

# TRANSLATOR RELATIONS

The translators on the boat are like family to us. Because of the relationship we have with them, we find that, just like family, they are the easiest to hurt. We should protect and guard this relationship because the translators are our lifeline to spreading the Gospel and doing any mission work in the Amazon. We want each team to respect, love, and cherish each of these incredibly hard-working, spiritual, young people.

THINGS TO REMEMBER regarding our relationship with them.

- Do not cling to one and insist on the same translator every day.
- If there is a shortage of translators, please share.
- Please speak clearly and ask the translator if they can understand you. Never, under any circumstances, criticize their efforts in speaking English. Showing patience and respect will help them relax and perform better at their job.
- Remember that evangelism is vital & usually takes precedence over other ministries.
- Please do not pursue any romantic relationships with a translator. We are on a mission trip, and this is very distracting to the mission at hand.
- Almost every translator, crew member, pastor, or missionary will do anything an American asks them to do, even though they know it should not be done or it could be done in a better way. Be careful not to demand, but ask them for their ideas and input as you plan your day.
- Never give a translator a gift or money directly. They are all paid for their work with us, and you will have the opportunity to provide an \*optional donation to them, as a group, at the end of the trip.
- In the past, we have had team members invite a translator to the U.S., discuss educational funding, or do special favors for them. These generous ideas can quickly get out of hand. The biggest difficulty is that it creates disunity in the team of translators. If one translator is receiving special “perks” from one or more Americans, this will evoke negative feelings and a competitive spirit within the entire group. For this reason, Amazon Outreach will not be involved in any transactions relating to individual translators.
- Although it is not recommended (for the reason stated above), trip members may mail individual gifts to the translators at their own expense after the trip is completed.

“Optional Crew/Translator Donation” The staff consists of a boat captain, cooks, boat crew, cleaning people, and translators. They are integral to the team. As the trip progresses, getting to know these people can become one of the most memorable experiences of the trip. At the end of the trip, a “tip” will be collected and divided among them. This is an optional donation, but if you decide to contribute, whatever you feel led to give will be greatly appreciated. A suggested amount is \$50. Please bring small bills.