

The Chiapas Project, Inc.
Rules of Conduct

The Chiapas Project, Inc. is a non-sectarian volunteer organization dedicated to providing medical, dental, educational, and community services to the indigenous Zoque people of Chiapas. Its volunteers come from across the United States, Mexico, and other countries. As volunteers, we represent not only The Chiapas Project, but our home communities. As such, each of us has the obligation to act in a manner that displays the best of ourselves and demonstrates our desire to work well with our Chiapan hosts. Our good behavior allows us to serve those who need our help, encourages continued participation by other volunteers, and shows the values which bring us to Mexico.

With that said, each volunteer must realize that his/her trip begins when they put on the Chiapas Project t-shirt and makes their way to the airport and it ends when they arrive back home. Whether one is wearing the shirt or not, you are identified as a member of the group. No matter if we are in Ocotepc, Tuxtla Gutierrez, or in transit, your actions speak for the entire Project. If we are perceived in a negative way, the work of the Project is at risk. You are asked only to carry yourself as you would in your own community. Your fine behavior will allow us to continue our efforts. Your poor behavior will not only end your association with The Chiapas Project, but will negatively affect the efforts of all humanitarians seeking to help their neighbors in need.

- Public intoxication will not be tolerated.
- Purchasing intoxicants in Ocotepc will not be tolerated
- Public lewd behavior, either with other volunteers or local inhabitants, will not be tolerated.
- Inappropriate or provocative comments, especially toward younger volunteers, will not be tolerated.

(Note: "Public" includes Ocotepc in general, Chiapas Project events, as well as where you spend your free time in Tuxtla Gutierrez.)

If you can agree to these basic rules of conduct, we welcome your participation in the work of The Chiapas Project. If you do not feel you wish to follow these guidelines, we suggest that you seek other volunteer opportunities more in line with your lifestyle.

I, _____, agree to abide by the Rules of Conduct stated above.

Signature of Volunteer

Date