



CEITCI DEMIRKOVA MINISTRIES

EST. 1995

CHANGING A GENERATION



INTRODUCTION

THANK YOU for your interest in our short-term trips offered by *Changing a Generation* and *Ceitci Demirkova Ministries*. Our non-profit organization works with local churches, orphanages and underprivileged children in Bulgaria, Ghana and Uganda. For the past 24 years since the establishment of the organization, we have been involved in community and family development, business trainings, educational opportunities on local and government levels and international cultural development. If you are not already familiar with the information provided on our websites, we would like for you to take a few minutes to view the videos and pictures, and read the statistical and historical information of Bulgaria, our vision, mission and the current projects of involvement.

Our websites are:

www.ceitci.org

www.changingageneration.net

This application packet is designed to provide you with answers to any questions you may have and give you assisting information that would help you to accurately decide the level of involvement you would like to participate with while in Bulgaria and Africa.

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Ceitci Demirkova Ministries DBA Changing a Generation is a certified non-profit corporation with the State of Washington. CDM has received a tax-exempt status according to section 501(c)3, of Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to CDM are deductible for income tax-purposes.



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Enclosed in this application packet are the following:

- 1) A Vision and Policy/Procedure Guide
- 2) A Short-Term Mission Trip Application
- 3) A Medical Information and Release Form
- 4) A Release and Indemnification Agreement
- 5) A Team Covenant

Once you read through the information, please complete all the necessary forms and submit them to us either by email info@ceitci.org, or you may mail them to our Seattle office:

Changing a Generation
PMB 32, 126 SW 148th St. Ste. C-100
Seattle, WA 98166

For additional questions and information please do not hesitate to contact us using the information below, specifying the reason for your call or email. Thank you so much for your interest!

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VISION AND POLICY PROCEDURE GUIDE

Our Vision in Presenting These Opportunities

GENERAL INFORMATION: As a former Communist nation, Bulgaria is located in Eastern Europe as a gateway between the Middle East and Western Europe. This is a very crucial time for us to influence the nation with God’s love, His hope and purpose. The children in the nation are exposed on a daily basis to a high risk of trafficking and exploitation. As the second poorest nation in the European Union after Romania, Bulgaria offers a lot of natural beauty; yet economically the struggles of the people cause them to give in to inhumane ways of survival. Our work has been primarily focused on working with Roma (Gypsy) children and families by educating them and providing them with food, clothing, school supplies, etc. In addition, we are involved in bridging the gap between the poorest and the richest by providing business training courses and continuing our involvement with government officials in creating new educational structures and change of legal policies to better the lives of the young people.

GOAL AND VISION: The goal and vision of these short-term trips are to give individuals an opportunity to make a cultural difference through serving and working with children, teaching (Biblical concepts/courses), training (Biblical or Business), and/or utilizing any of their giftings in areas of handywork, such as construction, repairs, painting, hair-dressing, dance, art and crafts, music, photography or videography. Be sure to specify in the attached application the areas in which you would like to utilize your gifts and talents.

DURATION OF STAY: We would like to offer these trips to people and groups interested in going for 1 week up to 4 weeks at a time; or if college students are interested in doing a foreign exchange study through their university/college, the time period could be extended to 3 months (depending on their program requirements).

LOGISTICS: The total cost of the trip would depend upon airfare. Usually tickets vary between \$950-\$2000. We recommend for tickets to be obtained at least 2 months before departure for lower rates. Each participant would be responsible for the airfare, hotels, food and other items they choose to purchase. Our team will provide you with a few options on hotels and places you can stay that would be reasonable. Hotel prices are usually between \$45-\$175 per night depending on the months you choose to travel. Food per week would cost about \$175 or less. We estimate that you would need to raise \$2,750 as a base sum to cover the traveling expenses for a 7-10 day stay. We would suggest having \$750 per week for any additional time after the first 7-10 days.

SIGHTSEEING: During your time in Bulgaria you will also have the opportunity to go on a few sight-seeing trips and experience the country’s cuisine, music, dance, and lifestyle. Bulgarians are very accepting and open to Americans. English is

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spoken by a large percentage of young people, while Bulgarian remains the primary national language. While there, you will be provided with a translator, and most of the people on our team are fluent in English.

Due to our involvement with orphans and children we take the responsibility of their protection very seriously. Therefore, the following policies and procedures have been established as guidelines. Please carefully read through the rest of the information.

1. You must submit all the forms given in the **application packet** before your application is processed and approved.
2. Your application will be reviewed, and a personal interview may be required. You will be notified by one of our staff members or team leaders of your acceptance.
3. Short-term international trips can be rewarding and life-changing; however, they can also be stressful. Please consider factors in your personal life at this time that may distract and prohibit you from fully committing to the vision/mission of the trip and adapting to unusual conditions.
4. Unusual circumstances arise; therefore, if for any reason you are unable to travel, please notify us immediately. You may still be responsible for certain trip costs.
5. If you have physical limitations, please bring that to our awareness, so we can properly assist you.
6. Passports, VISAs, vaccinations, and souvenir costs are NOT included in the trip costs and are the responsibility of the team member. If you do not have a passport, please apply for it right away.

Passport and Visa:

For all trips to Bulgaria and Europe a current passport is required with a minimum of six months before expiration. Information is available online regarding passports at: <http://travel.state.gov/> .

You should allow at least 6-8 weeks for your passport to arrive. You can pay an extra fee to expedite the service.

Currently Bulgaria does not require an American to apply for a tourist visa if their stay in the country is less than 90 days. Upon arrival at the Sofia Airport, your passport will be stamped with a temporary tourist visa.

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Immunizations:

Team members assume the responsibility and liability for their personal health decisions.

Required vaccinations for trips include: Tetanus/Diphtheria.

Suggested vaccinations for trips: Hepatitis A and B, Measles/Mumps/Rubella (if born after 1956) and Travelers Diarrhea RX.

We recommend what the CDC recommends for vaccinations for all trips. You can check out the recommended vaccinations for any country in the world by visiting the website for the Center for Disease Control: www.cdc.gov.

You will need to consult your personal doctor or a travel medicine provider about your decision whether to have the suggested vaccinations or not.

Raising Support:

You may not begin to raise funds until you are notified of acceptance for the trip.

Prayer Support: Please have at least 5 people who would commit to pray for you while you are traveling and working with us in Bulgaria.

Financial Support: Anyone desiring to participate in a short-term trip is expected to pay for their airfare, food and lodging while in Bulgaria. We will provide you with estimates on how much the total would be for your trip. Once there, our team will assist you with the transportation and translation.

If raising funding through your friends, family and network we would encourage you to write them a letter, or send them an e-mail and even call them explaining clearly your purpose for going on the trip and what you hope to accomplish while there. You will also want to describe the ministry and the country where you will be going. You need to be specific about your needs and the costs involved. Do everything you can to make it a personal letter and have someone edit it for you. Pictures from the culture and ministry are helpful. You will also want to include a reply card for people to indicate how they will be able to support you.

Options of support could be:

I / We would like to be a prayer partner and commit to pray for you regularly before and during your trip.

I / We would like to participate financially in your trip. Enclosed is a one-time financial gift for \$_____.

I / We would like to receive a report back after your trip.

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You will need to have them send their reply cards back to you via email or mail. If they desire a tax exemption for the donation they have made, please ask your local church to assist you with that. Most churches are able to provide tax receipts for donors who are supporting a member/group from their church on a short-term trip.

You will need to send every donor a thank-you note, as well as a follow-up letter and financial report after the trip.

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