

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY FOR SEXUAL HARASSMENT OR ABUSE**

Churches with youth groups participating in HIM short term missions are required to complete this form and return it to:

Helps International Ministries  
Attention: Short Term Missions  
573 Fairview Road  
Asheville, NC 28803

Please note:

*\*For the sake of your children and Christian testimony, Helps International Ministries does not allow anyone who has a criminal background in child sexual abuse or has admitted guilt to child sexual abuse (including crimes committed against teenagers), to participate in any Helps International Ministries programs involving minors, regardless of when the offense occurred.*

**Screening is required.** Screening is the process in which you evaluate the character of those adults who will work with youth. This normally involves obtaining references. If the pastor or leadership of your church has had several years of experience with an individual, you may feel that is sufficient screening. If questions arise during screening, a criminal background check is necessary. These are done through your local sheriff's office and usually involve a financial charge. The process for screening your youth workers is at your discretion and is your responsibility.

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Church \_\_\_\_\_ Mission Project Location \_\_\_\_\_

City, State \_\_\_\_\_ Mission Project Date \_\_\_\_\_

“By virtue of our church’s participation on this Helps International Missions project, **our church assumes the responsibility to screen all adults** who participate on the project to ensure that no one with a background of child sexual abuse participates. Because we care for the safety of our children and the testimony of our church, when questions arise during the screening process which warrant such a step, we agree to do a criminal background check. We assume full responsibility for the conduct of our adults and release Helps International Ministries from any responsibility for the conduct of the adults of our church in their relationships with our youth or the youth from the other churches or any other youth which might be involved in this project.”

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Position held in Church: \_\_\_\_\_

**(Must be signed by the Pastor, Deacon, Elder or other authorized church official)**