



Top 18 Most Commonly Asked Questions

- 1. Why can't I find detailed information about the Freedom Center on the website?**
A: While the security situation in N. Iraq is considered quite safe, we purposefully do not post sensitive information on the web to limit unnecessary exposure and threats from individuals or groups who might resist the spread of Christ in the Muslim world.
- 2. How long will we actually be in Iraq?**
A: Barring unforeseen change in the climate of Iraq, dates are scheduled for March 2009-June 2010. Details and flight arrangements are still in process.
- 3. How much is this year going to cost overall? When does the money have to be in?**
A: There will be an initial expense of \$5,500, plus \$1,700 per month. We want participants to have the initial \$5,500, plus six months' worth of living expenses (totaling \$12,750) in by the beginning of the February-March training. The rest can be received during the duration in Iraq, but participants should have commitments for the remaining amount of money before departure.
- 4. Will the church help me do fundraising? How much of the support raised goes to administrative costs?**
A: We will provide training during the initial December training for "Ministry Partner Development" (support-raising). However, each participant is responsible to raise the funds through his/her personal network of relationships and churches. Direct financial support or direct assistance in raising support will not be provided by Global Hope. Of the support raised by participants, 85% will go to the participant and 15% will go to administrative costs. This 15% includes withholding for taxes and insurance.
- 5. How safe will we be? Are we near fighting?**
A: Safety will be monitored at all times. Participants will be in the northern part of the country where fighting is minimal. In Kurdistan of Iraq, the security situation is stable and has been for several years. The Kurds are very receptive to Americans.
- 6. What if war/fighting breaks out, how quickly and safely can we get out?**
A: Should the need arise, the Global Hope Iraq Field Director will work with the Global Hope Director/Board of Directors, other experienced resident foreigners, military, and locals to provide the quickest possible evacuation. Should an evacuation be needed, the quickest and most secure route will be assessed and taken.
- 7. a) Can my spouse go?**
A: Yes, provided that he/she has completed the application process and been selected for participation as well. Both spouses will have to apply for a position on the Freedom Center team.
b) Can my children go?
A: At this time, due to many factors including housing limitations and job requirements, children will not be permitted to participate or accompany an adult.
- 8. How many people in total are going?**
A: Last year's team consisted of 21 people. Global Hope will take this year all those candidates we feel are a good fit for the program and meet all the spiritual and practical qualifications lined out in the application process. We estimate up to thirty people for the Freedom Center team. Entry and exit travel will be accompanied by the Global Hope Mobilization Team.

9. What kind of jobs will be available for us to do?

A: The possibilities for service include, but are not limited to, teaching English, serving in the coffee shop/internet café, facilitating sports camps and clubs, providing IT and administrative support. Once accepted to the program, each participant will have a chance to request placement in the job of his/her choice. Job placement will then be determined by the participant's interest, skill, and overall suitability within the team.

10. Will we only be working with college students?

A: The Freedom Center team will have many and varied opportunities to work with people from all over the Kurdish community. The governor of the region has a desire for all of the residents of the city to engage in the programs of the center, though its location on the university campus will largely appeal to the collegiate generation.

11. Do the people speak any English?

A: Some people speak English. Most are limited in their conversational skills. Kurdish is the local language, with many people also speaking Arabic, Persian, Assyrian, and Turkish.

12. Will I have to learn Arabic?

A: No, the local language is Kurdish. Participants will not be required to learn Kurdish, but a survival Kurdish course will be provided during the state-side training. It is recommended that each participant pursue learning some basic vocabulary to assist in daily needs like shopping, transportation, etc.

13. Do participants have to be a certain age?

A: Participants must be at least 21 years of age. Consideration will be given to those candidates under the age of 21 on a case by case basis. Any candidates under the age of 21 must have the permission of their parents or guardians to participate in the program.

14. Will my parents/family/friends be able to contact me when I am over there? How?

A: Yes. Email will be available. International phone calls are available as well, as is instant messaging. The cost of both will have to be covered by the participant, and it should be noted that limited infrastructure can cause problems with internet and cell phone communication from time to time. The team has access to a satellite phone in case of emergencies.

15. What about visas?

A: Currently visas can be acquired at the airport with a valid US passport. Upon arrival in the country, resident visas will be acquired through Global Hope and any local sponsoring partners, i.e. the University, Kurdistan Regional Government.

16. What immunizations do I need?

A: A list of the immunizations required or recommended for travel to Iraq can be found at <http://www.cdc.gov/travel/mideast.htm>.

17. How do I get a passport?

A: Information for acquiring a passport can be found at http://travel.state.gov/passport/passport_1738.html.

18. What if I decide I want to stay over there and join the long-term team?

A: In order to join the long-term GH team, participants will be required to return to the US to complete any further training requirements and ability for a position on the long-term team.