



RISK PLAN: ACUÑA

It is the goal of Casas por Cristo to assure teams that their safety is of utmost importance. We continually monitor current conditions and adjust our programs to meet the needs of teams. But we also fully understand that with service comes risk. The question to ask is, "Is the assumed risk worth the potential result of the task at hand?" We at Casas por Cristo would love to be able to provide a 100 percent guarantee that safety is never an issue, that turbulent weather doesn't exist, and that no team member will ever get sick or need medical attention. But the truth is, we can't guarantee any of these things. However, we do believe that these situations are worth the risk to continue serving God and the Mexican people in desperate need of adequate housing and the love of Jesus Christ. As a ministry we are as prepared as possible to deal with any unexpected situations and potential problems. We have been working diligently since our inception in 1993 to ensure that we have a number of fail-safes in place regarding personal safety and emergency situations.

These Fail-Safes Include:

- A Casas por Cristo staff missionary is with the team AT ALL TIMES. Every Casas staff missionary has been trained in the contingency plans for medical emergencies, natural disasters, and the threat of impending violence.
- Every Casas staff missionary is equipped with a Mexican cell phone to provide constant communication with other staff members in Acuña/Del Rio and our headquarters in El Paso, TX.
- Two emergency contacts are available at all times on the Casas por Cristo voicemail system that will be able to contact the teams in Acuña. The Acuña Field Director's phone number is available upon request.
- We take every effort to avoid driving after dark.
- Casas por Cristo is well known and respected throughout all of the communities in which we work.
- We have a Mexican national on staff that lives in Acuña, México and is available 24 hours a day.

Medical Emergencies:

If you are injured in México, your Casas missionary will evaluate the severity of the injury. Minor medical issues will be treated with the Casas missionary's first aid kit. If you need to see a doctor or go to an Emergency Room, your Casas missionary will assist you in contacting your travel insurance and take you to a medical facility for treatment. If you are not able to reach anyone from the travel insurance company, your Casas missionary will still take you to a medical facility for treatment (pre-authorization is not required). If you choose to seek treatment in México, you will need to pay cash up front for any expenses and file a claim with the travel insurance company for reimbursement. If you choose to seek treatment in the US first instead of in México, your travel insurance coverage will be forfeited. It will not cover any medical costs for treatment that begins in the US. During this process the Casas missionary will coordinate with the main office, and a Casas representative will be with the remaining team members. Here is the contact information for two large medical facilities in the area. Please note that depending on your insurance coverage, you might be taken to a different facility.

- In Del Rio, Texas: Val Verde Regional Medical Center located at 801 N. Bedell Ave., Del Rio, TX 78840. GPS: 29.3751404,-100.8925965.
- In Acuña, México: Hospital General de Acuña located at Libramiento José de Las Fuentes 503, Oscar Flores Tapita, 26260, Ciudad Acuña, Coahila, México. GPS: 29.3229921,-100.9248141.

Natural Disasters & Impending Violence:

- The Casas por Cristo Warehouse (GPS: 29.32116 -100.93774) can be used as a safe meeting place in case of upheaval or natural disasters in the city of Acuña. All staff and interns of Casas por Cristo know where this facility is located and how to gain access.
- Every Casas staff leader knows how to navigate the city and knows the quickest and most effective routes to access the international border crossing.

More important than any of the plans that we can implement, is our faith in God's protection. We believe He has placed a hedge of protection around the work we do for Him along the border. We absolutely believe that service is worth the risk, and we will always continue on with the task at hand. Additionally, because we live and work on the border, we are very aware of the daily goings-on. We will never put a team or an individual in a situation that we deem unsafe. The safety of our staff and team members is our number one priority.