



*Surgically Correcting Facial Deformities
of the World's Youngest and Poorest*

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Surgical Team Leader: Personal Inventory

Following are a series of questions to consider by anyone who is a potential surgical team leader:

Beforehand:

- What is your mission statement?
- What are your goals for the trip?
- What is your overall plan?
- How will you prepare?
- How much time will you need to prepare?
- Are you able to meet the demands of a surgical mission?
- What is your level of commitment?
- Are you willing to make personal sacrifices?
- How will you balance the demands of such a trip with your personal life?
- How will you minimize your stress?
- Who is your example of a good leader?
- How do you emulate that person?
- What have your own experiences taught you about leadership?
- What are your interests, skills, and specialties?
- How will you maximize your strengths and minimize your weaknesses?
- How will you organize the trip?
- Who will help you?
- How will you delegate the roles for the trip?
- Who will pay attention to the details?
- What will be your deadlines and how will you meet them?
- How will you build your team?
- Who will you select as your role models within your team?
- What will your travel policies and rules of order be?
- Have you considered potential pitfalls and how you will address them?

During the Trip:

- How will you adjust to a change of circumstances?
- How will you confront people and issues as conflicts arise?
- How will you maintain a positive attitude? Enthusiasm? Confidence?
- How will you communicate with the team before, during, and after the trip?
- How will you instill trust in the team members?
- How will you dispel anger--yours and others'?

- How will you listen to others?
- If needed, how will you be able to make difficult decisions?
- If needed, can you be decisive and stand alone as a leader?
- How will you establish the "team ethic" in your surgical team?
- How will you be thorough enough to achieve a "winning advantage"?

Afterwards:

- What worked best on the trip?
- How can you improve?
- How will you wrap-up the details once the trip is over?