



“to serve, not to be served” Mark 10:45

Lifestyle of Respect Statement

Bethesda Hospital

Website: www.Borneohospital.com
Email: volunteer@borneohospital.com

As a volunteer at Bethesda Hospital you are a guest of another country, culture and community. During your stay here you will represent not only yourself, but also your country and other volunteers who will follow you. Therefore, we ask that you would consider the following guidelines so that you will not offend your hosts or jeopardize the continuing ministry of those you serve with.

- Attend chapel/church/Bible study to demonstrate a sense of community.
- **Dress:**
 - **Men:** Long pants and collared shirts (ties not needed) for work in the hospital. Close-toed shoes for work in the hospital, sandals OK elsewhere. Shorts and sleeveless shirts are OK only for sports and around the house. Jeans are considered dressier here.
 - **Women:** Skirts/dresses (knee-length or below) or slacks for work in hospital and church. No low-cut or sleeveless shirts. Modest shorts only for around the house and sporting activities. Capris are a good idea for casual activities (good rule of thumb – do knees show while sitting?). Comfortable sandals are the best footwear. No one wears pantyhose – too hot! Swimsuit should be one piece and usually are worn under shirts and swim shorts/wrap.
- **Conduct:**
 - Expressing anger outwardly either with expressions or words/tone of voice, is a cultural affront. Confrontation is infrequent and if needed will often go through a third party.
 - Interaction between men and women is much more reserved. Living situations among unmarried persons of the opposite sex will be separate, and public displays of affection among couples are to be avoided.
 - Things get done from top-down, not from grassroots in this culture. One does not suggest ideas to one’s superior, even if he/she knows it to be of importance.
 - You will probably meet financially challenged individuals and hear of desperate situations. Giving financial gifts is a natural impulse. However, it is wise to check with long term staff about a situation you would like to give towards. There will often be some cultural nuances and advice that will be helpful and important. Remember, your actions will have an affect on the next visitors. Also, it is important that you not promise financial gifts to continue after your departure.
- **Attitude:**
 - During your stay, consider yourself a student of the culture. Think of cultures as equal but different, and recognize your bias toward your own culture and values system. Be observant and ask questions of the staff who can interpret and clarify your experiences. Also, know that you will be observed, and more often than may be comfortable.