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## CARE & COMMUNITY



With Care & Community placements in all of our destinations except China, the choice of country and type of work is extensive. While most of our destinations offer work with children in orphanages or nurseries, we also have a selection of more specialized Care & Community work you could get involved in.

### Community Work

In Ghana, as well as working in many orphanages, we have a community housing project in the rural Akuapem Hills where you work alongside a team of local builders helping construct simple mud brick houses. You will be involved in every stage of the

### Care & Community

Care & Community placements are a chance for our volunteers to assist and engage children who would otherwise have little or no mental stimulation in their lives outside of school. A lot of the care work involves play based activities, but opportunities also exist for our volunteers to be more involved on the teaching or medical side of care work. Many of our Care & Community placements overseas involve work in orphanages, care homes or kindergartens. Within these projects there are opportunities for you to focus on any particular interests or talents you have and you would like to share with the children. Arts and crafts or music are always popular activities and many care placements have outside areas where sports can be played. Whatever interests you have, they can be put to good use.



Care in Ghana

*"I had the most amazing experience and it's something that I will never forget. It was just so different living and working in a completely different culture, learning about their way of life and seeing how everyone, especially the kids, are so happy despite the fact that they have very little. Playing with the kids, watching them slowly get to know and trust me and seeing them go from not even being able to recognize numbers to being able to write numbers was so rewarding."*

Hannah Cole, Care in Ghana



project, from making the mud bricks to plastering and painting the completed houses. In Peru, while many volunteers work with kindergarten children from the ages of three to five, there are also opportunities for community work to improve the conditions

and resources of local schools. In many of our destination countries volunteers can also choose to work in a school for children with disabilities.

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### Further information...

If you would like any further information on Care & Community placements, or any other projects, please do not hesitate to get in contact with us. Our staff is always happy to help!



## Typical Day

**W**hile your daily schedule will depend on which country you work in, most Care & Community volunteers work from Monday to Friday and have weekends free to relax or travel around the area. Your day may start early to help get the children up and give them breakfast, however you will probably finish early too or have several hours off at lunchtime before returning to play with the children in the afternoon. Whether working at a kindergarten, with street children or in an orphanage, many volunteers like to take some of the children out on a trip from time to time. An afternoon at the beach or walking around the market can be a revelation for some of the children who rarely get the chance to travel more than a few miles away from their homes. Care & Community projects can give volunteers the chance to make a real difference in a child's life; by spending one-on-one time with a baby who would otherwise be left alone in his or her cot or having the patience to teach a child with learning difficulties to spell his or her name, volunteers have an important effect on children's lives and futures.

## Back up and Support

**T**hroughout your entire Care & Community placement with Projects Abroad you will have constant support from a supervisor at your placement and from local Projects Abroad staff. When you arrive a member of Projects Abroad staff will meet you at the airport, take you to your host family and give you an induction to the area. Usually the following day they will take you to your placement and introduce you to your supervisor. At this stage you can sit down and discuss your work schedule and ask any questions you may have. The next day you will return to start your placement!

*"We really enjoyed the time with the kids and it was a unique experience for us! Our host family has been so kind to us and we've made lots of new friends. It was absolutely worthwhile to spend the past months in South Africa – we've had a great time and so have the children!"*

■ *Simone Grill, Yvonne Stock and Claudia Diemer, Care & Community in South Africa*

*"Walking into a room full of children that screamed with excitement every single day is something I will never forget! The other volunteers were always helpful and welcoming and we had so many memorable parties and nights out in Brasov which were always enjoyable. I had a wonderful time in Romania with Projects Abroad and met lots of amazing people from all walks of life. The orphanage can obviously be hard (yet rewarding) work and I was happy that we had time for leisure and social activities – of which there is a wide choice. Projects Abroad allows volunteers freedom and flexibility on the placement but with support and help always on hand when needed."*

■ *Lauren Summers-Haywood, Care & Community in Romania*

