



## Introduction to Mercy Ships Course

This course is a weekend long programme designed to facilitate the entry of potential staff into Mercy Ships, but is open to those wishing to learn more about Mercy Ships. Our goal is to help potential crew and staff become as informed in their decision making process as possible. Topics covered include introduction to Mercy Ships, transitioning, community life, support raising and a voluntary interview. During a number of sessions, during meals and one-on-one talks participants will learn almost all there is to learn about working and living in Mercy Ships. Volunteers who want to serve more than 12 months have to do the Onboarding Program at the Mercy Ships International Support Center in Texas, USA.

### Content

During the weekend the following topics will be part of the program:

- The Mercy Ships organization
- To live and to work in Mercy Ships
- Procedure of application and requirements
- Personal fundraising / how to build a support group
- Training: Onboarding
- To communicate the Mercy Ships mission
- Core values
- Expectations (from the applicant's and Mercy Ships perspective)

There will be personal time to inform candidates on a one to one basis about Mercy Ships opportunities and to answer personal questions.

### Language

The Introduction to Mercy Ships (IMS) course is open for attendance by participants from all European countries (and beyond). The language used will be English.

### Families

To make the course as effective as possible it is unfortunately not possible to bring children to the introduction weekend.



## Age

The minimum age to work with Mercy Ships is 18 and the maximum age is 69. At all ages a good health is required. The same age restrictions are applicable for the introduction course.

## Location

The course will be conducted onboard the passenger ship m/v Horizon. In this way participants can have a glimpse of living onboard a ship with small living space and a strong sense of "community living". The ship will be docked as we make use of it outside the holiday season for riverships. The place of boarding is Rotterdam (in the Netherlands) which can easily be reached by public transportation.

## Cost

The cost for the weekend is € 175 per person. These costs include board and food onboard the m/v Horizon, docked in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. People who apply for the IMS course must pay a nonrefundable<sup>1</sup> deposit of € 75 per person on the EURO account of Mercy Ships Global Association: IBAN: CH07 0900 0000 1516 3721 0, BIC: POFICHBEXXX. Bank: PostFinance SA, Mingerstrasse 20, 3030 Berne – Switzerland. Account name: Association Globale Mercy Ships – Lausanne. Please reference: "Introduction to Mercy Ships". On receipt of the application papers and the deposit I will let you know whether you are accepted or not.

The due date for the second part of the payment, € 100 per person, is October 1st, 2022. If we have not received your payment by the due date we will remove your reservation and make it available to someone else.

<sup>1</sup>If you are not accepted to the IMS or we have to cancel the course, your payment/deposit will be returned.



## Dates

The next IMS course will be held October 28, 29 and 30, 2022. The course starts on Friday afternoon and finishes on Sunday afternoon.

## Application

You can request more information and the application form by sending an e-mail to Alize van der Wolf. After you have finished filling in this application form please send it by e-mail (or postal mail) to the address below. After review of your application papers you will be notified of your acceptance for attending the IMS course.

## More information

Please feel free to contact Alize either by e-mail or by phone.

You can reach her by phone on Monday and Wednesday.

### Alize van der Wolf

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