact Information:

a. Name:

a. Name:

b. Address:

b. Address:

c. Phone:

c. Phone:

d. Cell:

d. Cell:

e. E-Mail:

e. E-mail:

4. Are you a born-again believer?

YES NO

5. Do you feel that God is leading you to go to India or Haiti?

YES NO

6. Are you willing to face the challenges in the mission field during your trip?

YES NO

7. Are you medically fit to travel to India or Haiti? If your answer is no, Please explain:

YES NO

8. Do you take any special medication for health reasons? If your answer is yes, please explain:

YES NO

9. Do you smoke or drink or take illegal drugs?

YES NO

10. What natural talents and God-given gifts can you share on this trip?

11. Although exciting, traveling to India or Haiti can be dangerous and risky at times. Scripture teaches, in 1 Corinthians 6, that Christians should not sue each other. Do you agree that if you are injured during this trip to India or Haiti, it would be neither Biblical nor appropriate for you to sue Love and Hope Ministries, its board and its associates?

YES NO

14. Do you agree to abide by the rules set forth by Love and Hope Ministries and team leaders of the missions trip?

YES NO

I hereby declare the information that I have provided here is accurate and true. Scripture teaches, in 1 Corinthians 6, that Christians should not sue each other. Hence, I will not hold Love and Hope Ministries, its board or its associates legally responsible if I am injured or become ill or anything happens to me during my mission trip to India or Haiti. I am going on this mission trip at my own risk.

Signature:

Date:

We look forward to having you along!



**Founders:
Rev. Jabez & Mrs. Gloria Rapaka**

Rev. Yabbeju (Jabez) Rapaka was born and raised in a devout Christian home in India. While he was attending Andhra University to pursue his own desires, God called him instead into full-time ministry. God brought Rev. Rapaka to the United States in 1993 to further equip him in order to fulfill His divine plan and purpose for his life. Rev. Rapaka attended Elim Bible Institute in Lima, NY, for one year. He later attended Zion Bible Institute in Barrington, RI, where he obtained his B.A. in Biblical Studies in 1997. He then served as a staff member at Zion Bible Institute for four years, from 1997-2001. He later received M.B.A. and M. Div. degrees from Regent University in Virginia Beach, VA, in 2004. He is an adjunct faculty in the school of Divinity and also Undergraduate Religious Studies program at Regent.

Mrs. Gloria Rapaka was born and raised the daughter of a minister in Haiti. She wanted to be a doctor or lawyer, but God redirected her plans and called her into ministry. Mrs. Rapaka fled Haiti and came to the United States in 1992, due to severe violence and political upheaval in her homeland. Following God's leading, she attended Zion Bible Institute, where she earned her B.A. in Biblical Studies and met Rev. Rapaka, whom later she married in 1998. She served as a staff member at Zion Bible Institute from 1998-2001. She is also a graduate of Regent University, where she obtained her M.Ed. degree in 2003.