

IMPACT GLOBAL HEALTH ALLIANCE INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER PROGRAM



From L to R: Brooks Keener smiling with his new friend in Guatemala; Fayetteville Academy student, Harper Spell, distributing de-worming medicine to children at an elementary school; caption for last photo.

Our Mission: Transforming Communities, One Mother at a Time

Impact Global Health Alliance partners with forgotten communities to save the lives of mothers and children. We work with our partners to assess and address the unique needs of each community while providing comprehensive care for mothers and children.

Our Purpose

Impact Global Health Alliance offers unique opportunities for service trips to high-need communities, where volunteer groups can have a profound impact on the health and wellbeing of the local population while being immersed in the local culture. Our trips combine volunteer work, often in construction or community outreach with health workers, with cultural and touristic activities. The purpose of our volunteer program is to...

- Help our partners meet community needs
Volunteers help to meet community needs by providing skills, resources, and knowledge that would be difficult or impossible for our partners to fulfill without external assistance.
- Strengthen our programs at the grassroots-level
We provide effective, equitable, and accessible health services by establishing sustainable, community-based health care programs. Volunteers help to build the capacities and resources of our local health workers.
- Offer opportunities for cultural & educational exchange
Expeditions provide both volunteers and local participants with opportunities for mutual learning, sharing, and relationship building. Not only do volunteers gain valuable international and language experience they are also able to explore natural, historical, and cultural treasures of our project countries, while truly becoming part of the local community - a life-changing experience.

The Volunteer Experience

Flexibility is a core value of the Impact Global Health Alliance Volunteer Program. Due to the countries in which



we work, the ability to prepare for and react accordingly to unexpected situations is crucial. Our staff will provide the necessary support to ensure you, and your team are prepared. As each expedition is different, we stay flexible with regards to the time frame, group size, activities, and support.

Our expeditions are designed to provide the most enriching and productive experience possible. Trips typically involve teams of 6-14 people and take place over 7-14 days. In addition to a variety of volunteer work, trips also include cultural and sight-seeing activities, such as trips to ancient ruins, local farms, museums, and more!

It is very important to us that our volunteers have the chance to become part of the local community during their stay. Whenever possible, we arrange visits to local schools, churches, and orphanages and offer volunteers the opportunity to accompany our health workers on home visits. All in-country travel logistics are arranged by an Impact Global Health Alliance coordinator, who also travels with the team to translate and provide on-the ground support.

Work Team Projects – No Special Skills Required!

Construction and Maintenance of Health Facilities

Work team volunteers construct and add to healthcare facilities. Volunteers can work in a variety of areas, from mixing cement and putting up new walls to painting. A local foreman is hired to supervise the worksite.

Community Health Outreach

Volunteers accompany Community Health Workers out into the field to provide education and services to the local mothers and children. Services include weighing and measuring babies to check for malnutrition, giving vitamin supplements, and assisting with pre-natal checkups.

Medical/Health Teams

Health professionals are needed to support our partners in a variety of ways, such as training local staff, assess needs, bringing equipment and supplies, and providing patient care. Our volunteer trips provide excellent international health experience for medical and public health students. Medical students may only participate in medical procedures while under the supervision of a practicing physician. It is critical for all volunteers to be open to serving in whatever way is most useful to the local community. Sometimes, particularly in the case of students, this may involve more support and teaching than hands-on work.

Requirements

No special skills are required to serve as a work team volunteer!

Foreign language skills, although highly valuable, are required only for long-term, individual volunteers. Interpretation services are provided for short-term team expeditions.



Medical/health volunteers must demonstrate that they possess the qualifications required for the type of work they will be doing. For liability purposes, students may only participate in medical procedures when accompanied by a practicing physician.

Opportunities

We are currently coordinating volunteer expeditions to Guatemala, Kenya and Bolivia. Please visit our website, www.impactglobalhealthalliance.org or contact LHoskins@curamericas.org for the latest information on upcoming opportunities.

Costs

Expedition Expenses

Volunteers pay a flat-rate fee which covers all in-country travel costs, including lodging, meals, transportation, work activities, cultural excursions, travel insurance, interpreter fees, etc. We put every effort into planning each expedition within the budget constraints of the team. The exact amount varies according to the expedition and can range anywhere from \$2,000 to \$3,200 per person for a 7 to 14-day trip depending on the location, timeframe, activities, and number of team members. Impact Global Health Alliance does not charge administrative fees!

Project Donation

As part of their fee, volunteers contribute a project donation, which supports the local program and helps to cover any costs associated with the volunteer project, such as construction materials. We encourage each team to raise as much money as possible for their project donation, as our local partners rely heavily on this funding to help meet the needs of their communities. Depending on the trip, volunteers are typically requested to contribute approximately \$5,000 per team or \$250-\$500 per person. Individual volunteers seeking a long-term placement may be asked to contribute a monthly amount, which would be discussed on a case-by-case basis. We are happy to provide fundraising tips, tools, and support.

Airfare

Airfare can be part of your program fee or can be purchased separately so that individuals are free to take advantage of frequent flier miles or special deals. If purchased separately, be sure to contact your trip leader to coordinate arrivals.

Planning an Expedition

First, tell us about yourself and what you're looking for... The planning process begins with an email to our volunteer coordinator at LHoskins@curamericas.org. In this email, provide us with information on your abilities, goals, and travel preferences, which will help us to determine the best placement options for you. Ideally, applications should be submitted six months to one year in advance of travel, but last-minute applicants can occasionally still be placed.



Next, we'll work with you to plan the best experience for you... Our expeditions are planned on a case-by-case basis to most effectively match our volunteers' skills, availability, and interests with the immediate needs of our partners. After speaking with you more about your goals and preferences, a staff member will work with you to select a project and propose a potential trip itinerary and budget.

Finally, we'll confirm and take care of the details... After you have decided on an expedition, we set up all your in-country arrangements, including lodging, transportation, meals, and cultural activities. With the help of our partners, we create a detailed work plan and trip itinerary, making every effort to accommodate any special needs or requests.

Impact Global Health Alliance Volunteer Expeditions offer once-in-a-lifetime opportunities to help others while learning more about yourself and the world.

Let's Go!

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