Volunteer Placement Profile
Nursing Volunteer

Hospital Republica del Ecuador
San Cristobal, Ecuador
Job Description

Volunteers are needed to help with tasks according to their qualifications and abilities. General volunteers without any training that want to help out in the hospital will be doing social visits to patients, placed where there is the most need.

Because patients arrive from all over Ecuador, especially from isolated, poorer areas (as this is a government funded facility) there is a lack of funding and personnel to take care of all the children. For this reason volunteers are greatly appreciated for the work they do, as well as the element of hope and care they add to the atmosphere in the hospital. As this hospital is an under-funded state facility, they are desperate for any funds possible. There is a great need for any help in fundraising operations of the hospital for interested individuals.

Volunteer Tasks Required

General Tasks

Depending on the knowledge and experience of a volunteer or intern, tasks for volunteers could include assisting doctors in the emergency wing, helping with general consultations of patients, as well as helping medical personal in various departments within the hospital.

Filling out charts

As an Assistant one of the main task will be filling out charts and making sure they are updated. The doctor or nurse in charge will give you a quick lesson before starting the job, so you will have no problem with filling out the charts.

Restocking supplies

In the Volunteers building you will help the stuff and other volunteers to restock supplies missing on the patients rooms. Such as towels, diapers, toilet paper, reading books, bed shits.
Helping with blood samples

You will be in charge of taking blood samples from the patients and label them perfectly, also taking pressure records of every patient in the hospital who needs one.

Visiting patients

Volunteers will be visiting patients everyday, making sure they are comfortable, checking to see if they need any assistance. Your patients are going to be kids, so when you visit you can read stories to them.
Organization Details

The Hospital Cantonal Republica Del Ecuador, on Santa Cruz Island, is the main health center for the residents, volunteers, temporary workers, and tourists of the Galapagos Islands and has the only hyperbaric chamber for the islands. The hospital is located in the heart of Puerto Ayora, at the intersection of the two main roads on the island and across from the port. Isabela Island and Floreana Island are less populated and do not have a hospital or an emergency service. Both islands are a two hour boat ride from Santa Cruz and all emergency patients from those islands travel to Santa Cruz Island for treatment.

The Hospital Cantonal Republica Del Ecuador is staffed by the government. The majority of the doctors and nurses work in the hospital for one year during what is known as the, "Rural Year". This "Rural Year", (which starts each year in September), is an obligation for all doctors who have attended medical school in Ecuador and have had their tuition fees paid for by the Ecuadorian government. These doctors have to practice, "in Ecuador, in a rural setting", immediately after graduating from medical school, for one year.

Since the Galapagos Islands are on the list of rural settings for the doctors to practice, every year doctors leave and new doctors come to the island. This constant change of practitioners makes stabilizing of the different medical departments, research and long term medical objectives difficult. However, it should be noted that the hospital does employ some doctors that are not transit.

When the Organization was Founded

Puerto Ayora emergency medical facilities includes the Hospital Cantonal Republica Del Ecuador, on Santa Cruz Island. A fairly new hospital which was opened in 2006 by the president of Ecuador, Alfredo Palacio.

This hospital was urgently needed as there were no hospitals in the Galapagos Islands prior to this. It took one and a half years to be built by the Ecuadorian government.
How the Organization is Funded

The Hospital Cantonal Republica Del Ecuador, on Santa Cruz Island, is the main health center for the residents, volunteers, temporary workers, and tourists of the Galapagos Islands and is funded by the Government of Ecuador.
Placement Location Information

Located in the port town of Puerto Ayora on the island of Santa Cruz, the hospital is located on the strip of one of the town's major streets.

Puerto Ayora is the largest city in the Galapagos with a population of 10 000 residents. It also has the most infrastructure of the Galapagos cities with many hotels, restaurants, internet cafe's, tourist shops and night activities.

The island also boasts many of the animals that the Galapagos is famous for such as Blue Footed Boobies, Marine Iguanas, Frigate Birds, Galapagos Sea Lions and many more.

City Description

The location is one of a kind - the Galapagos Islands. Here you can swim with sea lions, float eye to eye with penguins, scuba dive with hammerhead sharks and stand next to the blue-footed booby bird.

Sitting right on top of the Equator, approximately 600 miles directly west of Ecuador, the Galapagos Islands had no original inhabitants. They were discovered in 1535 by Tomas de Berlanga, the Spanish Bishop of Panama, when his ship drifted by the islands.

The Galapagos Islands first appeared on maps in the late 16th century and were named "Insulae de los Galopegos" (Islands of the Tortoises) in reference to the giant tortoises found there.

Puerto Baquerizo Moreno is the capital of the Islands. About 5,400 people live there and many residents work for the government or in fisheries (the second largest income source for habitants of the Galápagos).

Unidad Educativa Pedro Pablo Andrade is an educational centre including a primary and secondary school, which were founded by the "Lauritas" Sisters.

Points of Interest
The Galápagos Islands were officially discovered in 1535 by Fray Tomás de Berlanga, the Bishop of Panamá when his ship was becalmed in the Pacific and then swept off course.

Since Charles Darwin arrived in the Galapagos Islands in 1835, his theories about species evolution based on the animals inhabiting these Islands has made this spectacular protected wildlife area famous! The name Galápagos originates from the Spanish word for saddle, after the saddle-back tortoises.

Weather in the Area

There are two main climatic seasons in the Galapagos. The hot season is from December to May when temperatures are higher and there is occasionally heavy rainfall. The cooler season is from June to November with more cloud cover and misty patches leading to lighter rains.

After June however trade winds can significantly affect ocean temperatures, which can dip as low as 15 degrees Celsius. With the exception of the slightly cooler weather in June and July, the Islands are favourable to visit for most of the year due to their latitudinal advantage.

Transportation From BaseCamp

From Quito volunteers are responsible for purchasing a flight to the Galapagos (which can be done when you are here in Quito). From the airport on the island of Baltra volunteers will take a short boat ride to the island of Santa Cruz followed by a bus into Puerto Ayora.
Accommodation and Meals

All of our volunteers begin their stay in Ecuador at our BaseCamp Center in Quito. Given that this placement is less than a 1 hour and 15 minute commute from BaseCamp, volunteers working here will have the option of living with us at BaseCamp or living with a host family.

The following information outlines a brief description of life at BaseCamp and also what someone can expect living with a host family in Ecuador. Once you have completed our application, you can let our staff know if you would prefer to live with a host family. Otherwise, your application will default to having you live with us at BaseCamp.

If you have any questions about the difference between life at BaseCamp or life with a host family in Ecuador you can always give us a call or send us an email. Our contact details are listed in the footer of every page of the site.
BaseCamp Ecuador is located in the trendy Mariscal district of Quito. Within easy walking distance of banks, restaurants, internet cafes and more; BaseCamp in Quito is perfectly situated for any need. Whether you are taking advantage of the rich and vibrant night life of La Mariscal or visiting a local market, BaseCamp Ecuador is always just a few minutes away.

There are six dormitory style guest rooms and five wash-rooms. Pillows, sheets and blankets are provided. There are two common areas on the main floor, including a small resource centre, containing books, magazines, games and other Ecuadorian publications. As well there is a large selection of local movies and documentaries which are available for guest viewing. In addition to the two common areas, BaseCamp Quito has a rooftop terrace, the perfect spot to watch the street come

BaseCamp Ecuador Address
Juan Rodriguez E8 - 72 Y
6 De Diciembre
Quito, Ecuador

Contact Details
Tel: 593 2-254-7737 (Guest House Jazmines)
Tel: 593-0-998-221-438

www.volunteerbasecamp.com
awake with a morning cup of coffee, or spend an afternoon relaxing in the sun.

BaseCamp Quito is also the orientation and training centre for international volunteers visiting Ecuador. In addition to accommodation and meals, BaseCamp Quito also provides volunteers with orientation, Spanish Language training (1 - 8 weeks), placement consultation and work plan seminars, as well as follow up and continued support while volunteers are at their placements. All of these services are available to guests who are interested.
Living With a Host Family

Living with a host family in Ecuador is a fantastic way to gain a deep understanding of and appreciation for the people and customs of the country. Each home-stay will provide a bed and three meals per day for our volunteers. The majority of host families offer private rooms with only one or two volunteers living with the family.

In the case of a volunteer lodge or ranger station (which is often the only option for placements within a National Park), volunteers will be living in dormitory type accommodation and meals will be provided in a mess hall or dining area.

Living with a host family can greatly enhance your performance at your placement. For one, it will have a huge influence on the speed with which you gain familiarity with the local language. This, along with your deeper understanding of cultural practices and beliefs that you are likely to gain in this environment, can go a long way to improving or strengthening your relationships with your team mates at work. Furthermore, a significant percentage of our host families are closely affiliated with the organizations with which our volunteers work. As such, even the evening meal or hanging out around the house can become valuable time during which volunteers
can share their ideas and continue their support of their host organization.

All of this being said, living with a host family is not for everyone. It is very important for volunteers to honor the house rules in their host family and to be punctual. Also, depending on how remote your placement location, host families can be very rustic. Our staff in country can give you a better idea of what exactly you can expect from a host family in any particular community. However, in general, if these things sound like they might pose a challenge for you, we strongly suggest that you look at a placement within commuting distance from BaseCamp Ecuador.
How the Program Works

Our program structure and costing is completely flexible which lets our volunteers ensure that they only pay for exactly the degree of support that they want.

Option 1 - Free Services

Some volunteers prefer to coordinate their own accommodation, meals and other support while overseas.

Anyone is welcome to use our volunteer placement search tool to help in finding a placement that is well suited to their interests. Once someone finds a placement that they wish to work with, they are welcome to make all the rest of their arrangements on their own.

As well, our team of staff overseas are often able to offer a few helpful pointers for volunteers 'doing it on their own'. Just send us an email with your questions and we will put you in touch with our team abroad. We only ask that you keep your requests fairly general, as this type of advice is exactly how our team earn their living. :)

Option 2 - Placement Support - 250 USD

Other volunteers would like assistance in selecting and confirming their placement, but they plan to manage their own accommodation and other expenses on their own.

These volunteers have the option of choosing to only have our assistance with selecting and confirming their placement. This option also includes ongoing placement support while abroad, so a volunteer would be able to ask our team for help if things at their placement were not working out.

In providing Placement Support, our team works with each volunteer through email, telephone and either Skype or Google Hangouts, to ensure that each volunteer has a clear understanding of their placement options. Our in-country staff will put together a custom list of placement options for each volunteer that they believe are the most appropriate matches with the volunteer's background, skills and interests.
Then each volunteer can work with our team both in Canada and abroad to go through each of the options and narrow-down their selection.

**Option 3 - Full Program Support**

For most volunteers who are volunteering for less than a year, they are looking for an option that includes their accommodation, meals, airport reception, country and program orientation and placement support. This is what our Program Fees are designed for.

We are proud of how over the years we have ensured that our program fees are amongst the most reasonable of any program in the world while we continue to provide exceptional volunteer support both at home and abroad.

Our Program Fees and listings of what these do and do not include are listed below:
Program Fees Ecuador

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<tr>
<td>Registration Fee</td>
<td>250</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Week</td>
<td>395</td>
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<tr>
<td>2 Weeks</td>
<td>620</td>
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<td>3 Weeks</td>
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<td>4 Weeks</td>
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<td>7 Weeks</td>
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<td>8 Weeks</td>
<td>1,768</td>
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<td>Additional Weeks</td>
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Ecuador wildlife and conservation placements require an additional $7 USD per day fee to cover park fees and accommodation. All program fees are listed in US Dollars.
Inclusions & Exclusions

What is Included

- Pre-Departure support
- Placement consultation
- Airport reception & transfer
- 2 Day orientation
- Accommodation (BaseCamp or host family)
- Breakfast and dinner
- Emergency & placement support

What is Not Included

Before Departure

- International flight
- Travel medical insurance
- Visa costs where required
- Work permits where required

While Overseas

- Daily transportation to and from placement
- Transport to airport on departure
- Placement fees if required
Program Dates

Our regularly scheduled program start dates are the first Friday of each month, every month of the year. We strongly recommend beginning your program on one of these dates as this will allow you to go through our orientation alongside other international volunteers.

If you would prefer, our application will also allow you to select a custom start date for your program. Keep in mind that there is an additional fee for a custom start date which ranges from 50 to 75 USD.

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<tr>
<th>Mar 06, 2020</th>
<th>Apr 03, 2020</th>
<th>May 01, 2020</th>
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<tbody>
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<tr>
<td>Dec 03, 2021</td>
<td>Jan 07, 2022</td>
<td>Feb 04, 2022</td>
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PLEASE NOTE:

These dates are the day that volunteers should plan to arrive on the ground in country. We can accommodate arrivals in-country at any time day or night on these dates.