

Come and volunteer!

Street Shepherds Africa accepts volunteers at all of its projects. Volunteers may plan activities for the children, build a fence, paint a room, help with teaching, conduct a fund-raiser, help write documentation or any number of other activities depending on the volunteer's skill set and interests. SSA projects are small and only accommodate a few volunteers each; acceptance is based on available space. Applications are on a rolling basis: there are no dates or deadlines for applying. Projects are ongoing and volunteers are always needed.

Project lengths and roles

Street Shepherds Africa volunteer programs are practical learning experiences that vary in length. We encourage volunteers to stay for at least three weeks, but volunteers are welcome to sign up for any length of time. Long-term stays of over six months are welcome and negotiable. Many volunteers combine their stay with time spent doing more traditional tourist activities elsewhere in Tanzania – such as safaris, climbing and beach holidays. No matter how long you decide to volunteer, you will have a remarkable experience and will gain a firsthand understanding of how Tanzanians live their daily lives.

There are many ways in which our volunteers choose to spend their time and contribute towards Street Shepherds Africa. Most volunteers spend a proportion of their time with the children, planning activities, outings and projects. *Malaika House* in Moshi has two timetabled sessions everyday for the week for the volunteers to take the classes, where they are free to do whatever activities they choose as guided by the care takers and teachers. Volunteers can run fund-raising projects such as *Sponsor a child* program, the cultural tourism with Volunteer Guides Africa, or be innovative creating new ways of raising funds for SSA.

Much of the general running and maintenance of the orphanages and schools we support is done by volunteers: organizing and distributing donations, helping the building of new projects, managing the store room etc. Volunteers have also been caring for the children and monitoring their health; they can arrange doctor and dentist appointments, record medical conditions, regularly weigh and measure the children and administer first aid. In addition volunteers can choose to work with the parents, running family support groups, helping develop the family rehabilitation program, and supporting the social workers.

Whilst specific job roles and activities are flexible, according to your talents and preferences and as per Street Shepherds Africa's needs, volunteers may often adopt one of the following job roles during their stay with us:

Volunteer Coordinators

Getting involved with local and overseas fundraising, sponsorship programs, volunteer administration, writing fundraising proposals etc

Nursery School Assistant

Working with Street Shepherds Africa with the younger children, helping with their daily care, nursery education and recreation

Primary School Assistant

Working at Orphanages and centers supported by Street Shepherds Africa with the primary school children, helping with lessons, tuition and recreation.

Handyman/woman

Working at any location to decorate, repair, maintain and improve aspects of Street Shepherds Africa's infrastructure. At Street Shepherds Africa, there is always something to be done.

Social work assistant

Getting involved with the social care side beyond the everyday needs of the children; building bridges with the local community.

In practice, each volunteer brings their own skills, interests and experience, and can offer their personal contribution and fresh ideas. Volunteers staying for shorter visits can bring activities and projects for the children, and assist throughout SSA's programs generally, whereas those staying for longer programs are able to run longer term initiatives. It is ultimately up to the volunteer to decide what they would like to do for SSA, and most end up having multiple roles and projects. Volunteers are welcome at any of our projects, although the majority is based in Arusha and Moshi with the children.

Project fees

Positions are of a "***Paying Volunteer***" nature; fees are determined by the length of the stay. The program fee covers the list of services below:

- Airport/bus stand transfers upon arrival in and departure from Arusha
- Orientation to Arusha town
- Town tour and small hikes
- Accommodation with a local host family or in hostel with other volunteers.
- Three meals a day (breakfast and dinner with the host family; lunch at the project site)
- Support in case of illness or emergency

Duration of stay	Inclusive fees
1 week to 1 month	US \$700
2 months	US \$1400
3 months	US \$1500
4 months	US \$1800
5 months	US \$1800
6 months	US \$1800
6 months +	Please enquire!

Please note that airfare and expenses incurred during the volunteer's travel to Arusha (or Kilimanjaro airport) and elsewhere in Tanzania and during free time are not included.

In addition to covering the costs of the volunteer program, SSA uses the money raised from volunteer fees to cover administrative costs, staff salaries, food supplies and other project costs to serve children and people in need. We encourage volunteers to raise funds through their community, friends, family, place of work and local religious establishments

Food and Lodging

Both food and lodging are included in our program fees. Lodging is usually provided by a Tanzanian family, in a private room within their home or stay in a good quality hostel or at a Volunteer House upon volunteer's choice and available opportunities. In case of host families, some houses have electricity and access to running water but some do not. Some homes are equipped with bathrooms within the house but some have outhouses; toilets can be either western or African style

Although breakfast and dinner will be provided by the host family and lunch will be offered at the project site, volunteers are free to eat out at their own expense if desired. Many returned volunteers cite the home stay as one of the most unique and rewarding experiences of their time with *Street Shepherds Africa*. However, if you prefer a different form of accommodation, notify us and we will make every effort to accommodate you, depending on demand. In practice most volunteers supplement the simple African diet with occasional meals out in Arusha.

Free time whilst volunteering

Most of your volunteer work will be conducted during the day, Monday through Friday, and volunteers are encouraged to explore Tanzania and its nightlife during the evening and weekends. Arusha is the starting point for visiting many of Tanzania's national parks and volunteers can easily arrange safaris to famous parks such as the Serengeti, Mt. Kilimanjaro or the Ngorongoro Crater as well as many others.

Arusha also has reasonably-priced air links to most destinations in Tanzania, including Zanzibar. You may also want to visit the Maasai villages on the outskirts of Arusha where you can observe local dances and customs, or participate in Cultural Tourism programs that provide a unique look at village life. Shinyanga is located a few hours by bus or train from Mwanza. Located on the shores of Lake Victoria, Mwanza is the second largest city in Tanzania.

Interested?

Please check the [Frequently Asked Questions FAQs](#) page, or kindly [Contact Us](#). We would really love to hear from you!