

SAFARI CLUB INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

Bell Family Blue Bag Program Guidelines

The following tips and lists have been developed to help Safari Club International (SCI) members get started with the delivery of healthcare and other humanitarian supplies when on safari in remote areas of the world.

Please visit <https://safariclubfoundation.org/bell-family-blue-bag-program/>, to view photos, videos and see where others have been before you.

Giving back to the communities all over the world, wherever our SCI membership and families travel and hunt, is a long-standing tradition with the support of the SCI Foundation. This tradition is highlighted by the SCIF Bell Family Blue Bag program. We are very excited that you are interested in participating in this program.

As you begin planning for your trip, we recommend that you contact your Professional Hunter (PH) and let them know you want to do a Blue Bag during your time with them. Ask your PH if there are schools, clinics, villages or orphanages that need assistance in their area, if so, what kind of items would be most impactful.

A recommended option is to pack the empty SafariCare bag in your luggage and purchase your needed supplies upon arrival. The bag is then filled and taken on safari for distribution. That cuts down on any airline charges for checking an extra bag. If you can work it out with your PH to take the bag empty and purchase the needed supplies “in country”, that will not only ensure that you are delivering supplies that are really needed, but it will support the local economy as well, doubling your impact.

If you need to fill the bag at home remember that airlines may charge fees for “extra” luggage. Some chapters “pass the hat” to cover the baggage costs. Some members don’t mind paying the additional costs, while others creatively condense gear. You also have the option to check with airline representatives beforehand (*with the help of a letter on SCIF stationery which is provided upon request*) on the humanitarian nature of part of the trip and seek to have the extra fee waived. Another option is to ask your travel agent to assist with the airlines waiving the extra bag fee. All these methods work. Find what works best for you or your chapter.

Always take care when transporting medical supplies on SafariCare missions. Most countries today require them to bear **expiration dates no less than one year from date of entry**. If medical supplies or any items with expiration dates must be carried, they should be segregated into one bag as they may be retained in customs or a duty on the items may be charged to the traveler. These risks are one reason we recommend purchasing such locally after you arrive in country. These supplies can then be purchased safely and much more cost effectively.

Remember that you are going to a place where there may not be any trained medical people, or they may not be able to read or understand instruction labels. Some items (non-outdated medicinal supplies) should be dispensed under supervision through established clinics or trained medical people in the village. For example, toothpaste may appear harmless, but some children may think it is candy and become ill from improper use.

If you take school supplies or other non-perishable items, you usually will have no problem with customs. However, sometimes they can be considered as gifts and may be subject to duty. Normally, personal items, educational, recreational, and humanitarian relief supplies, and basic quality of life items are welcomed and appreciated.

Please be sure to notify us of any SafariCare mission you or your chapter undertake so that it can be counted in our annual records. It is also important to have an itemized list of every item in each Blue Bag. A copy should be kept by the Chapter and sent to me, and another should be carried by the travelers. If customs happen to call the Humanitarian Services (HS) Department, I can verify the list with them to protect SCIF-HS from anyone trying to smuggle illegal items in the bag.

We encourage all SCI members to take high-resolution photos and/or videos of your Blue Bag experience and submit a short story of their SafariCare experiences. Please email the story and photos/videos to agutierrez@scifirstforhunters.org. Articles can then be developed for news stories in your local community and for publication on our website, chapter newsletters, Safari Times, or the Safari magazine. Our hunters help save hunting when they carry out these compassionate deeds.

SCIF Bell Family Blue Bags: Suggested Lists of Items

Clinically Supervised Items

Ibuprofen
First Aid Kits/Creams
Fungus Infection Creams
Eye/Ear Ointments/Cleansers
Upset Stomach Medicines
Diarrhea Medicines
Vitamins
Anti-itch Creams
Skin Rash Creams (cortisone)
Water Purification
Burn Ointments
Triple Antibiotic Ointments
Dehydration (salt) Tablets
Hydrogen peroxide*
Cotton/Cotton balls
Toothpaste

Non-Supervised Items

Eyeglasses/Reading Glasses	School Supplies
Shoes/Socks/Sandals	Maps/Atlases/Dictionaries
Hats/Caps	Pens/Pencils/Paper
Shirts/Jackets/T-Shirts	Sports Equipment
Toothbrushes/Floss	Soccer Balls & Pumps/Needles
Trash Bags	Mosquito Netting/Repellent
Water Filters/Purification Straws	Chalk/Small Chalkboards
Needles and Thread	Cloth/Fabric
Rope/Twine/String	Crayons/Colored Pencils/Markers
Tablets, Fishhooks, and Line	Coloring/Activity Books
Antibacterial Soaps	Scissors/Rulers
Adhesive Bandages/Gauze	Pins: Straight/Safety
Plastic Bottles/Bowls/Cups	Toys/Stuffed Animals
Disinfectants	Candy
Shampoo/Body Wash	Bandanas
Educational Flash Cards	Backpacks

*(*should be packed in a plastic bag and sealed)*

When on safari in a remote area, you are the only ambassador representing the hunting community. You arrive to hunt native wildlife. The image you leave is dependent upon the impression you make while visiting. **SafariCare is one way to leave a wonderful lasting impression.** If you have a good experience, you and/or your friends will be returning. The people you assist and work with will remember your generosity.

**To obtain one or more
Bell Family blue bags, please contact
SCI Foundation Humanitarian Services,
Armando Gutierrez
agutierrez@scifirstforhunters.org
Please allow 2-4 weeks for delivery*



