



GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR CONDUCTING INTERNATIONAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES

FACILITATOR GUIDE

GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR CONDUCTING INTERNATIONAL HEALTH ACTIVITIES

FACILITATOR GUIDE

Objectives: Participants will be able to

- Name the guiding principles for conducting international health activities.
- Apply the guiding principles to assess proposals for international health activities.
- Explain “A Modern Day Parable” in light of Catholic social teaching.

General guidelines for the Facilitator:

- The text offers an informal script for the Facilitator to use; however, it is acceptable for the Facilitator to paraphrase the wording contained here without altering the intended
- The Facilitator should be familiar with the contents of the booklet *Guiding Principles for Conducting International Health Activities*, as this is the document on which the learning will be based.
- The Facilitator should be familiar with Parable of the Sowing found in Matthew 13:1-23, Mark 4:3-20, Luke 8:4-15.
- The Facilitator should be familiar with the video “A Modern Day Parable” (4 min) and how to play it for an audience.
- In preparation for this session it would be beneficial for the Facilitator to become familiar with several of CHA’s international outreach resources including: *Short-Term Medical Mission Trips: Recommendations for Practice*; *Disaster Response: Considerations for Catholic Health Care*; *Responsible Redistribution of Medical Supplies & Equipment – Leading Practices for Hospitals & Health Systems*. These resources and more are available at <https://www.chausa.org/internationaloutreach/resources>.
- Please note: there is a facilitator guide for leading a shorter, executive/board focused session available at www.chausa.org/guidingprinciples.
- The Video, A Modern Day Parable, can be accessed at www.chausa.org/guidingprinciples.

Outline of Session	Content	Opportunities for Discussion
Welcome and Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International health projects call for careful consideration. • They should not be entered into lightly but assessed and evaluated against the principles that have 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take a show of hands of anyone who has participated in an international health mission. • Take a show of hands if anyone has helped contribute resources for

	<p>been developed through careful research.</p>	<p>an international health mission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Take a show of hands if anyone has been recruited to participate in an international health mission. <p>NOTE: Just take a show of hands. Do not begin to evaluate their personal experiences.</p>
Objectives	<p>Participants will be able to do these things upon completing the session.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name the guiding principles for conducting international health activities. • Apply the guiding principles to assess proposals for international health activities. • Explain “A Modern Day Parable” in light of Catholic social teaching. 	
Video, “A Modern Day Parable”	<p>Introduce the video.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It’s a short video, just under 4 minutes. • It is adapted from the familiar Parable of the Sowing found in the Gospels. • “Let’s engage our imaginations to see how this simple parable opens us up to the promise and the peril of what happens in international health projects.” 	<p>After the video has played, these questions can be asked to lead into discussion.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are your initial reactions to this parable? Intellectually? Emotionally? Spiritually? 2. Can you see yourself in this parable? With whom do you identify? 3. Have you experienced or heard similar struggles as these volunteers? What goes

		<p>unseen after they leave?</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Where have you seen true progress or reward in international health work? What does that look like? 5. Are you open to the challenges this parable raises? Are you willing to think about health mission trips? 6. What are the barriers to such change?
<p>Guiding Principles</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Turn to pages 2 – 3 in the booklet. • These 6 principles have been identified as guides for appropriately conducting international programs. We are going to take time to look at them in some details through questions and answers provided in the booklet. <p>Suggestions for facilitation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Assign each Principle to a small group or groups (assign by table or by counting off 1 – 6). 2. Ask each group to identify a discussion leader. 3. Assign each group to address one Principle and the Questions to Consider (pages 6 – 11). Direct them to be alert for the unexpected and surprising. 	<p>After table discussions are concluded, debrief with these questions. The table discussion leaders may be called upon to report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What surprised the group at your table? • Did you find challenges to the way you think about international health projects? • Pope Francis (quoted on inside back cover) said: <i>“Once we start to think about the kind of world we are leaving to future generations, we look at things differently.”</i> In what ways might you be thinking differently?

	4. Allow 20 – 30 minutes for discussion.	
Conclusion and Summary	<p>Concluding points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As we have seen, good intentions are not enough—and can be destructive rather than constructive. • We hope this conversation was stimulating to your thinking. • Just as delivering health care in the US is a complex process, improving the health of a community in a low or middle income country requires the right human resources, a good business strategy, authentic partnerships and constant re-examination. • Thanks to all who participated, especially the group discussion leaders. 	Any further thoughts before we close? Any questions?
Reflection	Direct the group to page 12 and the inside back cover of the booklet.	<p>Options for concluding reflection:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Invite a volunteer to read the quotation by Pope Francis on the inside back cover. 2. Invite the group to read the inside back cover together. 3. Invite one or more volunteers to read a quotation of their choice from page 12.

For further information:	Offer handouts, booklets, other resources as provided.	
--------------------------	--	--