Volunteer Placement Profile
Construction and Maintenance Volunteer

LOHADA
Arusha, Tanzania
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Job Description

Camp Joshua is one of LOHADA’s camps and it provides care for children from age 7 to 17 years old. The camp staff attend to all the personal care required for the children plus provide the children with their primary education.

This organization continuously strives to support vulnerable children and as a non-profit organization they have been facing a lot of financial difficulties in supplying all the necessities for a positive and safe environment for the children. One of the challenges has been a lack of building structures to deliver the necessary services to the children.

In this sense LOHADA is desperately looking for Samaritan construction and maintenance volunteers who are willing to come and support the organization by either doing renovation projects or starting new construction projects.

The construction projects that need volunteer support are many and a few include: painting the school and dorm buildings, continuing the building of the school fence wall that has already been started, assisting in the construction of the library which is at present at the stage of constructing a roof, as well as helping with the development in the kitchen section.

Construction volunteers would be able to chose which projects they would like to help develop but should also be aware that the funds to support any of these endeavours would have to be obtained by the volunteers themselves either before arriving in the host country or fundraising activities in said country. The projects can either be done by a group of volunteers or be individually oriented.

Construction and maintenance volunteers do not need to have had previous experience but must be motivated, hard working individuals; willing to aggressively seek funds for their desired projects. Of-course the higher skilled the volunteers are in the construction industry the more advanced the construction project may be.

Volunteer Tasks Required

Renovation

www.volunteerbasecamp.com
Construction and maintenance volunteers may be asked to help with the renovating of the school building by painting walls or repairing damage done to walls and/or floors.

**Building the Fence**

Construction and maintenance volunteers may be asked to continue the work of constructing the fence that has already been started. This task would involve the mixing of cement/sand, carrying the bricks to construct the fence and watering the newly built walls.

**Purchase the Materials**

Purchasing the construction material is one of the tasks that a construction and maintenance volunteer would be required to do. The volunteer would be expected to go to the hardware stores and purchase all the needed construction materials.

**Fundraising for Projects**

The organization doesn't have funds for most of the construction projects needing to be done. Therefore, any construction and maintenance volunteer would have to obtain the funds prior to arriving in the country or conduct a fundraising campaign once in country.
Organization Details

LOHADA is an organization that is dedicated to providing ongoing care to: children under the age of 17 and elderly people who are in destitute situations. Most of the children and the elderly come from the Arusha and Shinyanga region of Tanzania.

The founders of this organization saw a need to start a program for these two demographics because of the high number of children and elderly members in their community that were living in unsafe and unhealthy conditions with little means to survive.

The children at LOHADA, come from various backgrounds that have a high risk factor of children ending up living on the streets or are already doing so. Most of the children at their centres are either orphans or come from backgrounds where their parent(s) are either begging to survive or they have mother’s who make their living as prostitutes. Therefore, the children are not able to receive the care and guidance necessary for their welfare.

In addition to working with children LOHADA, has a number of programs dedicated to helping the elderly who are severely disadvantaged or who do not have family members who are able to care for them.

The three primary goals of this organization include:

PROTECTION: To protect children and the elderly against social-economic destitution caused by numerous factors such as: the death of their care givers, prostitution, neglectful behaviour, divorce or separation or sicknesses such as HIV/AIDS. The elderly are also being cared for by LOHADA, if they have been socially excluded from their families, community or society because of common superstitions in the Shinyanga region of Tanzania.

REHABILITATION: This is done by social workers, based on counselling and capacity building to the destitute parents who’s children are cared for by LOHADA. LOHADA, conducts seminars and training to parents through the support of other institutions, eg. health and financial institutions. Families are visited regularly by the staff to ensure that a safe and nurturing environment is developing and/or being maintained once the child returns home.
EDUCATION: LOHADA, provides education to all the children cared for by the organization through Camp Joshua and Camp Moses located in Arusha. Camp Moses is a pre-primary school that cares for children below 7 years old while Camp Joshua cares for children 7 to 17 years of age.

When the Organization was Founded

Happiness Wambura began the organization while sitting under a tree, taking care of beggars children. She would bring them food and assist their mothers however she could. From this, LOHADA, was founded in July, 1998. LOHADA, was officially registered in 2000. Since its registration, three centers have been built. They are: Camp Moses, a home for children under 7 years of age, Camp Joshua, a school for more than 110 children from the Arusha's slums, ages 7 to 17 years of age, and Camp Patmos, which is home to over 80 abused elders.

How the Organization is Funded

LOHADA, receives funds from the small tuition costs to children who live outside of the orphanages, as well as, from donors. Donors include individuals, charities, churches and other civil societies.

Role of Religion Within This Organization

LOHADA, promotes Christian beliefs but volunteers do not need to participate in any religious activities or practice any type of religion.
Placement Location Information

Camp Joshua is located in a village area outside of the city of Arusha, called Uswahilini. This area is near to another area called Unga Limited, which is very well developed with many small shops, local restaurants, and schools. Uswahilini, and specifically the area directly surrounding Camp Joshua, is much less developed, with only dirt roads and few small fruit stands and other shops.

At this placement there are seven class rooms and two dormitories, in order to accommodate both boys and girls students at the same time.

There is also a teachers' office as well as a kitchen beside the building that houses the classrooms. The school has a big compound with a soccer field in it and they are working on finishing fencing the whole compound, as they only have half of it done. Camp Joshua has its own well in the compound, so they are able to get water for cooking, cleaning, drinking, and watering the garden.

The placement itself is in an open area that offers great views of Arusha landscape.

City Description

The city of Arusha has an estimated population of around one million people and sits at the foot of Mount Meru. Mount Meru is the fifth highest peak in Africa; it is a few hundred meters shorter than Kilimanjaro which is the highest mountain in Africa and encompasses three volcanic cones; Kibo, Mawenzi, and Shira (don't worry, they're not active!)

Arusha is surrounded by some of the most beautiful landscape on the planet. With easy access to the Arusha National Park, Serengeti, Lake Manyara and Tarangire National Park there is never a shortage of things to do!

Arusha is considered to be one of the best African cities when it comes to great weather and tourism combined.

Arusha is a busy industrial and administrative centre. Some of the main manufacture products include textiles, beverages, processed foods, plastics and electronic equipment. It is well known for the African Congress Centre and the International
Tribunal for the Rwandan Genocide.

Points of Interest

The city of Arusha was settled by German colonists in the early 1900’s. Many of the historical buildings from this period have been left behind or converted, including the German Military Base Boma which is now a Natural History Museum located in the centre of the city. The city also features the Arusha Declaration Museum which displays the history of Arusha and Tanzania in general.

There are a number of markets in Arusha, located in the centre of the city. These include the Central Market of Arusha which is the biggest market in the city, as well as the Maasai Market, (curio and craft market), which is the biggest souvenir market in Tanzania.

Weather in the Area

Despite its closeness to the equator, Arusha's elevation of 1400 mm on the southern slopes of Mount Meru keeps temperatures down and alleviates humidity. Cool dry air is prevalent for the majority of the year. The temperature ranges between 13 and 30 degrees Celsius with an average of around 25 degrees.

Arusha has distinct wet and dry seasons and experiences an eastern prevailing wind from the Indian Ocean, a couple of hundred miles east. Highest average rainfall occurs in March, April and May.

Transportation From BaseCamp

Take a 15 minute dalladalla (public transport) from the BaseCamp Center to Friend’s Corner. From there, take a dalladalla to the Uswahilini area until the very last stop. Walk 150m off the road to the left to Camp Joshua. You will be able to see Camp Joshua from the road.
Accommodation and Meals

All of our volunteers begin their stay in Tanzania at our BaseCamp Center in Ngaramtoni - Arusha. 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 Tanzania. 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 Tanzania 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 Tanzania is located in the Kijenge area of Arusha. The centre is located just a few minutes from the famous Clock-Tower and many amenities such as banks, internet cafes and international calling centres. You can also find some great local markets selling everything from fresh fruit and fish, to beautiful wooden carvings and amazing East African paintings! Arusha is a comfortable place to live with many of the conveniences of home, while still allowing travellers to experience the African way of life.

BaseCamp Tanzania is set up with a number of dormitory style rooms. Pillows, sheets and blankets are provided. The house has a large covered balcony on the main floor with a spectacular view! There is also a large common room on the lower level with a small resource centre containing books, magazines, movies, games and
other African publications. Outside is a beautiful lawn and garden that overlooks the city and is an ideal setting to catch up on email, review some Swahili or just enjoy a quiet afternoon. Wireless internet access is available throughout the house, making it easy to stay in touch with friends and family back home.

The meal plan at BaseCamp is a 14 day rotating schedule of a variety of traditional dishes from around the country. This allows volunteers to try a wide range of Tanzanian dishes and to gain some knowledge of the food served and meal etiquette before living with a host family. For those who stay on in BaseCamp, the 14 day schedule allows for lots of variety.

BaseCamp Tanzania is also the training and orientation centre. Each day volunteers will spend part of the day in lectures or workshops at BaseCamp and part of the day exploring the city and learning how to get around comfortably on their own.
Living With a Host Family

Living with a host family in Tanzania 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.

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 Tanzania.
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 Tanzania

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Registration Fee</th>
<th>Fee</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Week</td>
<td>395</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Weeks</td>
<td>505</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 Weeks</td>
<td>615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Weeks</td>
<td>725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 Weeks</td>
<td>830</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 Weeks</td>
<td>935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 Weeks</td>
<td>1,040</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 Weeks</td>
<td>1,145</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Additional Weeks 100

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
The following is a list of all months during which this placement is not available.

- April
- May

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Apr 03, 2020</th>
<th>May 01, 2020</th>
<th>Jun 05, 2020</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jul 03, 2020</td>
<td>Aug 07, 2020</td>
<td>Sep 04, 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 02, 2020</td>
<td>Nov 06, 2020</td>
<td>Dec 04, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 01, 2021</td>
<td>Feb 05, 2021</td>
<td>Mar 05, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 02, 2021</td>
<td>May 07, 2021</td>
<td>Jun 04, 2021</td>
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<td>Sep 03, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oct 01, 2021</td>
<td>Nov 05, 2021</td>
<td>Dec 03, 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan 07, 2022</td>
<td>Feb 04, 2022</td>
<td>Mar 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.