



BLUEPRINT FOR VOLUNTEERING

Habitat for Humanity's Global Village program



WHAT IS GLOBAL VILLAGE?

Global Village offers international volunteers the opportunity to take part in the "hands on" construction or renovation of homes in more than 40 countries around the world. Participating in a Global Village team offers a unique travel experience and an unforgettable opportunity to be fully immersed in the local community. Team members experience great personal growth through cultural and linguistic challenges, and return to their home countries transformed.

Join a Global Village team and you can make a difference in the lives of South African families in need of a simple, decent place to live. You might just find your own life changed as well.

Building together for a brighter future

The 'rainbow nation' is a term coined by Nobel Peace Prize winner Archbishop Desmond Tutu which captures the extraordinary diversity of races, tribes, creeds, languages and landscapes that characterise modern South Africa. It is suggesting of hope and promise. Yet the after-effects of the country's divisive past are still with us and the goal of racial harmony remains elusive. The constitutional court has the difficult task of extending and protecting human rights in a society in the throes of transition and faced with serious problems of unemployment, poverty and HIV/AIDS.

Housing in South Africa reflects the inequalities in wealth the still exist between the country's rich and poor. Some homes rival the most imposing in the world; there are mansions, security villages, golf estates and neat suburban rows. But tin shanties and 'informal' or squatter settlements blight most South African cities and towns. In 2010, there were some 2700 of these informal settlements, accommodating over 1.2million households.

HABITAT FACTS

Families served:
more than 3,500

Construction types:
New homes

Hosting season:
February - November

Team size:
10-100 volunteers

Number of volunteers hosted:
more than 263,000

SOUTH AFRICA



DID YOU KNOW

There are 11 official languages in South Africa.

South Africa has produced 7 Nobel Prize winners.

South Africa has more animal species than North and South America combined, or Europe and Asia together.



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SOUTH AFRICA

Logistics

How to get there

We are currently offering volunteering opportunities in Cape Town. Projects can be accessed easily, within one and a half hours, from the Cape Town international airport.

Transportation

Vehicles are chosen in relation to the size of the group and accessibility to the various project sites. These range in size from 7 to 22 seater vehicles, are fully licensed and all vehicles have safety belts.

Lodging

We are able to cater a wide range of options from the relatively basic, hostel style accommodation right up to 3 or 4 star corporate accommodation. All accommodations are chosen carefully and are safe and comfortable.

Food and water

Volunteers will be served three meals per day (lunch on site) and bottled water at all times.



MEET A HABITAT FAMILY

Desiree Jean Philander and her husband Donovan Philander have been waiting for their home to be built for 19 years. The couple have four adult children and two grandchildren that all used to stay in a very small dwelling, not big enough for the whole family. The area in which they used to stay struggled with crime so the family were eager to move to a safer area, especially because of the young children. Desiree receives a disability grant from the government that contributes towards the household income. She is very sickly and often has to go to the hospital. Life for this family has been very hard but in March 2014 they finally saw the beginning of their long awaited dream, when their new house was built by Habitat.

WHAT DO THE VOLUNTEERS SAY?

The final tile being laid on the roof by the two sons of the family was extremely poignant. Having never had a secure roof capable of keeping out the rain before, the significance was not lost on anyone. Together, we were creating a better future for this incredibly deserving family."

- George Cowell, United Kingdom

Join us in a journey of adventure, life enrichment and joy, choose a place and start making a difference now!



CONTACT

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