



Guinea

ENVISION HANDBOOK



RIVERSIDE
GLOBAL





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Introduction

ABOUT THE SITE

Conakry is located on a peninsula in Guinea, West Africa. Packed with two million people, most live in extreme poverty. Such poverty, along with disease and the influence of traditional religions, provides many challenges for Alliance workers in sharing the love of Jesus. Teams and interns can come join us in partnering with believers for gospel-centered community development.

MEET THE TEAM



Joel and Amanda Griffin have been married over 18 years and have two beautiful teenage daughters, Madalynn and Sophia. They were born and raised in Northwest Georgia where they have been involved with their home church, CrossPoint City in Cartersville, GA, for over 14 years. God called them as a family to serve internationally in January of 2016. After serving in Burkina Faso for 2 years, becoming appointed as long-term missionaries through Envision, they attended language school in France for 1 year. The door closed to Burkina due to unrest. In February 2021 they moved to Guinea.

They are excited for what God has prepared for them and their team in Guinea. They are blessed to work for Engage Guinea and Envision Guinea which makes a natural partnership.

They enjoy the fruitful partnerships they have built with the Guinea national church, a local English center, child rescue center and other missionaries. They also enjoy the development and discipleship they get to participate in with short term teams and interns.

They cannot do what they do without your generosity and prayers!



Joanna Gregg was born in Colorado, left there when she was 3, and has been moving around ever since. After graduating university, she moved to the Atlanta area and joined West Ridge Church of Dallas, GA in 2007. Joanna went on her first of three short-term mission trips with West Ridge to Burkina Faso in 2008, before moving there in January 2011. She served there with Envision until the end of 2019 when the team made the decision to leave due to security. In February of 2021 Joanna moved to Guinea and has been serving with Envision in the capital city since that time. She is thankful for the relationships she has built, and the opportunities God has given the Envision team to partner with local believers and other International Workers to serve in the community, opening doors for the gospel to be shared.



General Information

TEAM COSTS

A ministry fee is required for all teams. The cost will depend on which ministries your team participates in while in-country. These fees need to be sent to the Envision Office three months before your trip so that we can prepare.

INTERN COSTS

The general cost is \$1,650 per month; this includes the on-ground fees and the National Office Ministry Investment fee while in the country. The in-country expenses cover meals, lodging, laundry, limited Wi-Fi, and in-city transportation. Airfare is excluded.

In addition to the monthly cost, there will be a one-time fee for international travel insurance for your internship—price varies. The intern coordinator will provide the amount details.

HOUSING & FOOD

The guesthouse has hot and cold water, kitchen facilities, filtered water, screened and glass windows, fans, linens and towels, laundry service, and 220v electricity with European style plugs. A/C units are available for an additional charge. There are breakfast items in the guesthouse, but you can also bring instant oatmeal, granola bars, etc., to supplement. The guesthouse has local coffee and tea bags, but you are welcome to bring your own.



If you travel outside of Conakry, accommodations might be outdoors with cots, sleeping bags, and “natural” bathrooms. Please bring your own toilet paper and flip flops for bucket baths.

Meals are provided, but please bring snacks. If you have allergies, make sure we are aware. We cannot cater for dietary preferences or allergies. You will need to bring your own food if you cannot eat what is served. **We ask that no one with severe peanut allergies comes to Guinea.** Peanuts are used in many dishes, and due to limited medical care, this is not advised.

AIRPORT & ARRIVAL INFORMATION

Please schedule your flight to arrive in Conakry (airport code CKY). When you land, you will need to present your passport, health card, boarding pass, checked baggage receipt, and Guinea phone number to fill out a disembarkation card. Make sure that you have all of the documents listed above easily accessible.

Do not give your passport to anyone unless it is a uniformed officer. **Do not** pay anyone. **Do not** take pictures of airports, government buildings, or officials while in Guinea. As a matter of courtesy, try to remember to use your right hand when handing anything (i.e. passport, documents, luggage keys, money, etc.) as the left hand is considered unclean.

VISAS

Visas are required to enter Guinea. One of our Envision Guinea team members will reach out to help you with the process.

MONEY

Please bring spending money for souvenirs, gifts, and snacks. Bring denominations of **\$50/\$100 (newer bills)**, and we will help exchange these. If you serve for 10 days in January–May, there is opportunity to go to Kassa Island and out to dinner at a nice restaurant. It costs \$60/person.

COMMUNICATIONS

You will be able to let your families know that you have arrived safely as soon as possible. We provide limited Internet. If you exceed the limit, you may purchase more Internet credit for \$90. Let your family know that if they do not hear from you right away, they should not worry.

Emergency Contact Info:

- Joel Griffin: +224 620 59 62 15, imessage: joeldgriffin@yahoo.com
- Amanda Griffin: +224 620 59 61 90, imessage: amandamarygriffin@gmail.com
- Joanna Gregg: +224 620 59 63 01, imessage: jkgregg22@gmail.com

HEALTH & VACCINATIONS

The Centers for Disease Control (www.cdc.gov) has requirements for travel in Africa:

Recommended:

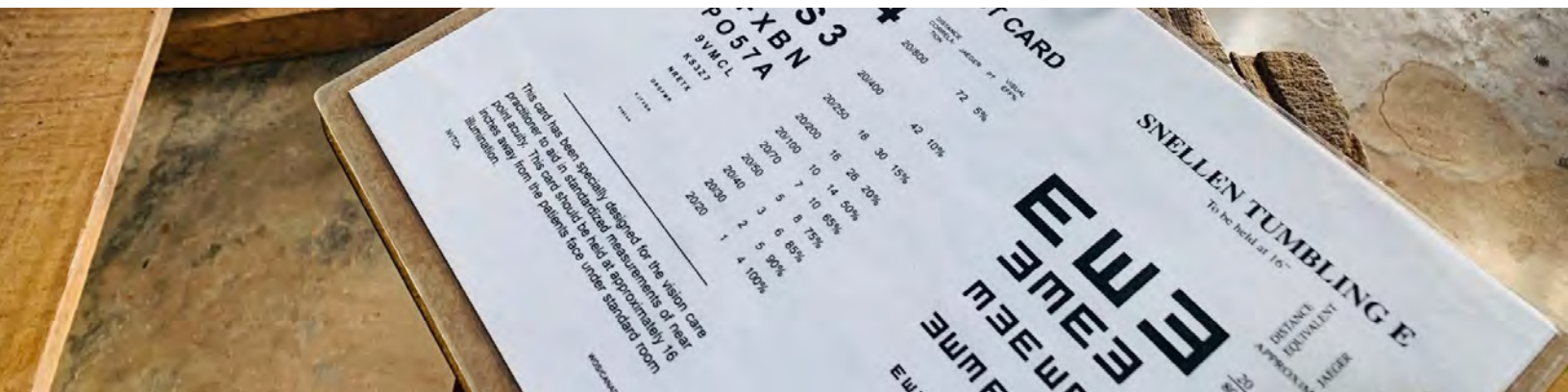
- Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B
- Typhoid
- Tetanus
- Polio booster injection (if you have had less than five lifetime doses)
- Meningitis vaccine

Required:

- Yellow fever

Malaria Prophylaxis

It is strongly advised to take a malaria prophylaxis while in Guinea. This is a medicine, not a vaccine. Depending on the type, you will begin taking the medication before your trip and continue for 7-30 days after returning home. The CDC recommendation for malaria prevention is malarone (atovaquone proguanil) or doxycycline. Please ask your doctor to determine the best option for you.



Packing List

- Clothes (see below)
- Shoes
- Flip flops (shower shoes)
- Modest swim suit (one piece/tankini, no low cut tops)
- Beach towel
- Sunscreen
- Bug spray
- Hand sanitizer
- Toilet paper
- Lotion
- Chapstick
- Eye drops
- Malaria meds
- Prescription meds
- Preferred meds for pain, allergy, digestion, and/or nausea
- Hat
- Flashlight, extra batteries
- Snacks
- Camera
- Insulated water bottle
- Bible, journal, pen
- Spending money in USD

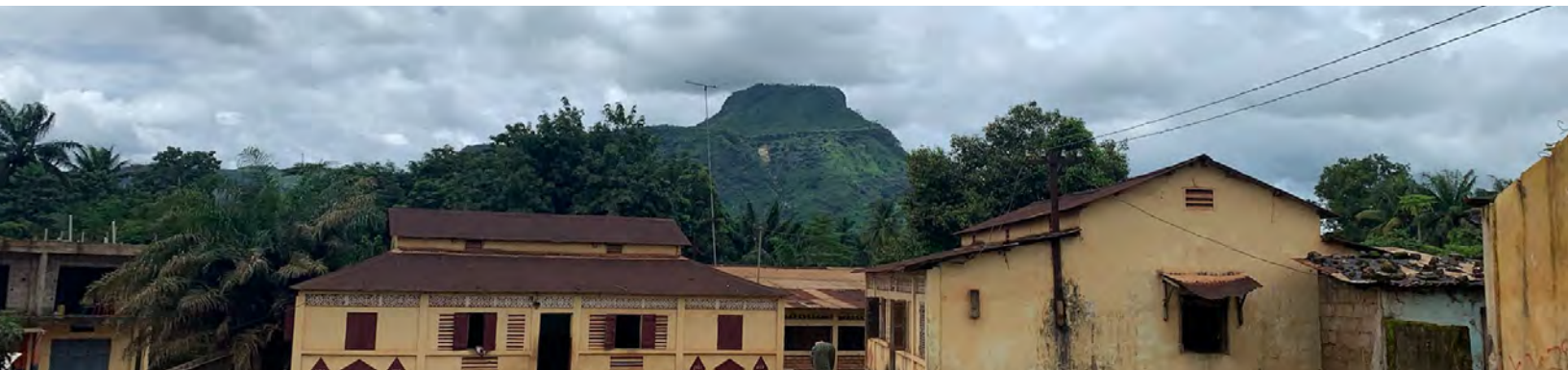
SUGGESTED DRESS CODE

Despite the heat, the Guinean culture is very modest in regards to clothing. We request that you respect local sensitivities and dress conservatively. Loose fitting, lightweight, cotton clothing will be the most comfortable. For those that are a little cold-natured, a light jacket may be nice in the evenings or on the airplane.

Women need to wear ankle-length skirts for ministry and will want to bring at least two non-sleeveless shirts/dresses for when it is not appropriate to wear sleeveless tops. You may also want to bring loose-fitting pants or capri pants for non-ministry related activities as well as knee-length shorts to wear in the guest house or under skirts for work projects. Sleeveless shirts are acceptable for some ministry-related activities, but no spaghetti straps or shirts that show your midriff.

Men should wear casual dress pants and a collared/polo shirt for church. Pants and short-sleeve shirts are acceptable for all ministry locations. You may want to bring knee-length shorts to wear around the guesthouse.

*Please note, leggings can ONLY be worn with knee length skirts/dresses—even in the airport.





Ministry

Envision Guinea partners with local churches, organizations, and other believers to help them identify and enhance their strengths and resources, encouraging them to utilize these strengths and resources to share the gospel, disciple believers, and help their community. We do this by providing some resources, projects, training, and opportunities for gospel access through our work with teams and interns.

Schedule

TEAMS

Expect to be flexible. Your schedule will be sent to your team leader as soon as your team ministries have been decided.

INTERNS

Expect to be flexible. Your schedule will be determined by the ministries you are asked to be involved with and will sometimes involve working alongside teams that visit throughout your internship. You can expect to build relationships with locals, teach English, work with a local youth center, attend church weekly, practice rhythms of Sabbath rest and other spiritual disciplines, and be involved in weekly discipleship time with an Envision staff member.



Cultural Sensitivity

LOCATION AND GEOGRAPHY

Guinea is located on the west coast of Africa and is bordered by Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Senegal, and Sierra Leone. Its area is 94,930 square miles (245,857 square kilometers). There are four geographic zones: lower region, middle region, upper region, and Guinea highlands. Lower Guinea receives heavy rains, and Conakry is one of the wettest cities in the world. Guinea's average temperature is in the 80s, and the average rainfall each year between June and September is five meters.

- Population: 12 million, with 1.9 million living in the capital (Conakry)
- Country Size: Slightly smaller than Oregon
- Religions: Majority religion 88%; Animist/other about 7%; Christian 5%, only 1–2% being evangelical Christians
- Currency: Guinean franc (\$1 USD = 8,650 GNF)
- Ethnic Groups: Fulani 33.9%, Malinke 31.1%, Soussou 19.1%, Guerze 6%, Kissi 4.7%, Toma 2.6%, Other 2.7%

October 31, 2023



Dear Friends & Family,

I am excited to tell you about an opportunity I have this winter with our church. Riverside Church partners with the Envision Guinea Team of our denomination, The Christian and Missionary Alliance. Trusting God, I have made a commitment to join a team from Riverside this March who will be going on a short-term mission trip.

While there, we will work with the Envision team to put on a two-day eye clinic, visit and love on kids at an orphanage, help with a Christian & Missionary Alliance English Center and connect with the local people in where we will be staying. We will have the opportunity to encourage their team and attend church as we interact with the team.

I would love you to become personally involved with our team in this short-term mission trip in three ways: interest in the projects we will be doing, prayer support and financial support.



Your prayers for the following needs would be a blessing to me:

- The spiritual difficulties of ministering in a culture that is primarily Muslim
- Safety and health as we travel and serve; the travel to Guinea is long – over 24 hours each way
- God's provision financially for me to attend this trip

If you would be willing to partner with me in prayer/and or financial support, please let me know by February 5th by using the enclosed return envelope to give whatever financial gift or gift of prayer God is leading you to give. If you would prefer to give digitally, please use this QR code at the bottom of this page to donate to the team or **MYRC.LINK/GN-MAR-24**. *(Verify short URL and QR Codes; missions admin will make these available & will also be on the tax-deductible form)*

Thank you so much for your consideration. I am thankful to have this opportunity and hope you will join me in seeing how God uses the team this March!

Serving together,

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Wendy".

(digital signature here – can use a script font)

Wendy Clark

your email here

your phone number here



*Want to give digitally?
Use this QR code!*

April 28, 2023 *(date you write your letter)*

Dear Friends & Family,

I am excited to tell you about an opportunity I have this summer with our church! Riverside Church is in a strategic partnership with Bob and Cheryl Fugate and the team they lead in Guadalajara, Mexico. I have felt led to be a small part of this mission! Trusting God, I have made a commitment to join a work team from Riverside this June that will go on a short-term mission trip. We will have the opportunity to encourage their team and the church members in Guadalajara as we interact with them on various projects.

I can't express how grateful I am to have such amazing friends and family that support my passion for following the Lord- wherever He leads me! Many of you helped fund my trip to the LIFE Conference last year, and I have you (and the Lord!) to thank for being able to learn there that I was called to missions. I would love for you to partner with me in prayer and/or financial support to continue exploring what God has in store for me!

Please pray for the following:

- For safety as we travel and work.
- That the Holy Spirit keeps our team moving forward and reaching lost people.
- That our team stays healthy physically and mentally before, during, and after our trip.
- For God's provision financially for me to attend this trip!

If you would be willing to partner with me in financial support, please let me know by June 5th by using the enclosed return envelope to give whatever financial gift or gift of prayer God is leading you to give. If you would prefer to give digitally, please use the QR code at the bottom of this page or this link: MYRC.LINK/MX-JUN-23 to donate to the team. I have included a tax-deductible form to include with your gift.

Thank you so much for your consideration. Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have, I'd love to talk with you! I am thankful to have this opportunity and hope you might join me in seeing how God uses the team this summer!

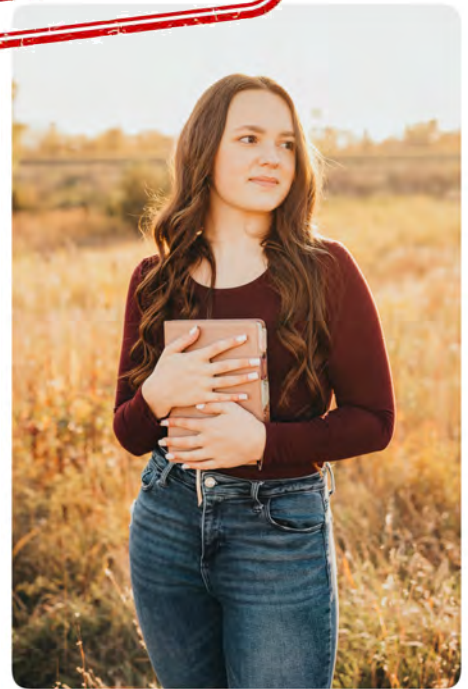
Blessings, *(digital signature below)*

Ashley Crane

Ashley Crane *(typed signature)*

(your email here)

(your phone number here)



December 1, 2023



Dear Friends & Family,

I am excited to tell you about an opportunity I have this summer with our church. Riverside Church recently began a 5-year partnership with the Christian & Missionary Alliance aXcess team in Waren, Germany. Trusting God, I have made a commitment to join a team from Riverside this August who will go on a short-term mission trip.

While there, we will work with the Waren Team of 6 to put on an English Camp. We will have the opportunity to encourage their team and the church members as we interact with them at the camp and at church.

I would love you to become personally involved with our team in this short-term mission trip in three ways: interest in the English Camp, prayer support and financial support.



Your prayers for the following needs would be a blessing to me:

- The spiritual difficulties of ministering in a city that is primarily atheist and has no idea who Jesus is
- Safety and health as we travel and serve
- God's provision financially for me to attend this trip

If you would be willing to partner with me in prayer/and or financial support, please let me know by August 5th by using the enclosed return envelope to give whatever financial gift or gift of prayer God is leading you to give. If you would prefer to give digitally, please use this QR code at the bottom of this page to donate to the team or **MYRC.LINK/GER-AUG-24**. *(Verify short URL and QR Codes; missions admin will make these available & will also be on the tax-deductible form)*

Thank you so much for your consideration. I am thankful to have this opportunity and hope you will join me in seeing how God uses this team this summer!

Serving together,

Wendy *(digital signature here – can use a script font)*

Wendy Clark

your email here

your phone number here



*Want to give digitally?
Use this QR code!*

**Please provide in digital spreadsheet form
(Excel, Google Sheets, Numbers, etc.)**

Name	Address	City, State Zip
Andrew & Kimberly Munson	12392 Pleasant Avenue	Apple Valley, MN 55124
Andrew, Brittany Peterson & Family	12345 First Street	St. Louis Park, MN 55426
Fred & Wilma Flintstone	9451 2nd Avenue	Monticello, MN 55362
Betty & Joe Malarky	3333 Wonder Lane	Becker, MN 55308
Betty Confetti	PO Box 1008	Monticello, MN 55362
Lucy Goosey	99678 Thimble Lane	Big Lake, MN 55309
Orville & William Wright	611 Airplane Drive	Bellingham, WA 98226
Bill & Laura Friend	2345 Becker Drive	Becker, MN 55308
Johnny Pineapple	7921 York Avenue Apt 211	Edina, MN 55435
Joe Shmoe	9876 Fifth Street	Buffalo, MN 55313
Libby Soup	12345 Vegetable Lane	Becker, MN 55308
Mr. & Mrs. Fake	1111 Ideas Lane	Monticello, MN 55362
Ken and Barbie Mattel	345 Sycamore Lane	Tyrone, GA 30290
Michelle & Barack Obama	2345 Chicago Avenue	Becker, MN 55308
Nathan & Rebecca Hope	2456 Minnesota Avenue	Becker, MN 55308
Glen & Regina Phalanges	2367 Fingers Circle	Big Lake, MN 55309
Lacey Owens	36912 Integers Court	Monticello, MN 55362
Paige Montgomery	5555 Madeup Lane	Big Lake, MN 55309
Owen VonSchlichten	12345 Ingers Way	Big Lake, MN 55309
Andrew & Kimberly Munson	12392 Pleasant Avenue	Apple Valley, MN 55124
Andrew, Brittany Peterson & Family	12345 First Street	St. Louis Park, MN 55426
Fred & Wilma Flintstone	9451 2nd Avenue	Monticello, MN 55362
Betty & Joe Malarky	3333 Wonder Lane	Becker, MN 55308
Betty Confetti	PO Box 1008	Monticello, MN 55362
Lucy Goosey	99678 Thimble Lane	Big Lake, MN 55309
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Lacey Owens	36912 Integers Court	Monticello, MN 55362
Paige Montgomery	5555 Madeup Lane	Big Lake, MN 55309
Owen VonSchlichten	12345 Ingers Way	Big Lake, MN 55309
James & Renae Finley	1313 Tyler	Hastings, MN 55033
Andrew & Kimberly Munson	12392 Pleasant Avenue	Apple Valley, MN 55124
Andrew, Brittany Peterson & Family	12345 First Street	St. Louis Park, MN 55426
Fred & Wilma Flintstone	9451 2nd Avenue	Monticello, MN 55362
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Mr. & Mrs. Fake	1111 Ideas Lane	Monticello, MN 55362



Contact Info



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WEBSITE: WWW.MYRC.CHURCH/MISSIONS