Participating in a MedWish Medical Brigade is a wonderful way to give your time, talents, and compassion to those in need. During this Brigade, participants will be serving the local community and surrounding area of Higuey, Dominican Republic.

Both medical personnel and non-medical volunteers are welcome on this trip; however, to ensure that there are enough medical personnel to run a successful clinic, a number of spaces are reserved for medical professionals. Registration is first come first serve and will close once the trip reaches capacity.

Please review the following trip information carefully before registering. If you have any questions, please contact Britta Latz at blatz@medwish.org or call 216.692.1685 x33. We hope you will be joining us for the 2020 Dominican Republic Brigade!

ABOUT MEDWISH

MedWish International is a nonprofit organization that saves lives and the environment by repurposing discarded medical supplies and equipment, while providing humanitarian aid to individuals and organizations that administer care in developing countries.

MedWish diverts roughly 450,000-500,000 pounds of medical surplus from our local landfills every year. This is done with the support of local hospitals and healthcare providers, who generously donate medical supplies and equipment to MedWish. Roughly 3,500 volunteers support MedWish annually and help sort through these donated supplies. MedWish is also a training site for individuals with special needs that participate in MedWish’s Skill Building Program.

MedWish’s founder was inspired to found MedWish after serving as an intern in a surgical clinic in Nigeria. International Medical Brigades have therefore been part of MedWish since its inception. Past Brigades have been to Honduras, Kenya, the Dominican Republic, Peru, El Salvador, Guatemala, and Nicaragua.
ABOUT THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The Dominican Republic is located in the Caribbean and is about twice the size of New Jersey. It is located on the island of Hispaniola, which it shares with Haiti. Spanish is the official language. The country’s total population is just over 10.2 million, with 30.5% estimated to live below the poverty line. The average life expectancy is 71.3 years. The majority of the population works in the service sector, 64.7%, with 20.8% working in industry, and 14.4% in the agricultural sector.

To learn more about the Dominican Republic, please CLICK HERE

ABOUT MISSION POSSIBLE

Mission Possible is a not-for-profit, 501c3, formally known as Mission Possible – Dominican Republic, Inc. It is a network of individuals and churches in Northeast Ohio that sends missionaries to the Dominican Republic to improve the quality of life for some of the poorest individuals in the world. Over the past 15 years, over 700 unique individuals have participated in dozens of mission trips with Mission Possible. The goal of Mission Possible is to both address the needs of the poorest of the poor and raise up the next generation of individuals who will work to create a better world community.

MedWish International will be partnering with Mission Possible on this brigade. Mission Possible has deep connections and relationships within the Higuey community and surrounding area which will allow the individuals on this brigade to maximize their impact and develop a greater cultural understanding and appreciation.

TRIP INFORMATION

Eligibility
Brigade volunteers must be 12 years old or older at the time of the Brigade. Any participant that is under the age of 18 must be accompanied by a parent or authorized guardian. Both medical professionals and non-medical volunteers are welcome. While we welcome volunteers of all backgrounds, we do reserve a number of places for professionals in the fields of medicine, nursing, dentistry and eye care.

Accommodations
We will be staying in a local hotel centrally located in Higuey. The hotel is clean, safe, and comfortable. The accommodations are basic, but there is running water to shower (not necessarily hot though!), air conditioning, and electricity.

Airline Reservations
Mission Possible will arrange group airline transportation through Cleveland Hopkins Airport. Participants that do not wish to have their flights booked must contact MedWish at the time of registration to indicate their intentions. Any participant traveling independently must provide MedWish with his/her flight information by June 1, 2020 and must coordinate their travel with the group.

Cost
This MedWish Medical Brigade is $2,500 per person. A non-refundable deposit of $750 is due by Sunday, March 1, 2020 to reserve your place. Reservations are taken on a first come first serve basis. A percentage of spots will be held for medical participants, so secure your spot TODAY!
The remaining amount of the total trip cost will be due in increments leading up to trip departure as shown below:

Trip Payment #2 - $875 - Due by April 1, 2020
Trip Payment #3 - $875 - Due by May 1, 2020

**Your Trip Contribution Includes:**
- **Airfare:** Flights will be booked to and from Cleveland, Ohio
- **Lodging:** 5 nights stay in Higuey
- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch, and dinner when in the Dominican Republic
- **Trip Logistics:** Supplies for the clinics, translators, ground transportation while in the Dominican Republic, and tips for services provided to the team
- **MedWish Apparel:** Participants will be provided with one MedWish scrub top. Additional apparel will be available for purchase.

**It does NOT Include:**
- Any meals while traveling to and from the Dominican Republic
- Spending money for souvenirs or personal purchases
- Vaccinations or medications needed for travel
- Travelers Health Insurance
- Passport expenses
- Any transportation, lodging, or meals outside of the group MedWish Medical Brigade

**Trip Orientation**
There will be team orientation meetings prior to departure. At these meetings, participants will have the opportunity to meet, learn more about the upcoming Brigade, and talk with the MedWish team and Mission Possible about what to expect and how to best prepare. The date and location of these meetings will be announced in April 2020.

**Supply Pickup**
MedWish International will be providing the medical supplies needed for the mobile clinics run during the Brigade. Each participant is expected to transport one bag full of supplies with them on the Brigade. Participants will need to come to the MedWish warehouse prior to departure to pick up the bag of supplies. The specific pickup times will be announced at orientation.

**Participant Information**
Once registered, participants will be provided with a participant information packet that must be completed and returned to MedWish International by May 15, 2020. This packet may be returned via fax, email, or mail to MedWish. This will also include paperwork required by Mission Possible. Information needed for airline reservations will be required upon registration by March 1, 2020.

**Immunizations and Travelers Health**
You may need country-specific pharmaceuticals and/or immunizations when traveling to the Dominican Republic. To learn more, please visit the CDC’s website or [click here](#). For health-related concerns, please speak with your primary care physician or a local travel clinic. Traveler’s health insurance will not be purchased for participants and is the responsibility of each participant to secure if desired.
Passport
A valid passport is required for entrance into the Dominican Republic. Make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after our date of return.

SAFETY
There is a travel advisory in effect from the US State Department for travel to and from the Dominican Republic. Please visit their website for further information, or click here for more details.

Complete the following registration form and mail it, along with your $750 non-refundable deposit per person, to MedWish International. Registration closes Sunday, March 1st.

If you have any questions, please contact Britta Latz at blatz@medwish.org or 216.692.1685 x33.

Don't miss out on this amazing experience!
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC 2020 BRIGADE REGISTRATION FORM

Full Name (As appears on your passport): __________________________

Day Tel: (         )________________________________ Eve Tel: (         ) ______________________

Cell: __________________________ Email: __________________________

Address:________________________________________________________________

City: ________________ State: _______ Zip: __________

Date of Birth: ________________ Occupation: __________________________

Other Skills: ________________ T-Shirt/Scrub Top Size: __________

Spanish Speaking: (Y/N) ________________

Terms and Conditions for MedWish Medical Brigades

By signing below, I affirm that I am 18 years of age or older and that I have read, understand, and agree to abide by the following terms and conditions set forth by MedWish International. I further state that I am legally competent to sign this affirmation and release; that I understand the terms herein are contractual and not a mere recital; and that I have signed this document as my own free act.

MedWish reserves the right to change, edit, and alter the following terms and conditions. In such a circumstance, participants will be notified immediately via email. I also certify that all information provided to MedWish in the above Brigade application is valid and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Terms and Conditions:

● Should a participant’s conduct be found to be dangerous or inappropriate during the Brigade, that participant may be asked to leave the trip or denied participation in future MedWish Brigades. Refunds will not be provided to participants that are asked to leave.

● Traveler’s health safety is the responsibility of the participant. Participants are encouraged to visit the CDC website for travel recommendations and seek the counsel of a physician or traveler’s clinic before this trip.
Upon the completion of registration, participants will receive various communications via email, phone, and mail from MedWish with information and updates on the trip. Participants are responsible for reading and listening to all materials provided by MedWish or Mission Possible pertaining to this Brigade to ensure that they are fully prepared for the trip.

Participation in this Brigade may present participants with opportunities for various levels of physical exertion. Each participant is responsible for determining what he/she is safely capable of doing. If a participant is uncertain if he/she is fit for international travel or the activities outlined in the Brigade description, it is his/her responsibility to consult with a physician before registering for this trip. By signing below, each participant certifies that he/she is fit for international travel and agrees to only act in ways that are within the limits of his/her own health and safety while on the Brigade.

Participants are responsible for providing MedWish and Mission Possible with any health information that will be relevant to this trip. This includes, but is not limited to, dietary needs such as food allergies so that MedWish can accommodate. If accommodation is not possible, MedWish will inform the participant immediately.

By signing below, the participant authorizes and gives full permission to MedWish International and Mission Possible for the use of the participant’s name and photograph, still or video, in connection with this Brigade and consents to the use of such material or its reproduction in any manner and by any medium which MedWish or Mission Possible deems appropriate. The participant equally authorizes and gives full permission to MedWish and Mission Possible for the use and reproduction of any personal photos or videos that were taken on the Brigade by the participant and then provided to MedWish or Mission Possible.

Participants agree to follow directions and safety guidelines set forth by the Brigade leaders and local hosts and to act in a manner that is safe, both with regards to each individual participant and the group.

Participants agree to follow the laws and regulations of the host country.

Participants will be sensitive and respectful of local culture.

Participants agree to represent his/herself, MedWish, and Mission Possible in an appropriate manner both in-person and through online publications during the Brigade.

Participants are each responsible for transporting one bag of medical supplies with them to the site location of the Brigade. Each participant agrees to travel with those supplies and take them through customs in the host country.

Participants agree to only act within the bounds of their professional training and experience while on the medical Brigade. Although non-medical participants may assist in medical services, they will not be administering medical counsel or care.

Should a participant choose to extend the length of his/her stay in the host country, either before or after the dates of the Brigade, the participant understands that MedWish International and Mission Possible are not liable or responsible for these supplemental arrangements.

The participant affirms, understands, and agrees that MedWish International, Mission Possible, and the Brigade leaders are only responsible for making reservations or arrangements for: lodging, transportation, and meals during the trip. MedWish International, Mission Possible, and
Brigade leaders will be held harmless for any occurrence in connection with or operation thereof, which may result in injury, death, or other damage to the participant. MedWish International, Mission Possible, and the Brigade leaders will not be held responsible for loss of or damage to any equipment, luggage, or personal property taken on the Brigade.

- The participant personally assumes all risks in connection with this Brigade and further releases MedWish International, Mission Possible, and the Brigade leaders from all claims, demands, and actions and for any harm, injury, or damage which may befall the participant while on the Brigade, including all risks in connection therewith whether foreseen and unforeseen, and further to save and hold harmless MedWish International, Mission Possible, and representatives, arising out of the participant’s participation in this Brigade.

- In order to prevent disruption and assure a meaningful Brigade environment, it is MedWish International’s policy to prohibit unauthorized solicitation of participants and/or distribution of non-MedWish related materials during the Brigade.

- MedWish Brigade participants are asked NOT to give any money and/or gifts to any of the locals, children or staff of the organizations we visit. This is for the safety of the recipients and members of the MedWish team. If a participant feels compelled to give gifts or leave items such as clothes, shoes, candy, etc., he/she must consult with the MedWish Staff person in advance.

Signature of Applicant (Or legal guardian if under 18): ______________________________

Name of Applicant (Printed): ___________________________ Date of Affirmation: ____________

Payment Method:

☐ Check Enclosed ($750)  ☐ Please charge my credit card $750 for one Brigade participant.

Name on Card: __________________________

Credit Card Number: ___________________________ CVV: ____________

Expiration Date: _______________ Billing Zip Code: ____________

Authorizing Signature: __________________________

Return to MedWish International | 1625 E. 31st St. | Cleveland, OH 44114
Before Sunday, March 1st to secure your spot!