



Volunteer Guidelines

Welcome to Hope for the Fatherless! Thank you for giving your time and resources to come serve alongside us in Ethiopia. Our desire is for each HFTF child, staff member, and visitor to feel safe, loved, valued, and honored throughout your stay. Below you will find our visitor guidelines. Our staff will review this with you in detail on your first day with us and additionally provide you/your trip leader with cultural and mission trip orientation prior to your visit.

1. Please do not make promises to the children, staff, or other nationals (gifts, returning to Ethiopia, adopting, etc.).
2. Respect the children's rooms as their personal living area. Please don't enter their rooms without explicit permission from the house manager or volunteer coordinator.
3. Do not distribute gifts to our children or staff without explicit permission from the volunteer coordinator. We love when people bring special treats/gifts but want to make sure they are shared at an appropriate time.
4. Please do not pick children up, let them ride on your back, or let them sit on your lap. Hugs and high fives are encouraged! Many of our kids come from backgrounds of abuse or have severe attachment disorders. You are participating in their healing by helping us with this!
5. Please do not let the children play with your cell phone or camera.
6. Please do not let the kids carry or play with your bags or backpacks.
7. Stay within the boundaries of our property when working with the kids.
8. Do not invite people onto HFTF property without explicit permission from the staff.
9. Refrain from giving money or goods to beggars on the streets of Ethiopia. This is for your safety, and it is also illegal!
10. Do not carry valuables in the outer pockets of your clothing or bags.
11. Only leave your bags and coats in the designated areas of the houses/office. Never leave a bag behind in the car.
12. You are welcome to take photos and videos of and with the children, but we ask that you **not** post any pictures/videos of the kids on the internet or your personal social media

(Facebook, Instagram, etc.). This is for the protection of the children as well as government purposes. We will provide you with a link to an online gallery to share your trip pictures with us.

We look forward to your visit to Hope for the Fatherless! May this be a rich time of experiencing and giving love to these precious children. Please carefully read and sign this form prior to your visit. You may email it in advance to lea@hopeforthefatherless.com or bring it to our office.

Signature of volunteer: _____

Print: _____

Date: _____

Questions or concerns? Please contact:

Lea Wright

lea@hopeforthefatherless.com

+251 094 017 4454 (Ethiopia)

+1 303 889 9748 (USA – works for Whatsapp, Viber, Telegram)

*****Office Use*****

Team: _____

Leader: _____

Trip Dates: _____

Form Received: _____