

## About Bangalore:

A fast growing metropolis, the garden city of Bangalore is the capital of the southern Indian state of Karnataka. Situated at about 1000 meters above sea level, it is known for its salubrious climate where temperatures remain moderate throughout the year. The maximum temperature in July is around 32°C and the minimum around 22°C. It is connected by air, rail and road to all major cities of the country and has direct international connections to many cities worldwide.

The clean and spacious city of Bangalore has many imposing structures full of historic and modern architecture. The majestic Vidhana Soudha, a magnificent post-independence structure housing the State legislature and Secretariat, stands in the center of the city with its attractive dome and galleries. It is sheer delight to see the illuminated Soudha during nights on Sundays and Holidays.

The city has several institutions of Learning and Research. Many of them such as the Indian Institute of Science, Raman Research Institute, National Institute of Mental health and Neuro-Sciences, National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore University have worldwide acclaim. The high-tech industries such as Aerospace, Electronics, Computers and now fast spreading software have made Bangalore their home due to easy access to a vast pool of scientists and engineers in the city. In the area of art and culture too, the city boasts of a rich heritage and tradition and has several schools of classical music and dance.

## Volunteer in India:

India provides endless opportunities for social work and socio-geographical exploration. India is seen as the spiritual center of the East and most of the volunteers find India to be their second home at the end of their trip. With a culture that can be termed as one of the most ancient cultures of the world, for a traveller and volunteer, LHCH provides opportunities for volunteers to work with these children, understand Indian culture and explore India through organized trips in weekends.

With LHCH, volunteers are guaranteed to have a meaningful service to humanity, distressed life and fun-filled holiday at the same time.

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## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What are the objectives of this program?**

The children come from a small town in South India. What Living Hope Children's Home (LHCH) gives them is their basic needs like food, shelter and clothing and most importantly education, provided to them at a local school. But like always, children need to develop skills that will help them survive in the real world, something formal school education alone cannot help them with. The objectives of this program are vast from introducing good mannerisms and etiquette to the development of skills which will help them earn a living, such as how to sew or cook.

### **Does this Organisation need my help?**

Yes, this Organisation needs volunteers and will accept the help of anyone willing. The children at LHCH are enthusiastic learners and are always ready to try new and exciting things that will help them develop skills to not only survive but excel.

If you have a special skill or talent, LHCH provides a platform for you to teach that skill to young budding minds who are eager to learn however have not had the privilege to thus far. If you can find and develop an existing talent/skill in a child, do come forward and your services will be accepted.

Your teaching topics and techniques will be run through the organiser, before being put forward to the children.

### **Will I be supervised?**

'Supervision' is optional. You will be guided through your first few days of work. The children have been working with volunteers for some time now, so you will be readily accepted. The guidance will be mainly for your benefit to get accustomed to the children. The children at LHCH understand a considerable amount of English and will be able to interact with you quite easily. Once you are comfortable with working on your own, you will be left with the kids only to be interrupted by little visits every now and again. If you don't think you require the guidance, if you have been a part of a similar program before and if you are ready to take on the children and learn by yourself, then you will be allowed to do so. In this case, your class will be frequented by the Organisers to keep tab on your progress and help you if needed.

### **What is the best possible time for me to be volunteering?**

Volunteers are welcome throughout the year except in the month of May, when the Children return to their hometowns for the summer. Placements in the months leading up to Christmas would be ideal volunteers can then be involved in the preparations for the festive season.

The specific duration of stay will have to be preconceived.

### **What is the duration of volunteers to stay?**

From past experiences we have learned that the children respond better once they have become familiar with the volunteer. And therefore due to the nature of the scheme, it is preferred that volunteers are able to commit to at least 6 weeks. This would allow a sufficient length of time to develop an understanding between volunteers and children and also allow enough time to set up various projects and activities. If the volunteers stay for a longer time the connection with the child and the organisation will be better built.

### **What should I carry during my visit?**

Here is the list of things which you all could carry during your stay in INDIA (Bangalore)

- 1.Clothes
- 2.Shoes & Sandals
- 3.Vitamins
- 4.Cameras
- 5.Personal Medications

### **How do I get to Bangalore?**

As Bangalore has got its own international airport, there are many international flights connecting to Bangalore. We suggest the volunteers to take a direct flight to Bangalore city. When you arrive at the Bangalore INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT we will arrange to pick you up, and take you to the flat where you will be staying.

### **What skills and qualification is required?**

There are no specific qualifications needed to join LHCH International Volunteer Programme However, volunteers are expected to be flexible, patient and possess a passion for working with children from all sects of life.

### **What are my responsibilities at LHCH?**

As a volunteer in the IVP, one must understand the importance of teaching English to the children at the centre. You will be responsible for teaching basic leadership qualities and awareness of the world. Volunteers may also organize games, as well as other creative, educational and extra-curricular activities for the children. This may include training groups in sports, organizing inter-school football matches, as well as teaching subjects such as world affairs, hygiene, and nutrition.

The possibilities are endless. In the evening, volunteers may help the children complete their assignments and the following day's homework, sit with the kid one on one to express themselves through counselling and the most important, help keeping the garden clean.

Your main responsibility as a volunteer is to teach the children a survival skill, something that they will not learn in daily school. Your smaller responsibilities will vary with interest. But your special responsibility as an international volunteer is to teach the children how big the world is and the places that they can reach if they work hard.

### **What are the specific areas that I would be able to assist with?**

Apart from teaching specific topics, following are some of the areas that may be touched upon in your time here. But if you have something of your own to bring in, it may be run through the Organiser before introducing it to the kids.

- Teach basics of computers to the students as well as teachers
- Story-telling
- Creative writing
- Dance
- Music (Vocals or instrumental)
- Theatre
- Basics of Environmental Studies.
- Productive survival skills
- Photography
- Pottery
- Calligraphy
- Sports (basketball, cricket, football, rugby, badminton, gymnastics, tennis, golf etc)
- Karate
- Yoga or aerobics
- Singing
- Craft & drawing

### **Other Activities:**

- Organize Child Profiles.
- Conduct cooking classes with our children.
- Teach the children how to make friendship bracelets
- Face painting
- Organise a Sports Day

### **Office:**

- If you are well-versed in Software it will be useful.
- Articles on LHCH can be written to spread the message of the home.
- Make a video presentation based on LHCH.
- Update the website.

### **Will accommodation be provided?**

The accommodation provided for volunteers is simple but functional. The volunteer house will include the 3 bedrooms which will have 3 volunteers per room, 2 bathrooms with western style toilets, living room with a T.V and DVD player and a kitchen equipped with fridge. Volunteers will also have access to a computer with free internet service. The total cost including electricity is Rs 10,000 US \$ 222 which will be split amongst the volunteers.

### **What kind of food will I be served?**

Volunteers will be served authentic home-cooked Indian food three times a day (breakfast, lunch and dinner). This will include a range of meat and vegetarian local dishes such as sambar, \*\*\*. At LHCH, volunteers will be served the same food as the children, however if on occasion, the food is not to the volunteers taste, volunteers are welcome to eat out or cook themselves. It is requested that volunteers do not eat special foods (especially sweet drinks and snacks) in front of the children unless they are sharing. At LHCH, we understand the importance of clean drinking water, therefore all water used at the centre or home is boiled local water. Bottles mineral water is also freely available to purchase in local shops should volunteers prefer this.

### **I want to volunteer! How do I apply?**

All you have to do is fill in your application form along with your resume and mail it to us on the official email Id, livinghope1000@gmail.com. We will get back to you as soon as we receive your information. From there on you will be guided and informed on your next step.