

Pre-Production Planning Document (MINI DOC)

GENERAL INFO

1. **Your Name:** Sean Formantes
2. **PROJECT:** Mini Documentary/Biography/News Package

CREATIVE BRIEF

1. What must it be?

This short documentary is about the Dominican Republic Mission Team, a nonprofit Christian missions organization based in Wallingford, CT in conjunction with the First Baptist Church Wallingford. Since the 90s, the DRMT has traveled to La Romana, DR to serve undocumented Haitian migrants through a variety of different initiatives, including medical clinics, food distribution, and construction projects. The work is done in conjunction with local partners in the Dominican Republic, including: the Iglesia Bautista Maranatha (Maranatha Baptist Church) and Maranatha Missions, the El Buen Samaritano Hospital (The Good Samaritan Hospital), and the Centro de Protesis (Center for Prosthetics). I personally went on the trip in January 2024 and am planning on returning to La Romana this coming January as well.

2. Who is it for?

The documentary is for anyone wanting to learn more about the DRMT – mainly, people who are interested in going on the trip or are on the fence about it.

3. How long must it be?

1-5 minutes long. I envision this project leaning towards the 5-minute mark.

4. What is your objective with the piece?

My objective is twofold: (1) to educate viewers about the DRMT, its history, and its impact, and (2) to persuade viewers to support the ministry by becoming a part of the team.

5. When is it due?

This project is due Saturday, December 14 by midnight.

6. What is the overall idea?

The DRMT is more than just a missions trip. It is a community experience that has positively impacted the lives of not only the Haitian migrants in the DR, but also the team's members; many of whom have been to the DR multiple times.

7. What is the storyline summary?

The storyline is flexible, depending on where the interviews lead. However, my questions (and most likely the general order of the video) will revolve around the following:

- What the DRMT is (basic facts and history)
- Subjects' previous experiences with the DRMT (ex. How many times have you been on the trip?)
- Personal stories and anecdotes / Importance of Service
- The impact of the DRMT
- CTA for support (ex. Why you should go on the trip)

8. Elevator pitch:

The work of the Dominican Republic Missions Team extends past construction projects, medical clinics, and food distribution. It is a well-established community consisting of both the team members and local DR partners that impacts everyone's lives for the better. Since the 90s, the DRMT has made a lasting impact in La Romana, serving migrants in the local bateyes. The DRMT is a life-changing experience that creates memories for the better.

9. Tagline:

DRMT: The undeniable impact of service through faith
(Or something along those lines)

10. Look and feel description (including "pacing"):

This documentary will be on the slower and calmer side. It definitely isn't energetic or flashy; rather it will be calming and reflective while still striking an emotional chord.

QUESTIONS / NOTES

SUBJECT:

1. Why did you choose this story?

I chose this story because it has a personal place in my heart. I went on the trip myself in January 2024 and know firsthand how it has impacted not only the lives of others, but my life as well. I want to be able to tell this story of the organization so that others may be led to experience it firsthand as well.

2. Story ideas:

The story revolves as much around how the DRMT experience has impacted the lives of its members, along with how it has made positive change in the DR through various initiatives.

NARRATION/HOST:

3. Who will lead us through the piece?

The piece will be led through 4 subjects who will be interviewed for the documentary. Based on the responses, the shots will be compiled into an appropriate narrative. There will be no additional “voice over” aside from those provided by the interviewed participants.

4. Narration ideas:

See “storyline summary” above – this outline matches the intended narrative of the piece.

INTERVIEWS:

1. Who will you interview?

The interview participants are as follows:

- John and Aimee Powers: Professor Powers runs the DRMT together with his wife, Aimee.
- Sandra and Wilson Moya: Sandra has been a part of the DRMT since youth, and her son, Wilson (age 21), is also involved with the mission.

2. Why is this person important to the piece?

All of these interview participants bring a wide variety of stories from their past experiences on the trip. Thus, each will bring a different insight.

3. What questions will you ask?

- State your name and your previous experience with the team.
- What do you love about the DRMT?
- What are some of the projects the DRMT does?
- What is a favorite memory or life-changing experience from the trip?
- How has the mission impacted you personally?
- How has the DRMT experience helped to build your Christian faith?
- Say someone is on the fence about going on the trip. What would you say to them?

4. What follow up questions might be important?

Follow-up questions will be determined based on where the conversations go.

B-Roll:

1. What b-roll visuals will be important to convey the story? Keep in mind you should show what the interviewees are talking about.

B-Roll will prove to be the most difficult for this documentary, as I am not currently in the Dominican Republic. However, I will do what I can to take hero shots of each of the participants which can be used through the video (ex. Participants walking or standing still). Additionally, the DRMT also has professional videos and photos from previous trips available, which with the appropriate permissions, would be extremely effective if incorporated into the video.

2. Any still images or charts or graphics?

Images would include those taken from previous years on the trip, provided by the DRMT.

3. Is the natural sound of the environment important? If so, be sure to record it properly.

No.

4. B-roll ideas:

- Construction and medical clinics in the DR
- Activities of the team in the Dominican Republic (ex. Morning prayer)

MUSIC:

1. What is overall “mood” and “feel” of the piece?

I would describe the mood as being conversational and warm. It is the opposite of being energetic, promotional, or flashy. I want the viewer to feel as if they are having a conversation with the subject.

2. Music track ideas:

Slow instrumental music.

PERMISSIONS:

1. Am I allowed to film here? Do I need permission and/or a permit?

Filming will be conducted at the house of one of the interview participants. Permission was granted by the homeowner.

2. Will any people be in my shots? Do I need permission and/or release forms?

Participants were informed that the documentary is for a class project (and could also possibly be shared by the DRMT once published). Consent was given however release forms were not used.

GENERAL:

1. What gear do I need to pack and bring with me for the shoot? Film gear, sunscreen, water, etc.

Gear needed for this shoot include:

- Canon EOS Rebel T7 Camera
- SD Card
- Harddrive
- iPhone
- Laptop
- Three different lights
- Large Tripod
- Phone Tripod
- Yeti Microphone
- Cords + Adapters

2. How will I transport everything and keep it safe?

Equipment will be transported to the filming site using my car. Some equipment will fit in my backpack; others will be carried separately (ex. Lighting). Other equipment such as the camera and tripod come in their own bags, which will be used for transport.

3. Are there any potential hazards or complications at this location?

None.

SCRIPT

Name: Sean

Title: All About the DRMT (Working Title)

<u>VIDEO</u>	<u>AUDIO</u>
--------------	--------------

