

# SITE HEALTH AND SAFETY SHEET



## Background Information:

1. Date Updated: August 27, 2019
2. Country: Jamaica
3. Community: Petersfield and Galloway
4. Main Partners: Association of Clubs
5. Year Began Operating in Country: 2001

## Emergency Contacts:

1. Amizade 24 Hour Line: 412-444-5166
2. Local Site Director Number: 876-320-7882 (Mathias Brown)
3. Local Hotel/Guest House: 58 Lagoon Avenue  
Shrewsbury Housing Scheme  
Petersfield Box 74  
Westmoreland, Jamaica
4. Local Police: Sav la Mar: 876-955-2810
5. US Embassy in Jamaica: 142 Old Hope Road  
Kingston 6  
Jamaica, West Indies  
Tel: 876-702-6000

## Transportation Information:

1. Vehicles Up-to-code (y/n)?: Y
2. Driver with Proper License (y/n)?: Y
3. Notable Road Hazards: Local roads have potholes and are poorly maintained. Extra caution needs to be taken on main roads as other drivers do not follow speed limits and no clear road lines are painted. Additionally, Amizade, its local partner and university partners/volunteers shall not ride in any open air vehicles (a safety precaution of particular note in Jamaica). This includes motorcycles and personal water-crafts. Walking along the main road is prohibited without a local community member. Walking on main roads should be avoided when possible.

## Housing Logistics:

1. Location of Lodging: A tight-knit and vetted scheme of homestays through both

communities, Galloway and Petersfield. House mothers are members of a collective that are voted on after interviews by the PGBS.

2. Notable Lodging Concerns: Non-family members visiting homestay homes.
3. Emergency Evacuation Plan: Both network of homestays are in short walking distance to a community meeting point (Petersfield - Petersfield Galloway Benevolent Society - PGBS - office building and Galloway - the Galloway Elementary School)

### Health/Medical:

1. Closest Basic Medical Facility: Small local pharmacies and clinics in Petersfield
2. Closest Advanced Medical Facility: Montego Bay - approximately a 40-60 minute drive
3. Notable Local Health Concerns: None.

### Classroom/Admin Space:

1. Location of Classroom Space: Space at the PGBS office building
2. Notable Space Concerns: None.

### Technology/Communication:

1. Internet Access (Non-Existent, Unreliable, Sporadic, Reliable, Good, Excellent): Reliable at the PGBS
2. Ability for Video-Chat (y/n)? Y
3. Cell Network (Non-Existent, Unreliable, Sporadic, Reliable, Good, Excellent): Good - All participants are provided with the Site Director's (Mr. Brown) phone number. House Mother's also provide group with their phone numbers. Amizade is also able to call the Site Director's cell phone at any time with very reliable response/connection.
4. Electrical Conversion: No converter is needed.

### Country Profile:

	1. US State Department Country Page: <a href="http://www.state.gov/p/wha/ci/br/">http://www.state.gov/p/wha/ci/br/</a>		2. CIA World Factbook Page: <a href="https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/jm.html">https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/geos/jm.html</a>		3. Lonely Planet Guidebook Page: <a href="http://www.lonelyplanet.com/jamaica">http://www.lonelyplanet.com/jamaica</a>
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4. Visa/Permit Information: No requirements other than a valid US passport.

5. Notable Country-wide Health, Safety, and Security Risks: Hurricane season and mosquito-borne illnesses (Not malaria; Dengue, Chikungunya and Zika)

### Community Profile:

1. General Profile: Petersfield is a small community that historically is known as a sugar cane farming area. Since the launch of "village tourism" through the PGBS's partnership

with Amizade, the community has become known for hosting volunteers. At any given time there are several service project possibilities. The homestay network is very committed to this partnership and understand that maintaining an extremely high standard of safety is a top priority.



More information on Amizade's website:

<http://amizade.org/programs/locations-to-serve/jamaica/>

2. Notable Health, Safety, and Security Risks: Culturally, it is common to ride on mopeds and the back of trucks. Road safety is the current safety priority. Both the PGBS and volunteers are asked to activity adhere to Amizade's rule regarding "no open air transportation. Participants should stay vigilant in following directions given to them by host family and PGBS staff in regards to safety.
3. Historical Site Critical Incidents: Two students were robbed of their phones in March of 2015. One of the students had her identity stolen from the information in the phone. We recommend that if a cell phone goes missing, students wipe the contents.
4. The parishes of Westmoreland, Hanover, and St. James Parishes have been in a state of emergency since April 2019. Since declaring a state of public emergency, all three parishes have experienced a decrease in crime. The PGBS and the running of Amizade programs have not been negatively impacted.