



# c.u.r.e. cargo

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delivering **health & hope** to the world



project**c.u.r.e.**

Project C.U.R.E. (Commission on Urgent Relief and Equipment) is a nonprofit, humanitarian relief organization that delivers donated medical supplies and equipment to hospitals and clinics throughout the developing world.

The organization was founded in 1987 by Dr. James Jackson, an economist who - during a trip to Brazil - recognized the lack of basic medical supplies and equipment limiting health care delivery. Over the following months, he collected approximately \$250,000 worth of donated medical supplies and sent a cargo container of medical supplies to Brazil.

Since that first shipment, Project C.U.R.E. has grown to be the world's largest distributor of donated medical supplies to resource-limited communities and has distribution centers in Denver (the international headquarters), Houston, Phoenix, Nashville, Philadelphia, Chicago and Kansas City. Through these distribution centers, and with the help of more than 25,000 annual volunteers, medical supplies are delivered to more than 130 countries around the globe.

**The C.U.R.E. Cargo Program** is the primary vehicle through which Project C.U.R.E. distributes donated medical equipment and supplies to recipient healthcare facilities worldwide. Cargo shipments are most commonly delivered via 40 foot shipping containers.

### WHAT MAKES PROJECT C.U.R.E. UNIQUE?

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The initial on-site needs assessment distinguishes Project C.U.R.E from other humanitarian relief organizations. Project C.U.R.E. collaborates with partners in each country to develop a high-level understanding of the scope of need. Our thorough, on-site

Needs Assessment process ensures that every container delivered will meet the specific needs of the recipient hospital or clinic, equipping the medical staff with the tools to improve diagnosis, treatment and care.



## WHAT IS PROJECT C.U.R.E'S CARGO PROGRAM?

C.U.R.E. Cargo is the program through which Project C.U.R.E. distributes donated medical equipment and supplies via cargo containers to health care facilities in medically under-resourced communities around the world.

## WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR THE C.U.R.E. CARGO PROGRAM?

Before any medical goods or equipment are delivered to a medical facility, an Assessment Study is performed by a trained Project C.U.R.E Needs Assessment Representative to determine the specific needs of the receiving facility and ensure that specific needs and requirements are understood and met.

### 1. REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE APPLICATION FORM

Each applicant needs to fill out the Request for Assistance Application Form in order to begin the process of working with Project C.U.R.E to bring health and hope to your country. If you have not already completed the Request for Assistance Application form, please do so at: <https://projectcure.org/receive/request-cargo-assistance>

### 2. NEEDS ASSESSMENT

After the Request for Assistance has been processed, the Field Assessments Manager will work directly with the designated person at your organization to plan the timing and logistics for the assessment visit on a mutually agreeable date. The Needs Assessment Reimbursement must be received before any airline tickets or other travel arrangements can be made.

### 3. ASSESSMENT VISIT

During the Needs Assessment visit, the Project C.U.R.E representative will determine the following:

- The specific needs of the medical facilities
- The ability of the receiving facility to install, use, and maintain the equipment
- The assurance that the donations will be properly used to aid those in need
- The relationship between the recipient and government and customs officials to facilitate the importation of the goods
- The logistics of delivery

### 4. PLANNING, LOADING AND SHIPPING

The Logistics Department utilizes the assessment report to develop a detailed list of items to include in the container. Once the list is reviewed and approved by the partner, load and ship dates are established. Details of the shipment, including all necessary documentation, are sent to the partner after the container is loaded and sails.

### 5. IMPACT EVALUATION

After the container has been delivered, Project C.U.R.E. will contact the partner to determine if the medical supplies and equipment in the container were utilized and how the supplies had an impact on medical care at the facility.



### HOW MUCH DOES THE CARGO PROGRAM COST? WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE FINANCIAL SPONSORSHIP?

The Needs Assessment deposit is \$3000 for projects located inside the Western Hemisphere (Central America, South America, and the Caribbean) and \$4000 for projects located outside this region. The deposit will cover airfare, visas, travel insurance and other expenses related to sending a Needs Assessment Representative to the recipient country. We will take care of all arrangements related to the aforementioned.

We ask that the in-country host take care of arrangements and expenses for **all in-country travel, accommodations, and meals**. Our representatives do not need fancy accommodations or meals – we just ask that they have a safe and clean place to stay and they are accompanied by the host. We have found that this is the most efficient and cost-effective way to take care of the in-country logistics of the Assessment Visit. Note: there will be additional costs associated with the project if in-country expenses are not covered by the partner.

Any part of the deposit that is not used to cover the airfare and related international travel costs will be credited to the project funding. On average, the Project Reimbursement (which includes shipping and handling door to port) is an estimated \$26,500 per 40-foot cargo container, depending on location. Inland, door-to-door delivery, may require an additional cost. This can vary either way depending on destination.

### WHO ARE THE PARTNERS INVOLVED IN THE PROCESS?

Partnerships are essential to Project C.U.R.E.'s mission and to successfully carry out each Cargo Project.

Key participants in a successful Project C.U.R.E. partnership include:

**Organization Making the Request (Applicant)** - the person or organization that starts the process by completing the Request for Assistance form.

**End-User (Recipient Hospital or Clinic)** - the facilities that are being considered for the Cargo of medical goods and services delivered from Project C.U.R.E.

**Contact Person on Location (Host)** — we ask that an individual involved with the application procedure serve as a host for the Project C.U.R.E. representatives during the Assessment Study visit. An in-country point person is also needed to aid in delivery arrangements and logistics.

**Financial Responsibility** — *the **Partner** is responsible for the costs associated with the Assessment visit, shipping, and the Project Reimbursement. In the past, partners have secured financial sponsors, which have included companies working in the region, civic organizations (i.e. Rotary Clubs), local governments, religious organizations, and individual donors.*

**Government and Customs Officials** — in order to facilitate the necessary approvals needed to receive and accept the import of Project C.U.R.E. goods, the Recipient must have a good, working relationship with the host government. If the Recipient doesn't have an established working relationship with the government or those involved with import regulations, then meetings should be set up during the Assessment Study between the proper government officials, the Recipient's representative, and Project C.U.R.E.'s Representative.

### WHERE DOES PROJECT C.U.R.E. GET THE MEDICAL SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT?

New and overstocked medical supplies and equipment are donated by U.S. manufacturers, wholesale suppliers, hospitals, clinics and individuals. Project C.U.R.E. collects these items and then brings them to a Project C.U.R.E. distribution center where they are inspected and sorted. All equipment donations are tested to ensure they are fully functional and checked to confirm all supporting parts are included.



### WHAT IS INVOLVED WITH CLEARING CUSTOMS?

- Customs clearance is the legal step for importing goods into a country. Every container needs to pass through Customs. During this process the cargo will be evaluated, inspected, and assessed to see if duties and taxes apply. All required paperwork needs to be presented for customs clearance.
- Project C.U.R.E. will work closely with partners to assist in clearing the container. It is ultimately the responsibility of the consignee to complete this process.

### WHAT PAPERWORK DO I NEED FOR CUSTOMS?

Project C.U.R.E. is not responsible for clearing the container through customs and recommends partners with limited shipping experience consult a clearing agent for country specific information early on in the process.

### WHAT IS A CLEARING AGENT?

A clearing agent is a professional individual at the country of destination who will assist the consignee in getting the container through Customs. Each container needs to be released and cleared through Customs and the clearing agent can provide valuable insights on requirements to import and clear a container. Project C.U.R.E. is not a clearing agent or responsible for clearing agent fees.

### WHAT COSTS ARE ASSOCIATED WITH CUSTOMS AND WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING THESE COSTS?

- Every country is different, but most ports charge port fees and other local shipping fees.
- Additionally, there are taxes and duties on the goods being imported unless the consignee has a tax exemption status. The amount charged for taxes and duties is based on the declared value of the container.
- If there is a delay in clearing the container there are additional costs. These costs are for port storage and container usage and will be charged by port authorities and the carrier. The per diem for these fees range in cost depending on the port of arrival.
- It is very important that the consignee work closely with Project C.U.R.E. representatives to ensure a speedy clearing. Ultimately, the consignee is responsible for the costs associated with customs clearance.

### WHAT IS TAX EXEMPT STATUS?

If the consignee is registered under tax-exempt status at the destination country, then they can apply for a tax and duty exemption letter. This means the consignee does not have to pay any taxes or duties on the goods being imported.



### WHERE DOES PROJECT C.U.R.E. DELIVER THE SHIPMENT? ARE FEES AND DUTIES INCLUDED IN THE COST?

Typically, Project C.U.R.E. delivers “door to port”. This is from Project C.U.R.E.’s warehouse in the U.S. to the in-country destination port. Destination delivery (DAP: Delivered at Place) can be arranged if possible and requested, for an additional fee.

All charges for clearance, port fees, duties, taxes, detention, and demurrage are the responsibility of the Recipient/Consignee/Importer and will not be handled by or billed to Project C.U.R.E. It is crucial to obtain a duty-free exemption from the government prior to the shipment’s arrival so that there are no taxes or duties levied on the container.

The average cost of delivering one 40 foot cargo container (includes procurement, processing, warehousing, domestic transportation within North America, and ocean freight) is approximately \$26,500. *International transportation and inland, door-to-door delivery, may be an additional cost. This does not include inspection fees, transformers, and document delivery charges.*

**Cargo Inspections:** Some countries require a mandatory pre-inspection of the cargo contents. The cost varies between \$500 and \$2,000, depending upon the country and is the responsibility of the sponsor/partner. Additional details will be provided during the planning process.

*The average value of the contents of the container is \$350,000-\$400,000.*

### HOW LONG DOES THE PROCESS TAKE?

Project C.U.R.E. will work diligently to complete the project in an expedient manner. The clearance process can be quite lengthy in certain countries and may delay shipping. In general, the average time is 8-10 months for container delivery, including the assessment process.

### WHAT KIND OF EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES ARE TYPICALLY IN EACH CONTAINER?

Generally, Project C.U.R.E. can provide nearly everything necessary to operate a hospital or clinic. Each container is customized to the needs of the recipient facility. Customized container packing lists are designed to deliver a load that is approximately half supplies and half equipment, in terms of volume.

**Consumable Goods** — needles, syringes, catheters, IV starting kits, hand-instruments, etc.

**Durable Medical Equipment** — beds, overbed tables, gurneys, crutches, canes, walkers, wheelchairs, cabinets, desks, surgical kits, chairs and other furniture.

**Biomedical Equipment** — X-ray machines, suction machines, anesthesia machines, ultrasound, lights, diagnostic equipment, laboratory equipment, etc.

All equipment is checked for functionality and repaired if necessary before shipping. All supplies are checked for sterility and efficacy. Project C.U.R.E.’s inventory is very dynamic and changes frequently.



### C.U.R.E. CARGO

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### DISASTER RELIEF CONTAINERS

Project C.U.R.E. has developed a range of containers which can be shipped rapidly to disaster areas. Each container has a pre-determined list of equipment and supplies tailored to the situation. Disaster relief containers are available for the following situations: natural disasters (such as earthquakes, floods, cyclones and volcanic eruptions), infectious disease outbreaks (such as Ebola, tuberculosis, cholera and vector-borne diseases such as malaria) and both urban and rural conflicts. For more information, contact [cargo@projectcure.org](mailto:cargo@projectcure.org).

### C.U.R.E. KITS

A C.U.R.E. Kit is a suitcase-sized, pre-packed kits of basic medical supplies that can easily be transported and checked as luggage on international trips and delivered to communities in need. C.U.R.E. Kits include exam supplies, wound care and personal hygiene items. For more information, contact [curekits@projectcure.org](mailto:curekits@projectcure.org).

### KITS FOR KIDS

Working with pediatricians and nurses, Project C.U.R.E. developed Kits for Kids to provide parents all over the world with basic health supplies for their children. These backpack-sized kits are filled with a supply of basic health and personal hygiene items such as bandages, toothbrush, tweezers, nail clippers, antibiotic cream, acetaminophen/ibuprofen, etc. For more information, contact [kitsforkids@projectcure.org](mailto:kitsforkids@projectcure.org)

### C.U.R.E. CLINICS

C.U.R.E. Clinics are an extension of our C.U.R.E. Cargo program offering medical support services and education to Project C.U.R.E. international partners. Teams of dedicated professionals travel worldwide to facilities who have received C.U.R.E. Cargo to provide C.U.R.E. Clinic services. For more information, contact [clinics@projectcure.org](mailto:clinics@projectcure.org).

### C.U.R.E. COLLEGE

**Helping Babies Survive:** This is a suite of evidence-based, hands-on training programs developed by the American Academy of Pediatrics to reduce neonatal mortality in resource-limited environments. For more information, contact: [clinics@projectcure.org](mailto:clinics@projectcure.org).

**Helping Mothers Survive:** This is a suite of facility and simulation-based learning modules designed to improve and sustain the critical skills of midwives, nurses, doctors and those who provide direct care during pregnancy, labor and delivery. For more information, contact: [clinics@projectcure.org](mailto:clinics@projectcure.org).

**Diarrhea Management:** The emphasis of this training is diarrhea prevention and management. For more information, contact: [clinics@projectcure.org](mailto:clinics@projectcure.org).

### BIOMEDICAL SUPPORT

C.U.R.E. Care: This is a program where biomedical technicians can come to the facility to help install, maintain or repair biomedical equipment. For more information regarding costs and planning contact: [clinics@projectcure.org](mailto:clinics@projectcure.org).

