

# vida needs you!

Volunteer sorting is vital to our operation. Since 1991, VIDA has sent over 475 ocean containers of donated medical supplies to clinics and hospitals in Latin America. In order to make it through customs in the countries we send our supplies to, the supplies have to be categorically sorted. This is where you, our volunteers, come in.

## tips and tricks for a successful sort

### In preparation:

Wear sturdy, close-toed shoes and bring a few layers of clothing in case you are hot or cold. Bring readers for small type if you generally need them.

Take a moment to review all 27 sorting categories before arrival to familiarize yourself (this will be time well spent). See right column for full list >

### At the warehouse:

If a box has more than 25 different items, set it aside. You'll be most efficient getting through more boxes with fewer items than tackling a box with many small items.

Sort 1 donation box at a time. If all the items in a box are the same, please place the entire box in the appropriate sorted area. We love these boxes!

**Hint:** Sort identical items on the work table and then place them all in the appropriate box.

### Liquids and Expired items

Remove all medicines/liquids. Look for  hourglass symbol or 00/0000) If expired place in "expired" bins for another NGO.

**Hint:** If in doubt, sort things into the more general categories (any tube can go with misc. tubing, any small package with 2 or more items can go with misc. small sets)

**"Have fun and realize the impact you are having! An average 12-foot high pallet can represent at least \$25,000 in aid."**

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1519 63rd Street  
Emeryville, California

Monday-Friday 10am-5pm

## **SORTING CATEGORIES:**

Bags and Liners  
Blood Pressure Supplies  
Connectors  
Diabetes Supplies  
Diapers  
Drapes/Gowns  
EKG Supplies  
Electrical Cables  
Eyes/Dental/ENT  
Face Masks/Beaufant Caps/  
Shoe Covers  
Gloves  
IV Supplies  
Lab Supplies  
Large Kits/Trays  
Misc. Small Sets  
Misc. Tubing  
OB/GYN and Urology  
Orthopedics and Rehabilitation  
Ostomy (human waste drainage)  
Patient Care  
Pediatrics  
Plastics  
Respiratory Supplies  
Surgical Care  
Sutures  
Wound Care

## **want flexibility?**

Your schedule is up to you!

## **volunteer regularly**

Anytime, any day  
Monday-Friday from  
10am-5pm to sort our  
donated medical supplies.

## **bring a group**

Volunteering with VIDA can make for a great team-building day for a corporation or a way to give back with your friends. We are happy to set up weekend or evening sorts for groups of 5 or more.