



International Volunteer Opportunities

Kyanninga Child Development Centre (KCDC) is a registered, not for profit organisation in Western Uganda working to create equal opportunities for children with disabilities through the provision of physical, occupational and speech therapy, and orthopaedic splinting and casting in their daily outpatient clinic and through community-based rehabilitation to individual homes, schools and local health centres.

KCDC is the only centre in Western Uganda providing these essential services and demand is growing daily. Since opening in late 2014, KCDC has assessed and provided therapy to over 850 children with disabilities, many of whom have cerebral palsy, developmental delay or Downs syndrome. It is run by a British physiotherapist with over 20 years of experience working with children with disabilities, and a team of 8 Ugandan health professionals. KCDC provides accessible and affordable rehabilitation solutions to families most in need.

In addition, KCDC educates caregivers, teachers, healthcare and community workers through seminars and workshops, to break down the stigma and discrimination towards children with disabilities and strengthen knowledge and skills in the identification, management and support needed by the whole family.

KCDC is currently offering volunteer opportunities to speech, occupational and physical therapy students and graduates and special education teachers, during which you will have the following opportunities:

- Develop your own knowledge and skills in a rural, low income, low resource setting. Use initiative and creativity to treat a wide range of conditions
- Share your knowledge and skills with our existing staff, particularly new approaches, research and development.
- Assessment and treatment of children with disabilities aged 0-18, assistance with language and translation will be given.
- Provide training to community health workers in therapy intervention, health awareness and education, and learn about rural health care at the same time.
- Participate in parent support and education groups, run on a regular basis at many of our outreach locations, using the 'Getting to Know Cerebral Palsy' programme and hear about the challenges faced by the parents themselves
- Work alongside teachers in local schools and with other community-based organisations.

Short individual projects can also be completed, which include, but are not limited to:

- Run adult assessment and treatment clinics and outreach activities.
- Data collection and outcome measures in the incidence of specific diagnoses, syndromes or symptoms
- Service mapping and identify barriers to accessing healthcare across the district
- Questionnaires and interview research into attitudes towards disability and health care provision
- Updating policies and procedures within the centre
- Business and logistical planning for future community outreach and additional clinic locations
- Guest lectures at local universities for nursing and midwifery, public health or social and community development students.



Children with disabilities are one of the most marginalised groups worldwide. Widespread local beliefs that disabilities are an untreatable curse cause disabled children and their families to be excluded from their communities, educational institutions, social and leisure activities. This misunderstanding of disability is a huge barrier to the progress, learning, and independence of many children. In Uganda, approximately 12% of all children (2.5 million) are living with disabilities.

Fort Portal is located 5 hours' drive from Uganda's capital city, Kampala and 6 hours' drive from Entebbe International airport. It is beautifully situated in the foothills of the Rwenzori mountains, near to the crater lakes and close to both Kibale National Forest where you can track chimpanzees, and Queen Elizabeth National Park, where you can find elephants, lions, hippo and many more animals. Gorilla tracking, hiking in the Rwenzori mountains and other fantastic travel opportunities are easily arranged as well. Previous volunteers have enjoyed learning insights into a different culture, lifestyles, people and nature.

KCDC will provide:

- Transfers to and from the airport
- In-country local support
- Lunch every working day
- Accommodation in a secure compound, with running water and electricity.

Volunteers will be responsible for:

- Flights
- Visas
- Travel insurance
- Vaccinations
- Personal travel allowance
- Contribution to airport transfer and accommodation expenses

An initial commitment fee of US\$100/£80 (non-refundable) will ensure your place here; this is to cater for administration and application fees. A deposit to cover airport transfer costs and your first month's accommodation is required 4 weeks before travelling to Uganda.

- Pick up by private car on arrival and return on departure = **\$400/£330**
- Volunteer room in the Centre (self-contained, furnished, lunch provided by KCDC) = **\$250/£200**

Volunteers have to cater for their supper/dinner costs as well as any outings/refreshments as these are not part of the packages.

For further information about this opportunity, please contact the clinical director, Fiona, via email at info@kyaningacdc.org or visit our website www.kyaningacdc.org and www.facebook.com/kyaningacdc

For further information about Uganda, please see the following:

<http://www.visituganda.com>

<https://www.lonelyplanet.com/uganda>

<http://www.ugandawildlife.org>

www.kyaningacdc.org
www.facebook.com/kyaningacdc
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