

Elective Africa- Issue Based Volunteer



Issue Based and Volunteer Projects Descriptions



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Disadvantaged Children & Orphans

Location Urban: Mombasa, Nairobi, Rural: Msambweni, Rongo

Depending on your area of interest, this volunteer project will be based in a rural or urban setting. Rural programs are based in districts with high poverty levels. The urban projects are based in distressed communities in urban cities, typically slum neighborhoods of Mombasa or Nairobi. You will work alongside local volunteers and Professionals providing education to the most vulnerable children, improving literacy, counseling, and supporting environmental and social awareness. After school arts and sports programs help combat social pressures that lead to substance abuse and crime. You can also volunteer at an orphanage for HIV / AIDS orphans, helping charities care for and educate the children. This project allows you to gain an insight into the challenges faced by communities in East Africa and learn how grass-roots organizations offer real opportunities and care for the children most in need, with minimal resources.



Medical Students from Poznan University of Medical Sciences, Poland shares cheerful Moments with the disadvantaged children & Orphans

Primary Education

Location Urban: Mombasa Rural: Rongo, Msambweni

Education related programs can either be teaching in a low-income school or helping with construction or refurbishments. Construction involves such like classrooms or any school facility that the school identifies as most in need for refurbishment. Projects also include constructing desks for schools where students still sit on floors or constructing windows for classrooms without windows; basically, volunteers focus efforts on the neediest areas.



Teaching sessions by Medical Students from Poznan University of Medical Sciences, Poland at Pentrose Community Primary School

Swimming

Location Urban: Mombasa

This project can be a stand-alone project or integrated into other projects or educational programs. For example, some of our previous medical elective volunteers have spent their free time teaching swimming. This project is truly rewarding because very few children in Africa get the chance to learn how to swim. Swimming is largely viewed as an elitist activity, hence students from disadvantaged neighborhoods rarely get a chance to enjoy swimming. You'll be based in the vibrant city of Mombasa, in a safe and beautiful neighborhood of Nyali and in our program residence, which has a pool. To make this an all comprehensive program, we will work with you to identify a group of children from the nearby Bombolulu slums, bring them to the program site for orientation, and then leave you and participants run the swimming lessons



Swimming classes at our Mombasa Residence

Sports Development

Location: Various rural areas

Working as a sports coach, you will teach the sport you are most experienced in, such as football, rugby, cricket, netball, volleyball, badminton, etc. Sports development may include developing sports facilities like a basketball court or assembling a tennis table.

For those who can teach, in the mornings you will help to teach classes in your school, mainly English. If you have teaching experience, you can get even more involved. This program gives you the chance to immerse yourself in a rural Kenyan community.



Football Training Session at Brittney Children's Home in Migori, Kenya

HIV / AIDS

Various locations & hospitals

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Micro Enterprise

Various locations

Support job and micro-enterprise skills training of rural community members for the promotion of small scale manufacturing trade and/or service enterprises. Micro enterprises can include such like hand crafts, soap stone carvings, hand weavings, clothing, agriculture, etc. Communities are encouraged to form groups with the aim of setting up small scale enterprises either as individuals or groups. Participants also help pursue international funding opportunities for a microfinance organization to expand credit and business training programs. Research potential donors and assist relationship building.

Gender Equity

Various locations

Work with organizations that educate young women on their rights, HIV/AIDS, and reproductive health concerns through direct school visits and participatory educational events.

Physically Challenged

Various locations, but primarily working with the leading organization in Kenya on issues of the physically challenged

We work with various organizations focused on the needs of the physically challenged, including rehabilitation. Activities include assessment of persons with special needs, health education and awareness, attending clinical camps, helping with basic needs such as producing low cost supportive appliances, to micro enterprise activities for generating income such as basketry, carpentry, etc. Volunteers with orthopedic training and background can assist in assessment clinics for the need for appliances such as crutches, caliper, surgical boots, walking frame, wheelchair and tricycles. Volunteers with appropriate background can also assist in physiotherapy and occupational therapy

Agriculture /Agribusiness

Various rural locations

Various conflicts have left some people displaced, homeless and are currently sheltered in camps. Volunteers will visit selected camps to donate basic needs, give care and support to the displaced families. Other activities include teaching, sports and general cheerleading activities for the children of displaced families.

Internally Displaced Persons / Humanitarian Aid

Various conflicts have left some people displaced, homeless and are currently sheltered in camps. Volunteers will visit selected camps to donate basic needs, give care and support to the displaced families.

Other activities include teaching, sports and general cheerleading activities for the children of displaced families.

Healthcare – Prevention & Outreach

Various rural locations

Working in community health clinics or mobile clinics, volunteers participate in basic prevention and outreach programs such as treating basic ailments, providing nutritional support, administering de-worming medication and vaccinations to children. Participants are expected to spend time understanding access and delivery of care in the communities they serve, including the role of such like NGOs, faith-based organizations, and traditional healers in community's healthcare needs.



Norway Medical Student from Poznan University Medical Sciences during a Free Medical Camp in Nairobi

Tree Planting

Various locations & hospitals

Planting trees helps to reduce environmental destruction - halting erosion through the retention of topsoil, harvesting of rainwater, and helps communities build their resilience to climate change. We organize for our participants in various locations to participate in this Nobel act of conserving the environment in the respective locations.



Tree planting at Pentrose Community Primary School in Mombasa, Kenya

Community Outreach & Development

Various rural locations

Many communities in rural remote areas and distressed urban neighborhoods have limited access to proper sanitation, clean water, healthcare or education. Community development volunteering will involve working with a select community and its leaders to identify areas of most need and assisting as much as Elective Africa volunteers possibly can. Projects may include new or ongoing projects. Through partnered organizations - who are usually the main contributors of the projects -, we link our participants with these organizations to provide a platform where they are able to get involved in the major community development projects in the area. Example of a community project may involve sinking a borehole, installing a water pump, building a water tank, and teaching basic purification methods for drinking water.



Memorial University of Newfoundland, Premedical Students during Community Outreach Session in Migori, Kenya