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# **SHORT TERM VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMS**

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## KENIA VOLUNTARY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

### ABOUT US

KVSO is a non-profit and a community based organization established in 2015 in Kenya to promote peace, global citizenship and community development and cultural exchange through international volunteering programs by empowering young people to advance community development and strengthen multicultural understanding increase cooperation between Kenyan communities and people living in developed world through a range of development programs.

We have partnerships with various organizations within Kenya and abroad to enhance our work and encourage cultural exchange and corporation.

### ENGAGING COMMUNITIES

Volunteering is powerful! It is the means of engaging communities, empowering communities, particularly women to engage in identifying their needs and potential solutions. It is highly imperative to ensure the sustainability and ownership of development progress in results as the focal point of volunteerism in Kenya Voluntary Service Organization programs proactively promotes public inclusion and participation in development.

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**Code: KVSO 01/01**

**Name: Mara Osero Maasai Mara Game Reserve Project**

**Type: EDU/KIDS - Wildlife, Culture, Conservation, Renovation, Environment & Education**

**Project dates: All year round**

**Duration: 3 weeks to one year**

**Location of the camp: Narok County**

**Community: Maasai tribe**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of volunteers: 20 locals and internationals**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

The Maasai tribe (or Masai) is a unique and popular tribe due to their long preserved culture. Despite education, civilization and western cultural influences, the Maasai people have clung to their traditional way of life, making them a symbol of Kenyan culture.

Maasai's distinctive culture, dress style and strategic territory along the game parks of Kenya and Tanzania have made them one of East Africa's most internationally famous tourist attractions.

The Maasai people reside in both Kenya and Tanzania, living along the border of the two countries. They are a smaller tribe, accounting for only about 0.7 percent of Kenya's population, with a similar number living in Tanzania. Maasai's speak Maa, a Nilotic ethnic language from their origin in the Nile region of North Africa.

The Samburu tribe is the closest to the Maasai in both language and cultural authenticity.

Through rituals and ceremonies, including circumcision, Maasai boys are guided and mentored by their fathers and other elders on how to become a warrior. Although they still live their carefree lives as boys - raiding cattle, chasing young girls, and game hunting - a Maasai boy must also learn all of the cultural practices, customary laws and responsibilities he'll require as an elder.

The wildlife, culture, conservation and education village centre offers volunteers the ultimate opportunity to explore, learn and interact with the Maasai community and their culture. The Mara conservancy gives them a platform to serve, interact and also live like the Maasai people. Above all, the conservancy is managed according to a model that protects the delicate eco-system and benefits the landowners who are the Maasai people.

The wildlife, culture, conservation and education in Kenya is home to the big cats situated on the mararienda most point of the Greater Mara Ecosystem; borders the Olchorro Oiroua Conservancy to the south, and MMNC to the East. The important focus of the conservancy is livestock improvement through innovative cattle management programs, running alongside novel tourism projects.

The habitat comprises wooded acacia savannah with open plains on flat plateaus, riverine acacia forest and rocky, undulating hills which provide a varied habitat for browsing and grazing ungulates, as well as hideout thickets for the predators. The Mara River runs alongside the conservancy. There is a large number of giraffe and resident buffalo that live close to the Olerai boundary along the Mara River. Elephants frequent the conservancy and there is a pride of lion based on the edge of oloisukut. There are many hippos and crocodiles in the section of the river that borders the conservancy and the riverine forests which provide an area popular with leopards. Rare species such as Aardvark, Caracal, serval cat and Aardwolf are



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occasionally found. Colobus monkeys have been spotted in the valleys on the Kileleoni Hill and there have also been sightings of wild dog in Enonkishu. There is no doubt that Mara Osero offers an incredible game viewing experience.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

Volunteers will be involved in tasks related to animal conservation (regular ground patrols and safari walk, identify animal species found within the area, identify and name indigenous plants and uses, monitoring wildlife movement) and cultural activities (experience Maasai way of life, control cattle grazing, milking and care for cattles, maintenance, building and renovation of the manyatta houses).

The second main topic of this short-term volunteering is to be involved in school teaching program and their missions will be: teaching lessons and playing with kids, planting of trees, gardening and land scaping, outreach programme in the local dispensary.

Extra activities will be also proposed such as: learning life skills bead work, cooking using fire wood, ensure upkeep of the conservancy and work with other stake holders, bird watching for interested volunteers.

Other activities that can be included in this short-term volunteering are:

- Promoting Sustainable Tourism
- Teaching English in local school
- Assisting in the local hospitals
- Clean-up campaigns and planting trees in school and community
- Engaging the surrounding communities in protecting their cultural heritage
- Fostering dialogue and interaction between local communities
- Disseminating information about Maasai Mara
- Raising awareness to the local community
- Training and empowering the community and preserving/promoting natural heritage

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp

### ACCOMMODATION

Volunteers will be living in a secluded Maasai village with access to drinking water, minimal electricity and adequate food.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the first day of the short-term volunteering at KVSO offices and volunteers will be picked up for accommodation and taken for the orientation which will be conducted by KVSO staff in Nairobi. Everything they need to know about the project placement will be covered. Volunteers will be able to know everything about the project such as: expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to the project and placement. The orientation will also give a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.



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### **LEISURE ACTIVITY**

Most of the free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to a local market, attend church, play soccer and participate in other community activities. Volunteers will have the opportunity to discover the fabulous environment and rich diversity of the Maasai Mara culture.

This will provide opportunities for international volunteers to learn/ enjoy local life and exchange with local people, making a while experience life through the eyes of the locals and exploring the great seven wonders of Maasai Mara National Game Reserve. Volunteers will enjoy the beautiful savannah. Numerous plains games including antelopes, wild beasts, zebras, Maasai giraffes can be seen as well as scavengers like hyena and vulture. Volunteers will have the chance to take a guided safari on a weekend trip to go deeper into the Maasai Mara reserve to spot lions, gazelles and water buffalo.

### **ARRIVAL TERMINAL**

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport

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**Code: KVSO 02/01**

**Name: Muhundu Cultural Group (MCG)Type:**

**ENVIRONMENTAL**

**Project dates: 06/02/25 – 27/02/25**

**Duration: 3 weeks**

**Location of the camp: Kisumu – Western Kenya**

**Community: Luhya Tribe**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of volunteers: 20**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Muhundu Cultural Group, a non-profit organization registered as a Community based organization, is a community initiative that was formed to link the community through programs that meet the local needs and are community driven participatory in nature with gender valuation by empowering the community with appropriate skills and resources. They seek to bring positive change in the face of the community through other players in order to address the challenges faced by the local community thereby trying to alleviate poverty. The mission of this organization is concerned with the well-being and improving the conditions of the orphans and vulnerable children, women projects, widows, widowers, men and youths who are disadvantaged due to their economic, social and cultural background. They want to build and improve different sectors in the community such as health, education, agriculture, environmental protection, entrepreneurship, gender promotion and talent promotion. The group is involved in the following activities:

Creating a sense of brotherhood, cooperation and cohesion amongst the people of the community

Informing, educating and Create awareness in the community and all alike in matters/ideas that are helpful to them

Advocacy on human rights such as Child abuse, Child neglect, women mistreatment and primary health care

Engaging the community in capacity building for better food security and livelihood

Micro finance capacity building through table banking in order to empower different people with specific project/ideas to improve their living standards

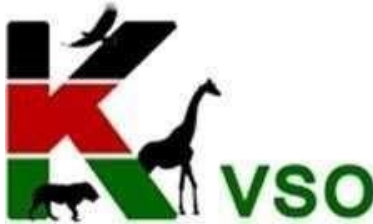
Care and support for Orphans and vulnerable children through provision of their health and education needs.

Supporting of a kindergarten for the orphans and vulnerable children.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

The volunteers will be involved in:

- Community activities, environmental clean-ups and education, landscaping, intercultural exchange activities, construction work, brick making, farming, fencing, tree planting, HIV /AIDS awareness creation and education.
- Environmental conservation practices such as clean up and planting of trees exercises in the nearby schools
- Extra-curricular activities and engaging with sports with the local community and school
- Home visit/cultural exchange so as to learn diverse cultures thus interacting with the local community.



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- Farm work which includes weeding, planting of local vegetables, digging and watering of crops
- Brick making

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### ACCOMMODATION

Volunteers will be living in the school compound, pit latrines and local bathrooms will be used, no or little electricity and no/limited internet.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at KVSO offices and volunteers will be picked up for accommodation and taken for the orientation which will be conducted by KVSO staff in Nairobi. Everything they need to know about the project placement will be covered. Introduction to Kenya and Luhya land, Luhya customs, and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to the project and placement all these they will be able to know. The orientation will also give them a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

Most of the free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to visit a local market, attend church, play soccer and participate in other community activities. They will also have the occasion to visit the vast and most beautiful Kakamega forest with different species of birds and colobus monkeys.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

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**Code:** KVSO 03/01  
**Name:** Imani Children's Home  
**Type:** Orphanage, home & school  
**Project dates:** 04/03/25 –  
26/03/234**Duration:** 2 weeks  
**Location of the camp:** Nairobi - Nairobi County  
**Community:** Swahili people  
**Languages:** English & Kiswahili  
**Number of volunteers:** 20  
**Disabled:** No  
**Age:** 18+

### BACKGROUND

Imani Children's home Orphanage was started in 1993 as a jigger program helping curb jiggers in children mostly, this was done until 2010 where the founder met a small girl called Eunice Amita who changed the whole idea of the project from only doing the jiggers programme to starting a children's home that would carefully for neglected, abandoned and orphaned children. The project has grown over the years, currently having 25 children: 12 boys and 13 girls; with this number of children Imani Children's home started their own school where they could control the type of quality education offered to the kids and now the children can communicate fluently in English. The school is also opened to the community which helps the children be well integrated with the other children in the community.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

Volunteers will assist with projects that aim to encourage youth from disadvantaged communities to further their education and personal development. In addition to promoting the importance of education, individuals may be also be encouraged to undertake vocational training where they are able to gain key job skills. Volunteers may create social workshops or run specific skills-based workshops such as language classes, computing, sports, drama or music. Extra activities: helping the children with their homework, washing the kids, their clothes, helping in office work, Jiggers programme mostly field work and visiting school and children affected, cooking and giving food to small kids.

Volunteers will help to organize and facilitate activities, set-up/ clean up, meals and snack preparation and help in serving support in teaching English and other subjects in orphanages.

Provide practical help such as gardening, and baby -sitting or painting and decorating. Involve in the care, safety, security and overall well - being of children who range in age from infancy to teen, feed them, wash them take them to class and play with the kids.

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

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### ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

Volunteers will stay in the hostel inside the orphanage home. Meals will be prepared by house parents with the help of volunteers.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025 at KVSO offices and volunteers will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation which will be conducted by KVSO staff or coordinator. The orientation will cover everything they need to know about the project placement with an introduction to Kenya and Swahili land, Swahili customs, and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya. The orientation will also give them a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

Most of the free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to visit the Indian Ocean for sunrise, sunset, sun bathing and do a safari drive at the Tsavo East and West National Park.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport

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**Code:** KVSO 04/01  
**Name:** Kimintet Pri. School  
**Type:** Education / Culture  
**Project dates:** 01/04/25 – 26/04/25  
**Duration:** 3 weeks+  
**Location of the camp:** Maasai Mara  
**Community:** Maasai  
**Languages:** English & Kiswahili  
**Number of volunteers:** 15  
**Disabled:** Yes  
**Age:** 18+

### BACKGROUND

Kimintet Boarding Primary School was founded in 1984, and is a mixed primary school. The boys and girls who attend Kimintet are between 6 and 15 years old. The school currently has 370 pupils and 18 teachers. The school has its own land with a title deed. It is a government school.

The school is situated along Maasai Mara Game reserve. The Mara is a large reserve in Narok County, Kenya contiguous with the Serengeti National Park in Mara Region, Tanzania. It is named in honour of the Maasai people (the ancestral inhabitants of the area and their description of the area when looked at from afar, "Mara, which is Maa (Maasai language) for "spotted", an apt description for the circles of trees, scrubs, savanna and cloud shadows that mark the area.

It is globally famous for its exceptional population of lions, leopards and cheetah, and the annual migration of zebra, Thomson's gazelle and wildebeest to and from the Serengeti every year from July to October, known as the Great migration.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

Teach, play, organize games, repair and build classrooms and live the Maasai life. Teaching English, sport and games, Intercultural exchange and Planting trees

Volunteers will facilitate educational activities with young children in the host community to promote culture. Twice a week, volunteers will be planting trees in local schools, community centres; planting is always done as a team effort together with school children or other community members.

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

Volunteers will stay in school dormitories. Accommodations are very simple, there is running water, and meals will be prepared by volunteers. Beds and Mattresses will be provided. Volunteers are asked to carry; mosquito nets, sleeping bag, a pillow and water purifying tablets. Chess, playing and tents are also necessary.

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### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025 at KVSO offices and volunteers will be picked up from the accommodation precincts and taken to the orientation place which will be conducted by KVSO staff in Nairobi and cover everything you need to know about the project placement with an introduction to the project, an introduction to Kenya and Maasai land, Maasai customs, language training (Kiswahili and Kimaasai), routes and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya. The orientation will also give them a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

This project will provide opportunities for international volunteers to learn/ enjoy local life and exchange with local people, making a while experience life through the eyes of the locals and exploring the great seven wonders of Maasai Mara National Game Reserve. Volunteers will enjoy the beautiful savannah. Numerous plains games including antelopes, wild beasts, zebras, Maasai giraffes can be seen as well as scavengers like hyena and vulture. Volunteers will have the chance to take a guided safari on a weekend trip to go deeper into the Maasai Mara reserve to spot lions, gazelles and water buffalo.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

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**Code: KVSO 05/01**  
**Name: Barack Obama Primary School**  
**Type: Education**  
**Project dates: 01/05/25 – 26/05/25**  
**Duration: 3 weeks+**  
**Location of the camp: Western Kenya**  
**Community: Luo**  
**Languages: English & Kiswahili**  
**Number of volunteers: 15**  
**Disabled: Yes**  
**Age: 18+**

## **BACKGROUND**

Barack Obama Senior Primary School was founded in 2005, and is a mixed sex school. The boys and girls who attend Obama Primary are between 6 and 15 years old. The school currently has 250 pupils and 11 teachers. The school has its own land with a title deed. It is a government school.

## **LANGUAGE**

English is the official language of the work camp.

## **MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES**

Volunteers will be involved in the following activities:

- Project work in schools: teaching English language, computer skills, creative arts, participation in cultural events, sports and games
- Environmental awareness, planting of trees, transfer of seedling, conservation
- In orphanages: sports, games, theatre, computer lessons, basic education, workshops, music and intercultural events and guiding, counselling, nursing care
- And many others such as: social investigation, art therapy, home visits, record management, report writing, primary school teaching, horticultural activities, dairy management, general gardening, maintenance and policy development.

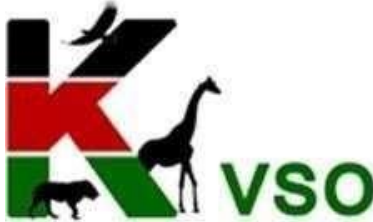
## **ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD**

Volunteers will stay with the host families. Meals will be prepared by community members with the help of volunteers.

## **ORIENTATION**

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 1<sup>st</sup> May 2025 at KVSO offices or hostels and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation which will be conducted by KVSO staff or coordinator and will cover everything they need to know about the project placement. Orientation will include an introduction to the project and placement, an introduction to Kenya and Luo land, Kenya and Luo customs, and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya. The orientation will also give a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing. Once orientation is complete, volunteers will travel by bus to the project site.

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### **LEISURE ACTIVITY**

Most of the free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to visit a local market, attend church, play soccer and participate in other community activities. Games like chess, playing cards and musical instruments are welcomed.

Volunteers will also have the chance to discover Kakamega rain tropical forest for sunrise and sunset, different types of monkeys that are only found in Kakamega forest, Kisumu for boat ride, hippo search, bird watching and the famous 'Crying stone'. Volunteers will also have the chance to visit the Lake Victoria in Kisumu City and to see the many islands of the lake.

### **ARRIVAL TERMINAL**

Kisumu Airport.





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**Code:** KVSO 05/02  
**Name:** Ywaya Community Health Centre  
**Type:** Medical & Community health  
**Project dates:** 30/05/25– 20/06/25  
**Duration:** 3 weeks+  
**Location of the camp:** Siaya County  
**Community:** Luo  
**Languages:** English & Kiswahili  
**Number of volunteers:** 20  
**Disabled:** Yes  
**Age:** 18+

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

Volunteers will be working and engage different target groups within the communities explaining to the community T.B is a social problem, it is not just for those who are ill. Volunteer will be working with local medical doctors and support the health delivery systems as they and will be attending to TB patients HIV/AIDs, giving drugs and recording, booking patients. Attending to pregnant mother clinic/family planning, giving children injections and weighing and laboratory services.

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### FOOD AND ACCOMMODATION

Volunteers will stay in host family for the whole duration of the project. Volunteers will prepare and share meals together. Volunteers need to carry a sleeping mat, sleeping bag and mosquito net.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 30<sup>th</sup> of May 2025 at KVSO offices or hostels and volunteers will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation which will be conducted by our local staff in Nairobi and cover everything they need to know about the project placement. They will receive an introduction to the project, to Kenya and Luo land, Kenya and Luo customs, language and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya. The orientation will also give them a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing. Once orientation is complete, volunteers will travel by bus to the project site.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

Most of the free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to visit a local market, attend church, play soccer and participate in other community activities. Games like chess, playing cards and musical instruments are welcomed.

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Volunteers will also have the chance to discover Kakamega rain tropical forest for sunrise and sunset, different types of monkeys that are only found in Kakamega forest, Kisumu for boat ride, hippo search, bird watching and the famous 'Crying stone'. Volunteers will also have the chance to visit the Lake Victoria in Kisumu City and to see the many islands of the lake.

### **ARRIVAL TERMINAL**

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**Code: KVSO 06/01**

**Name: SIGOMERE PHYSICALLY CHALLENGED CHILDREN PROJECT**

**Type: Disability**

**Project dates: 21/06/25– 04/07/25**

**Duration: 2 weeks and an ongoing project**

**Location of the camp: Siaya**

**Community: Luo**

**City – Kisumu**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of volunteers: 18**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Sigomre Small Home for the Physically Challenged Children was established in 1996 by a Mill Hill nun with Rt. Rev Zachaeus Okoth, Bishop of Kisumu diocese and the community. The purpose of its establishment was to provide basic needs such as accommodation, food, shelter and health care for disabled people within the surrounding communities. The project was initially started at Rang'ala and it received many people with disabilities. The community at Sigomre then donated land for construction of the facility. The project has been supporting more than 200 people who are physically and mentality challenged thus enabling them to overcome their physical limitations and empower them socially and economically to become self-reliant and fully integrated members of their communities. Currently the home hosts 52 children and youth of which 28 are males 25 are females. The children and the youth in the home are aged between 3-25 years. The home hosts 35 children and youth who live at the small home while 17 live at their respective homes. The home also has primary and vocational training institution which is located within and close to the centre where they get basic education and skills thus making them to be reliable members of the society. The vocational training provides skills like tailoring and carpentry mainly to those who fail to complete their schooling.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

- Assisting in teaching English, Mathematics, Social Sciences and creative arts
- Sewing, beadwork and crocheting and general activities.
- Provision of nursing services and general health education.
- Playing games with the physically challenged people.
- Teaching of computer lessons and packages.
- Offering guidance and counseling to the youth and children
- Care giving services such as preparation of meals, assisting the kids with mobility and general cleaning of the home
- Physiotherapy sessions which includes physical assessment of range of movement and manual muscle strength testing.
- Farm work which includes weeding, planting of variety of crops and harvesting
- Supporting early childhood development through age appropriate games & activities

### LANGUAGE

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English is the official language of the work camp.

### FOOD AND ACCOMMODATION

The volunteers will be hosted in the institution for the whole duration of the project. Volunteers will prepare and share meals together. Volunteers need to carry cameras, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, guidebook, warm clothes, a sleeping mat, sleeping bag and mosquito net.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 20<sup>th</sup> of June 2025 at KVSO offices or hostels and volunteers will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation which will be conducted by our local staff in Nairobi and cover everything they need to know about the project placement. During this orientation, volunteers will receive an introduction to the project, an introduction to Kenyan customs, language and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya. The orientation will also give them a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

Most of the free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to visit a local market, attend church, play soccer and participate in other community activities. Games like chess, playing cards and musical instruments are welcomed.

Volunteers will also have the chance to discover Kakamega rain tropical forest for sunrise and sunset, different types of monkeys that are only found in Kakamega forest, Kisumu for boat ride, hippo search, bird watching and the famous 'Crying stone'. Volunteers will also have the chance to visit the Lake Victoria in Kisumu City and to see the many islands of the lake.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport or Kisumu International Airport.

**Code: KVSO 06/02**

**Name: Hope for Victoria children**

**Type: Education / Culture**

**Project dates: 10/06/25– 30/06/25**

**Duration: 3 weeks+**

**Location of the camp: Kisumu**

**Community: Luo**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of volunteers: 12**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

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## **BACKGROUND**

Hope for Victoria Children (HOVIC) was established in 2003. HOVIC aims at improving the quality of life of street children and those in the hidden sector whose rights have been rampantly abused, suffering malnutrition, harassment and missing out on education. HOVIC has since implemented programmes to address these ills, and has learnt over the years that long-term sustainable impact on street children's lives is best cultivated from their communities. After years of reflection, HOVIC's strategic direction has shifted with greater emphasis on empowering vulnerable children and their communities to create long-term sustainable change, through short term rehabilitation activities, reunification, and foster family economic support.

HOVIC has addressed needs and challenges experienced by children living and working on the streets of Kisumu city, including vocational training facilities and workshops for apprenticeships. So far HOVIC has supported more than 500 children with an average of 100 children on a daily basis accessing its services (health and hygiene care, non-formal education, vocational training, child psychosocial counselling etc.) at its day centre in Kisumu.

## **MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES**

This project conducts streets visits to bring boys from the street into the programme. Likewise, it conducts visits in to the hidden sector to rescue girls from child labour and early age commercial work. The rehabilitation process begins right from the streets, through counselling and psychosocial support. They include registration and case profile establishment, life skill (resilience training on various life issues), psychosocial support to children, their parents, guardians and families, home tracing and family conflict management. HOVIC has a night shelter facility where all boys who want to transform their lives from the streets and drug use reside for a period between 3- 6 months depending on each child's individual case. Main work activities for the volunteers will be: teaching and training, sponsorship and scholastics material support, school based advocacy, on formal education, school visits and follow ups art (bead work, soapstone).

## **LANGUAGE**

English is the official language of the work camp.

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## **KENIA VOLUNTARY SERVICE ORGANIZATION**

P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

### **ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD**

Volunteers will stay in the hostel or host family, Accommodations are very simple, there is running water, electricity and meals will be prepared by volunteers. Beds and Mattresses will be provided. Volunteers are asked to carry; mosquito nets, sleeping bag, a pillow and water purifying tablets. Chess, playing and tents are necessary.

### **ACTIVITIES**

We conduct streets visits to bring boys from the street into the programme. Likewise we conduct visits in to the hidden sector to rescue girls from child labour and early age commercial work. Our rehabilitation process begins right from the streets, through counselling and psychosocial support. They include registration and case profile establishment, life skill (resilience training on various life issues), psychosocial support to children, their parents, guardians and families, home tracing and family conflict management. HOVIC has a night shelter facility where all boys who want to transform their lives from the streets and drug use reside for a period between 3- 6 months depending on each child's individual case. Teaching and training, Sponsorship and scholastics material support  
Primary Secondary Tertiary, vocational School based advocacy, on formal education School visits and follow ups Art (bead work, soapstone)

### **ORIENTATION**

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 9<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at KVSO offices and volunteers will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation which will be conducted by KVSO staff in Nairobi. Everything you need to know will be covered about your project placement. There will be an introduction to the project and the placement, an introduction to Kenya and Luo land, Luo customs, language training (Kiswahili), routes and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya. The orientation will also give them a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### **LEISURE ACTIVITY**

Volunteers won't be the same person after seeing the beautiful tropical rain forest at Kakamega and seeing the sunrise very early in the morning or/and the sunset very late in the evening. Also see the different species of monkey birds that are being found only in Kakamega forest, the blue monkey, black and white monkey and red tail monkey; the view of the forest is just fantastic! Volunteers can also visit the lake side for boat ride, they can attend hippo search and bird watching in Lake Victoria - Kisumu city.

### **ARRIVAL TERMINAL**

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport

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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

**Code: KVSO 07/01**

**Name: UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE Kakamega Rain forest Environment Programme**

**Type: Education / Culture**

**Project dates: 01/07/25 – 26/07/25**

**Duration: 3 weeks+**

**Location of the camp: Kakamega County**

**Community: Luhya**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of volunteers: 15**

**Disabled: Yes**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Kakamega Forest is a tropical rainforest situated in the Kakamega and Kisumu Counties of Kenya, northwest of the capital Nairobi, and near to the border with Uganda. It is Kenya's only tropical rainforest and is said to be Kenya's last remnant of the ancient Guineo-Congolian rainforest that once spanned the continent.

The forest including reserves encloses about 238 square kilometres, a little less than half of which currently remains as indigenous forest. The forest is elevated at predominantly between 1500 m and 1600 m above sea level. In the north of the forest is the 4,468 hectares (45 km<sup>2</sup>; 17 sq mi) Kakamega National Reserve, given national forest reserve status in 1985.[1] Just to the north is the Kisere Forest Reserve. Throughout the forest are a series of grassy glades, ranging in size from about 1 to 50, with a few larger clearings. The origins of the glades are uncertain. Some are certainly recent clearings, but others predate recent records. These may have originated from past human activity such as cattle grazing or may be the result of herbivory and movements by large mammals such as buffalo and elephants (both now extirpated from the region). The glades vary a great deal in structure, some being open grass and others having a considerable number of trees or shrubs. A number of streams and small creeks run through the reserve. The larger creeks are usually bordered by a few to tens of meters of forest on either side which divide the glades, while the smallest creeks flow through open grasslands, often forming small marshy patches.

- **Climate**

The Kakamega Rain Forest is very wet, with an average of 1200 mm - 1700 mm of rain per year. Rainfall is heaviest in April and May ("long rains"), with a slightly drier June and a second peak roughly in August to September ("short rains"). January and February are the driest months. Temperature is fairly constant throughout the year, ranging between 20c - 30c.

- **Biodiversity**

Flora found in the park include some of Africa's greatest hard and soft woods: Elgon teak, red and white stinkwood and several varieties of croton and anigeria altissima. There are 380 recorded species of plants. This includes 60 species of ferns, 150 species of trees and shrubs, and 170 species of flowering plants including 60 species of orchids with 9 species found only in this forest.

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The forest is famous for its birds, bird species have been recorded in the forest such as the West African Great blue turaco and black-and-white-casqued hornbill. At least 9 birds are not found anywhere else.

Wildlife that occur in the park include bush pig, duikers, bushbuck, African clawless otter, mongoose, giant African water shrew, squirrels, tree pangolin, porcupine, bats and a variety of primates including the blue monkey, retail monkey, De Brazza's monkey, baboon, potto and the occasional vervet monkey. Leopards have been occasionally reported, but the last official sighting was in 1991.

Insects are abundant and some are quite spectacular, such as Goliath beetles, pink and green flower mantis, and numerous colourful butterflies (489 species). Particularly well represented groups are ants (Formicidae), Lepidopterans, Orthopterans, and beetles. Gastropods, millipedes and spiders are also common. The flora and fauna of Kakamega Forest has not been extensively studied.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

- Making tree nursery beds and maintaining the tree nursery facilities.
- Plant care to maintain the habitat of the butterflies, cleaning the facility, cultivating butterflies in the butterfly farms.
- Building the traditional houses known as "Simba" with the local community.
- Accumulating, preparing and process the necessary natural materials for maintaining the forest.
- Isikuti dance and sports competition between the locals and the volunteers.
- Physical education & Fitness, Playing the drums, Singing
- Watering and watching after the trees, clearing of weeds, Digging holes, fencing of the tree nursery
- Logging and cutting trees, preparing the site, assemble the scaffold, prepare the wall material, filling the scaffold, fetching water from the river.
- Teaching and playing with the kids through school visits in the local schools.

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

Volunteers will stay with local hosts. Accommodations are very simple, there is running water, and meals will be prepared by volunteers and sometimes the hosts will cook. Beds and Mattresses will be provided. Volunteer to carry; mosquito nets, sleeping bag, a pillow and water purifying tablets.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at KVSO offices and you will be picked up from the accommodation precincts and taken to the orientation place which will be conducted by KVSO staff in Nairobi and cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenya and Luhya Land, luhya customs, language training (Kiswahili and Kiluhya), routes and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

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### LEISURE ACTIVITY

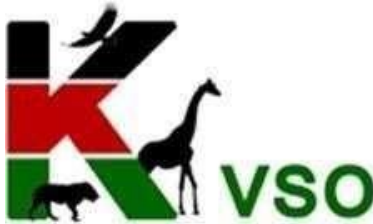
The Southern part of Kakamega forest, Isecheno Forest station run by the Kenya Forest Service is the most accessible in Tourism. There is the well-known Mama Mtere tree, a historic tree and the most photographed tree in Kakamega forest, there are also strangler fig trees.

There are hiking trails in the forest that allow for forest walking, camping, hiking, primate watching, bird and butterfly watching, game watching and village walks. The Kakamega Rainforest Tour Guides (KRFTG) can arrange tours to visit the weeping stone (Crying stone) at Ilesi, located along the Kakamega-Kisumu road, or Kisere Forest to see the De-brazes monkey in the north of Kakamega. Also bird watching, morning 6:30 am - 8:30 am is fantastic walk or evening 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

**Code: KVSO 07/02**

**Project name: UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE PROJECT KVSO Tsavo East/West National Park**

**Project type: ENV/Wildlife - Wildlife Environment Management and Conservation Program**

**Project dates: 14th July– 28th July**

**Duration: 2 weeks**

**Location: Kitui town - KENYA**

**Community: Maasai, Kamba and Oromo**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of vol: 14 Locals and international**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

The Construction of the railway was noted for the killings of a number of construction workers in 1898, during the building of a bridge across the Tsavo River. Hunting mainly at night, a pair of maneless male lions stalked and killed at least 28 Indian and African workers - although some accounts put the number of victims as high as 135. The lions, dubbed "the Man eaters of Tsavo," were eventually shot and killed by the bridge construction supervisor, Lt.-Col. John Henry Patterson. The skins and skulls are now displayed in the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago.

Tsavo is made up of two separate parks, Tsavo East National Park and Tsavo West National Park. Located in Coast Province of Kenya in between Nairobi City and Mombasa. Tsavo is nearly 22,000km<sup>2</sup>, being the largest national park in Kenya and one of the largest in the world. The park was split into two due to the railway going from Mombasa to the interior of Kenya. Tsavo East National Park is one of the oldest parks in Kenya, located South East of Kenya near the Town of Voi in the Taita-Taveta District of Coast Province, inland from the Coast, it is 13,747 sq.km. While the Tsavo West National Park is also located in the Coast Province of Kenya covering an area of 9,065 sq.km. The park was opened in April 1948.

Tsavo remained the homeland for Orma and Maasai pastoralists and Waata hunter-gatherers until 1948, when it was gazetted a national park. At that time, the indigenous populations were relocated to Voi and Mtito Andei as well as other locations within the nearby Taita Hills. Following Kenyan independence in 1963, hunting was banned in the park and management of Tsavo was turned over to the authority that eventually became the Kenya Wildlife Service. Tsavo currently attracts photo-tourists from all over the world interested in experiencing the vastness of the wilderness and incredible terrain.

- **Tsavo East Features**

The slightly larger Tsavo East is generally flat, with dry plains across which the Galana River flows. Other features include the Yatta Plateau and Lugard Falls. The prolific bird life features 500 recorded species.

- **Tsavo West Features**

Tsavo West National Park is more mountainous and wetter than its counterpart, with swamps, Lake Jipe and the Mzima Springs. It is known for bird life and for its large mammal's e.g. black rhino, Cape buffalo, elephant, leopard, hippo and Maasai lion. There are also other smaller animals that can be spotted in the park, such as the bush baby, hartebeest, lesser kudu, hirola and Maasai giraffe.



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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR

MAMA NGINA ST.

00100 NAIROBI KENYA

+254720803531

INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

- With the escort and guidance of Kenya wildlife service rangers, the volunteers will do hikes to explore the caves, its conditions and maintenance. The general maintenance of the caves works to guarantee easy access to the caves for both the human and wildlife.
- Bush patrols/desnaring in the park for monitoring the injured wild life e.g elephants, rhinos, gazelles and also identifying the dead ones that might have been killed by poachers or died a natural dead. The volunteers will also help in removing traps set by the poachers to aid the wildlife survival.
- Teaching and talking to the communities around Tsavo through community outreach programmes on the importance of conserving the national park and protecting it.
- Taking care of the orphaned and sick mammals in the national park.

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### ACCOMMODATION

No in park accommodation, but the volunteers will stay near the park hosted by the host family during the whole duration of the project. Volunteers will prepare and share meals together. Volunteers need to carry Cameras, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, guidebook, warm clothes, a sleeping mat, sleeping bag and mosquito net.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 13th of July 2025 at KVSO offices or hostels and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation center which will be conducted by our local staff in Nairobi and they will cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenyan customs, language and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

Major attraction for your leisure time in the park is; the black rhino, lion, leopard, cheetah, hyena, buffaloes, Giraffe, zebra, wildebeest, elands and diverse birdlife with over 400 species recorded. Other attractions include; the ivory burning site monument, safari walk, the orphanage and the walking trails.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.

**Code: KVSO 07/03**

**Name: Mumias Kids Orphanage**

**Type: Education / Culture**

**Project dates: 01/07/25 – 26/07/25**

**Duration: 3 weeks+**

**Location of the camp: Kakamega County**

**Community: Luhya**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of volunteers: 15**

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**Disabled: Yes**

**Age: 18+**

### **BACKGROUND**

Mumias Kids Centre is situated in Western part of Kenya, funded by Swiss Friends of Gospel Centre Church. It is registered as an NGO since 2010.

We currently have 25 Kids from ages 3months to 13 years, both girls and boys. They visit the local primary Schools. Our Kids are total Orphans

### **MAIN ACTIVITIES**

Volunteers will be teaching, take kids to school, clean kid's hostels or rooms, wash the kids, cook and feed them, play with kids also farming, Teaching English (1-2 hours a day) to children, Organizing games, drawing, singing, dancing, and other creative education and extracurricular activities, Taking kids on Playgrounds, Helping kids to do homework, monitor academic progress, and make sure kids complete their homework, Sanitation(helping kids in brushing teeth, shower, and personal hygiene),Child care services for orphans who cannot go to school, Help kids to dress up and reach school safely, Help with administration, running errands etc.

Help in other activities or programs designed for kids.

### **LANGUAGE**

English is the official language of the work camp.

### **ACCOMMODATION**

Volunteers will be living in the orphanage or host family; there is toilet tap water. Electricity is available.

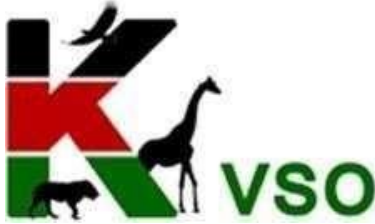
### **ORIENTATION**

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025 at KVSO offices and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation center which will be conducted by KVSO staff at Nairobi and will cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenya and Luhya land, Luhya customs, and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### **LEISURE ACTIVITY**

There will be an opportunity to visit the town any time at your free time, play soccer and participate in other community activities. They will be an opportunity to visit the vast and most beautiful Kakamega forest





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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR

MAMA NGINA ST.

00100 NAIROBI KENYA

+254720803531

INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

with different species of birds and collobus monkeys. Sunset and sunrise sighting. Visit Kisumu city in Lake Victoria for boat ride, hippo search and Dunga hill camp.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport





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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

**Code: KVSO 08/01**

**Name: Tujitahidi Women Community Development Self Help Group**

**Type: Environmental / Culture**

**Project dates: 01/08/25– 26/08/25**

**Duration: 3 weeks+**

**Location of the camp: Kaimosi,Vihiga County**

**Community: Luhya**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of volunteers: 15**

**Disabled: Yes**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Tujitahidi self Help Group, a non-profit initiative that is based on the community development which was started by joint women in Mulundu village and its neighbors(found in Kaimosi,Vihiga county of Kenya), due to increase in poverty and illiteracy in the village as a result of cultural influence. Tujitahidi literally means 'let's work hard' had a main aim of improving peoples life in the community especially the vulnerable as well as linking the community with other players in order to address the challenges faced by the local community. The mission of this organization is concerned with the well-being of children, women, widows, widowers, men and youths who are disadvantaged due to their economic, social and cultural background. We want to build a healthy, transformed, and interactive community. The project has two women group whereby one deals with women who are affected or infected by HIV/AIDS and another one dealing with empowerment of women in various areas. The women groups are involved with the following activities;

### MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Empowering the women through involving them in agriculture activities whereby they keep poultry and do some farm work. Through this, the women are self-reliable by selling their produce there by earn a living and support their families.
- The women practice table banking. This empowers the women to get a certain amount of money which they may use it to start a small scale business or uses the money to pay school fees for their children.
- Helping in construction of houses for the vulnerable and widows, families and the old people who are not able to improve their housing facilities. This depend with the availability of funds and willingness of the members of the group by contributing with building materials
- Organize community reach out with community health volunteers for HIV/AIDS campaign especially for young people.
- The women group has a kindergarten for children aged 2-5yrs from poor families especially from single parent families.
- Organizing life skill sessions with the children in order to nurture them and live positive life while avoiding drug abuse and engaging in bad groups
- The women group involve in sport competition against other women groups from neighboring communities



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MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

- There is a special school in the village and sometimes the group visits and help with some activities such as;
  - ✓ Clearing the bushes and general cleaning of the school
  - ✓ Bringing along other kids to play with the disabled kids so that they feel part of the society
  - ✓ Help the kids with mobility
  - ✓ Preparation and serving of meals
  - ✓ Washing clothes for the disabled

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### ACCOMMODATION

Volunteers will be living in the orphanage or host family; there is toilet tap water. Electricity is available.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 30th July 2025 at KVSO offices and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation center which will be conducted by KVSO staff at Nairobi and will cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenya and Luhya land, Luhya customs, and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

There will be an opportunity to visit the town any time at your free time, play soccer and participate in other community activities. They will be an opportunity to visit the vast and most beautiful Kakamega forest with different species of birds and collobus monkeys. Sunset and sunrise sighting. Visit Kisumu city in Lake Victoria for boat ride, hippo search and Dunga hill camp.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport

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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

**Code: KVSO 08/02**

**Name: Hope Link Community Project**

**Type: Education / Culture**

**Project dates: 05/08/25– 29/08/25**

**Duration: 3 weeks+**

**Location of the camp: Rusinga Island, Rusinga Island County**

**Community: Luo**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of volunteers: 15**

**Disabled: Yes**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Hope Link is a non-profit organization, registered as a CBO, is a community initiative, formed to link the community with other players in order to address the challenges faced by the local community. The mission of this organization is concerned with the well-being of children, women, widows, widowers, men and youths who are disadvantaged due to their economic, social and cultural background. They want to build a healthy, transformed, and interactive community.

### ACTIVITIES

- Dissemination of information to the community through dialogue, forums, workshops, road show demonstrations, outreaches
- Advocacy on human rights, Child abuse, Child neglect, Education, primary health care
- Capacity building for better food security and livelihood
- Micro finance capacity building through revolving funds
- Care and support for OVC, widows and the elderly through provision of their health and education needs.
- Management of a kindergarten for the development of destitute children
- Enhancing community interaction by hosting volunteers from different countries and backgrounds, who come to work and stay with us in work camps or as individual volunteers.
- Environmental clean-up exercises alongside Lake Victoria beaches
- Extra-curricular activities and engaging with sports with the local community
- Home visit/cultural exchange so as to learn diverse cultures thus interacting with the local community
- Farm work which includes weeding, planting of local vegetables, digging and watering of crops

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### FOOD AND ACCOMMODATION

The volunteers will be hosted in the institution for the whole duration of the project. Volunteers will prepare and share meals together. Volunteers need to carry cameras, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, guidebook, warm clothes, a sleeping mat, sleeping bag and mosquito net.



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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

### **ORIENTATION**

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 4th of August at KVSO offices or hostels and volunteers will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation which will be conducted by our local staff in Nairobi and cover everything they need to know about the project placement. During this orientation, volunteers will receive an introduction to the project, an introduction to Kenyan customs, language and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya. The orientation will also give them a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### **LEISURE ACTIVITY**

Most of the free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to visit a local market, attend church, play soccer and participate in other community activities. Games like chess, playing cards and musical instruments are welcomed.

Volunteers will also have the chance to discover Kakamega rain tropical forest for sunrise and sunset, different types of monkeys that are only found in Kakamega forest, Kisumu for boat ride, hippo search, bird watching and the famous 'Crying stone'. Volunteers will also have the chance to visit the Lake Victoria in Kisumu City and to see the many islands of the lake.

### **ARRIVAL TERMINAL**

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport or Kisumu International Airport.

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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

**Code: KVSO 08/03**

**Name: GELI ORPHANAGE AND SCHOOL PROJECT**

**Type: Education / Orphanage**

**Project dates: 03/08/25– 26/08/25**

**Duration: 3 weeks+**

**Location of the camp: Kisumu, Kisumu County**

**Community: Luo**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of volunteers: 15**

**Disabled: Yes**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

The HIV/AIDS pandemic continues to ravage the world, but is especially evident in Africa which has experienced the highest rate of infections and deaths. As early as the year 2000, about 33.4 million people were HIV positive worldwide. Out of this number, 22 million were in the region of Sub Saharan Africa. In Kenya alone, 2.2 million were already infected with the Virus in the same year. It is reported that 700 people die in Kenya every day due to AIDS related causes. The rural prevalence rate is 12 - 13%, or 1.4 million people, and in urban areas, 17 - 18%, or 430,000 people. One out of every five Kenyans between the ages of 15 and 49 is infected with the AIDS Virus.

Nyanza Province has been particularly impacted with this epidemic. In 1997, the prevalence rate was 32.1%. The need to provide improved care to people living with HIV related diseases has placed considerable strain on the existing local healthcare and other support systems. Infant and maternal mortality rates are on the rise against a backdrop of extreme poverty. The advent of the life prolonging drugs aka anti-retroviral therapies have to some extent helped in

Containing the death rates while on the other hand lead to an increase in dependency rate further impacting on the already fragile local socio - economic strata. The responsibility of caring for orphans and vulnerable children emanating from this scenario poses a major challenge to the community.

The social support systems in these communities are already overstretched and cannot cope with the ever increasing numbers of orphans and vulnerable children who are in need of basic shelter, education, food, clothing and healthcare. The increasing rise in the number of orphans and vulnerable children in Kenya is directly contributing to an increase in child labour, homelessness and an ever increasing school drop - out rate.

### ACTIVITIES

- Organize community reach out with community health volunteers for HIV/AIDS campaign especially for young people.
- Organizing life skill sessions with the children in order to nurture them and live positive life while avoiding drug abuse and engaging in bad groups.
- Assisting in teaching of simple Mathematics, English and Creative Arts subjects
- Using sports, dancing painting activities to develop creativity in the children
- Management of a kindergarten for the development of destitute children
- Enhancing community interaction by hosting volunteers from different countries and backgrounds, who come to work and stay with us in work camps or as individual volunteers.



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MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

### **LANGUAGE**

English is the official language of the work camp.

### **FOOD AND ACCOMMODATION**

The volunteers will be hosted in the institution for the whole duration of the project. Volunteers will prepare and share meals together. Volunteers need to carry cameras, hat, sunscreen, sunglasses, guidebook, warm clothes, a sleeping mat, sleeping bag and mosquito net.

### **ORIENTATION**

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August 2025 at KVSO offices or hostels and volunteers will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation which will be conducted by our local staff in Nairobi and cover everything they need to know about the project placement. During this orientation, volunteers will receive an introduction to the project, an introduction to Kenyan customs, language and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya. The orientation will also give them a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### **LEISURE ACTIVITY**

Most of the free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to visit a local market, attend church, play soccer and participate in other community activities. Games like chess, playing cards and musical instruments are welcomed.

Volunteers will also have the chance to discover Kakamega rain tropical forest for sunrise and sunset, different types of monkeys that are only found in Kakamega forest, Kisumu for boat ride, hippo search, bird watching and the famous 'Crying stone'. Volunteers will also have the chance to visit the Lake Victoria in Kisumu City and to see the many islands of the lake.

### **ARRIVAL TERMINAL**

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport or Kisumu International Airport.

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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
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**KENIA VOLUNTARY SERVICE ORGANIZATION**

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# **MID & LONG TERM VOLUNTEERING PROGRAMS**

## ***2025***

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## KENIA VOLUNTARY SERVICE ORGANIZATION

P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR

MAMA NGINA ST.

00100 NAIROBI KENYA

+254720803531

INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

**Code: KVS0 01/01**

**Name: Mara Osero Wildlife, Culture, Conservation & Education Village**

**Type: EDU/KIDS, Wildlife, Conservation, Renovation, Culture and Environment**

**Project dates: 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025 - 25<sup>th</sup> December 2025 (Ongoing project)**

**Duration: 11 months**

**Location of the camp: Narok County**

**Community: Maasai**

**Languages: English and Swahili**

**Number of volunteers: 20 locals and internationals**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

The Maasai tribe (or Maasai) is a unique and popular tribe due to their long preserved culture. Despite education, civilization and western cultural influences, the Maasai people have clung to their traditional way of life, making them a symbol of Kenyan culture.

Maasai's distinctive culture, dress style and strategic territory along the game parks of Kenya and Tanzania have made them one of East Africa's most internationally famous tourist attractions.

The Maasai people reside in both Kenya and Tanzania, living along the border of the two countries. They are a smaller tribe, accounting for only about 0.7 percent of Kenya's population, with a similar number living in Tanzania. Maasai's speak Maa, a Nilotic ethnic language from their origin in the Nile region of North Africa.

The Samburu tribe is the closest to the Maasai in both language and cultural authenticity.

Through rituals and ceremonies, including circumcision, Maasai boys are guided and mentored by their fathers and other elders on how to become a warrior. Although they still live their carefree lives as boys - raiding cattle, chasing young girls, and game hunting - a Maasai boy must also learn all of the cultural practices, customary laws and responsibilities he'll require as an elder.

The wildlife, culture, conservation and education village centre offers volunteers the ultimate opportunity to explore, learn and interact with the Maasai community and their culture. The Mara conservation gives them a platform to serve, interact and also live like the Maasai people. Above all, the Conservancy is managed according to a model that protects the delicate eco-system and benefits the landowners who are the Maasai people.

The wild life, culture, conservation and education in Kenya is home to the big cats situated on the mararienda most point of the Greater Mara Ecosystem; borders the Olchorro Oliroua Conservancy to the south, and MMNC to the East. The important focus of the conservancy is livestock improvement through innovative cattle management programs, running alongside novel tourism projects.

The habitat comprises wooded acacia savannah with open plains on flat plateaus, riverine acacia forest and rocky, undulating hills which provide a varied habitat for browsing and grazing ungulates, as well as hideout thickets for the predators. The Mara River runs alongside the conservancy. There is a large number of giraffe and resident buffalo that live close to the Olerai boundary along the Mara River. Elephants frequent the conservancy and there is a pride of lion based on the edge of oloisukut. There are many hippos and crocodiles in the section of the river that borders the conservancy and the riverine forests which provide an area popular with leopards. Rare species such as Aardvark, Caracal, serval cat and Aardwolf are occasionally found. Colobus monkeys have been spotted in the valleys on the Kileleoni Hill and there have



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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR

MAMA NGINA ST.

00100 NAIROBI KENYA

+254720803531

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also been sightings of wild dog in Enonkishu. There is no doubt that Mara Osero offers an incredible game viewing experience.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

- **Animal conservation**
  - ✓ Regular ground patrols and safari walk
  - ✓ Identifying animal species found within the area
  - ✓ Identify and name indigenous plants and uses
  - ✓ Monitoring wildlife movement
- **Cultural**
  - ✓ Experience Maasai way of life
  - ✓ Control cattle grazing, milking and caring for cattles
  - ✓ Maintenance, building and renovation of the manyatta houses
- **School teaching programme**
  - ✓ Teaching lessons and playing with kids
  - ✓ Planting of trees
    - Gardening and land scaping
    - Outreach programme in the local dispensary.
    - Extra activities learning life skills bead work, cooking using fire wood e.t.c
    - Ensure upkeep of the conservancy
    - Work with other stake holders in ensuring up keep of the conservancy
    - Extra activities Bird watching for interested volunteers.

### Other activities depending on the interest of the volunteers:

- Promoting Sustainable Tourism
- Teach English in local school
- Assisting in the local hospitals
- Clean-up campaigns and planting trees in school and community
- Engaging the surrounding communities in protecting their cultural heritage
- Fostering dialogue and interaction between local communities
- Disseminate information about Maasai Mara
- Raise awareness to the local community
- Train and empower the community and preserve and promote natural heritage

### ACCOMMODATION

Volunteers will be living in the Maasai Manyattas (villages) with the host families, pit latrines and local bathrooms will be used, no electricity and no internet.

### ORIENTATION

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Orientation will begin in the morning of the **6<sup>th</sup> February 2025** at KVSO offices and you will be picked up for accommodation and taken for the orientation which will be conducted by KVSO staff in Nairobi. Everything you need to know about your project placement will be covered. Introduction to Kenya and Maasai land, Maasai customs, and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement all these you will be able to know. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.





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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

**Code: KVSO 01/02**

**Name: Cranes of Dago Agricultural Organization**

**Type: ENV/SOC/Agriculture/Education - Environment Management, Agriculture and Conservation Program**

**Project dates: from 7<sup>th</sup> February 2025 - 30<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

**Duration: 6 months**

**Location: Kisumu, Nyanza, Western Kenya**

**Community: Luo Tribe**

**Language: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of vols: 15 locals and international**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Cranes of Dago Agricultural Organization, a Community Based Organization formed in 1998, registered by the department of social services and development. Cranes deals with various issues that touches on day to day life of the local communities and run programs such as environment education involving: capacity building and training, research and monitoring, landscape rehabilitation, Eco-Tourism, School Outreaches and Home Based care projects within its mandate.

The organization was established to make an impact on the growing problem of vulnerable children, widows and orphans rights to sustainable development. It is dedicated to protecting and promoting the rights of children and supporting the vulnerable, widows and orphans.

Cranes of Dago organizes routine trainings on farming for the widows and the youth to give them sustainability.

### MAIN WORK ACITIVITIES

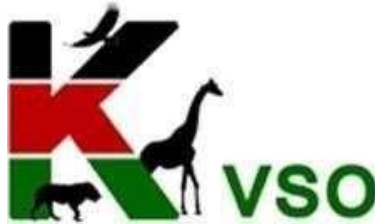
- Raise environmental awareness, planting of trees and transfer of seedlings, spring protection, arboretum with indigenous trees, landscaping, wildlife with oriented trees, construction of Eco toilet, fish farming, Biogas, town and market clean-up campaign, garbage collection poultry farming with indigenous breeds and upgrading, bee keeping projects and intercultural events. Landscaping and reputation.
- Cattle Farming, cash crop farming and coordinating/mobilizing campaigns and actions on child rights.

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### ACCOMMODATION

Volunteers will stay with the host family during the project. The project is located in Lake Victoria and is a safe and exciting way to experience the city and compare it to the area you will serve. Volunteers will be living by the host families, pit latrines and local bathrooms will be used, adequate electricity and internet if you get the Kenyan line which we shall coordinate. Accommodations are very simple, there is no running water and meals will be prepared by community members with the help of volunteers.



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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the **6<sup>th</sup> February 2025** at KVSO offices or hostels and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation which will be conducted by our local staff in Nairobi and cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenya and Luo land, Kenya and Luo customs, and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing. Once orientation is complete, volunteers will travel by bus the morning to the project site.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

Lake Victoria, also called Victoria Nyanza, largest lake in Africa and chief reservoir of the Nile, lying mainly in Tanzania and Uganda but bordering on Kenya. Its area is 26,828 square miles (69,484 square km). Among the freshwater lakes of the world, it is exceeded in size only by Lake Superior in North America.

Most of our free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to a local market, attend church, play soccer and participate in other community activities. They will be an opportunity to visit the vast and most beautiful Kakamega forest with different species of birds and colobus monkeys.

Mfangano Island Camp is a luxury, island hideaway lodge, where you can enjoy relaxing break. The camp is perfect to include in your Kenya Safari either between safaris in Kenya's Masai Mara and the Serengeti in Tanzania or following a safari in the Masai Mara. Lapped by the waters of Lake Victoria shaded by giant fig trees, and lost to the world, Mfangano Island Camp is an oasis of tranquility, an ideal retreat from the hustle and bustle of modern life. Your first view is of beautiful tropical gardens set on a secluded bay. Lawns hug the waterline, flowerbeds and rock gardens surround the camp. Enormous boulders sit at the water's edge, a perch for cormorants or giant monitor lizards to sun themselves. If all you desire is to laze in the sunshine, each room has it's own private veranda with sun beds. Or there are plenty of activities to keep you occupied. The food's as fresh as can be, fished from the lake (hopefully by you!) or picked fresh from the island's vegetable gardens and orchards.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport

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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

**Code: KVSO 01/03**

**Name: Imani Children's Home**

**Type: ORPHANAGE, HOME & SCHOOL**

**Project dates: 14<sup>th</sup> February 2025 - 26<sup>th</sup> December 2025**

**Duration: 11 months**

**Location: Malindi County - KENYA**

**Community: Swahili**

**Language: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of vols: 10 locals and internationals**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### **BACKGROUND**

Imani Children's home Orphanage was started in 1993 as a jigger program helping curb jiggers in children mostly, this was done until 2010 where the founder met a small girl called Eunice Amita who changed the whole ideas of the project from only doing the jiggers programme to starting a children's home that would carefully for neglected, abandoned and orphaned children. The project has grown over the years currently having 25 children 12 boys and 13 girls, with this number of children Imani Children's home started their own school where they could control the type of quality education offered to the kids and now the children can communicate fluently in English. The school is also opened to the community which helps the children be well integrated with the other children in the community.

### **MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES**

Volunteers assist with projects that aim to encourage youth from disadvantaged communities to further their education and personal development. In addition to promoting the importance of education, individuals may be also be encouraged to undertake vocational training where they are able to gain key job skills. Volunteers may create social workshops or run specific skills-based workshops such as language classes, computing, sports, drama or music. Extra activities: helping the children with their homework, washing the kids, their clothe, helping in office work, Jiggers programme mostly field work and visiting school and children affected, cooking and giving food to small kids.

Volunteers will help to organize and facilitate activities, set-up/ clean up, meals and snack preparation and help in serving support in teaching English and other subjects in orphanages. Provide practical help such as gardening, and baby -sitting or painting and decorating. Involve in the care, safety, security and overall well - being of children who range in age from infancy to teen, feed them, wash them take them to class and play with the kids.

### **LANGUAGE**

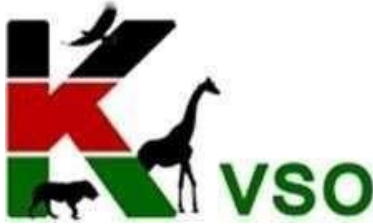
English is the official language of the work camp.

### **ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD**

Volunteers will stay in the hostel inside the orphanage home. Meals will be prepared by house parents with the help of volunteers.

### **ORIENTATION**

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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

Orientation will begin in the morning of the **13<sup>th</sup> February 2025** at KVSO offices and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation which will be conducted by KVSO staff or the Co-ordinator and cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenya and Swahili land, Swahili customs, and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

Most of our free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to visit the Indian Ocean for sunrise, sunset, sun bathing and do a safari drive at the Tsavo East and West National Park.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport

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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

**Code: KVSO 01/04**

**Name: Barack Obama Pri. School**

**Type: EDUCATION**

**Projects dates: 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025- 1<sup>st</sup> August 2025 (6 MONTHS)**

**Location: Kisumu, Nyanza - KENYA**

**Community: Luo**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of vols: 15 locals and internationals**

**Disabled: yes**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Barack Obama Senior Primary School was founded in 2005, and is a mixed sex school. The boys and girls who attend Obama Primary are between 6 and 15 years old. The school currently has 250 pupils and 11 teachers. The school has its own land with a title deed. It is a government school.

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

Volunteers will be involved in the following activities,  
Project work in schools. Teaching English language, computer skills, creative arts, participation in cultural events, sports and games, environmental awareness, planting of trees, transfer of seedling, conservation, in orphanages, sports, games, theatre, computer lessons, basic education, workshops, music and intercultural events and guiding, counselling, Nursing care, social investigation, art therapy, home visits, record management, report writing, primary school teaching, horticultural activities, dairy management, general gardening, maintenance and policy development.

### ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

Volunteers will stay with the host families. Meals will be prepared by community members with the help of volunteers.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the **19<sup>th</sup> February 2025** at KVSO offices or hostels and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation center which will be conducted by KVSO staff or coordinator and cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenya and Luo land, Kenya and Luo customs, and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing. Once orientation is complete, volunteers will travel by bus to the project site.



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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

Most of our free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to visit a local market, attend church, play soccer and participate in other community activities. Games like chess, playing cards and musical instruments are welcomed.

Most of our free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members, visit Kakamega rain tropical forest for sunrise, and sunset, different types of monkeys that are only found in Kakamega forest, Kisumu for boat ride, hippo search, bird watching, crying stone.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

Kisumu Airport





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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

**Code: KVSO 01/05**

**Project name: Ywaya Community Health Centre**

**Project type: MED/EDU - Medical and Community Health**

**Project dates: 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025 – 28<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

**Duration: 12 months**

**Location: Siaya County - KENYA**

**Community: Luo**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of vols: 20 Locals and international**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Ywaya Community Health Centre started in the year 1999 with the sole intention of helping the local community access health facilities easily and efficiently. It is because of this that the health facilities were built to curb the cases of child loss by the pregnant mothers and the case of malaria attacks. The facilities have been a great help for the people of the local community and it serves Ywaya people and its environs.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

Volunteer will be working and engage different target groups within the communities explaining to the community T.B is a social problem, it is not just for those who are ill. Volunteer will be working with local medical doctors and support the health delivery systems as they and will be attending to TB patients HIV/AIDs, giving drugs and recording, booking patients. Attending to pregnant mother clinic/family planning, giving children injections and weighing and Laboratory services.

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### FOOD AND ACCOMMODATION

Volunteers will stay in host family for the first and last day of the project. Volunteers will prepare and share meals together. Volunteers need to carry a sleeping mat, sleeping bag and mosquito net.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the **27<sup>th</sup> of February 2025** at KVSO offices or hostels and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation will be conducted will be conducted by our local staff in Nairobi and cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenya and Luo land, Kenya and Luo customs, language and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing. Once orientation is complete, volunteers will travel by bus.



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**P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR**

**MAMA NGINA ST.**

**00100 NAIROBI KENYA**

**+254720803531**

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### **LEISURE ACTIVITY**

Viewing of the hippopotamus from the banks of river Nzoia, site visit at Rusinga, Mfangano and Ndere Islands, visit of Lake Victoria.

### **ARRIVAL TERMINAL**

Jomo Kenyatta International Airport.





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P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR  
MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

**Code: KVSO 02/01**

**Name: Kakamega Rain Forest Project**

**Type: EDUCATION/Environmental**

**Project dates: 4<sup>th</sup> March to 26<sup>th</sup> August, 2025**

**Duration: 6 months**

**Location: Western Kenya**

**Community: Luhya**

**Languages: English and Kiswahili**

**Number of vols: 15 locals and internationals**

**Disabled: Yes**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Kakamega Forest is a tropical rainforest situated in the Kakamega and Kisumu Counties of Kenya, northwest of the capital Nairobi, and near to the border with Uganda. It is Kenya's only tropical rainforest and is said to be Kenya's last remnant of the ancient Guineo-Congolian rainforest that once spanned the continent.

The forest including reserves encloses about 238 square kilometres, a little less than half of which currently remains as indigenous forest. The forest is elevated at predominantly between 1500 m and 1600 m above sea level. In the north of the forest is the 4,468 hectares (45 km<sup>2</sup>; 17 sq mi) Kakamega National Reserve, given national forest reserve status in 1985.[1] Just to the north is the Kisere Forest Reserve. Throughout the forest are a series of grassy glades, ranging in size from about 1 to 50, with a few larger clearings. The origins of the glades are uncertain. Some are certainly recent clearings, but others predate recent records. These may have originated from past human activity such as cattle grazing or may be the result of herbivory and movements by large mammals such as buffalo and elephants (both now extirpated from the region). The glades vary a great deal in structure, some being open grass and others having a considerable number of trees or shrubs. A number of streams and small creeks run through the reserve. The larger creeks are usually bordered by a few to tens of meters of forest on either side which divide the glades, while the smallest creeks flow through open grasslands, often forming small marshy patches.

- **Climate**

The Kakamega Rain Forest is very wet, with an average of 1200 mm - 1700 mm of rain per year. Rainfall is heaviest in April and May ("long rains"), with a slightly drier June and a second peak roughly in August to September ("short rains"). January and February are the driest months. Temperature is fairly constant throughout the year, ranging between 20c - 30c.

- **Biodiversity**

Flora found in the park include some of Africa's greatest hard and soft woods: Elgon teak, red and white stinkwood and several varieties of croton and anigeria altissima. There are 380 recorded species of plants. This includes 60 species of ferns, 150 species of trees and shrubs, and 170 species of flowering plants including 60 species of orchids with 9 species found only in this forest.

The forest is famous for its birds, bird species have been recorded in the forest such as the West African Great blue turaco and black-and-white-casqued hornbill. At least 9 birds are not found anywhere else.

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+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

Wildlife that occur in the park include bush pig, duikers, bushbuck, African clawless otter, mongoose, giant African water shrew, squirrels, tree pangolin, porcupine, bats and a variety of primates including the blue monkey, retail monkey, De Brazza's monkey, baboon, potto and the occasional vervet monkey. Leopards have been occasionally reported, but the last official sighting was in 1991.

Insects are abundant and some are quite spectacular, such as Goliath beetles, pink and green flower mantis, and numerous colourful butterflies (489 species). Particularly well represented groups are ants (Formicidae), Lepidopterans, Orthopterans, and beetles. Gastropods, millipedes and spiders are also common.

The flora and fauna of Kakamega Forest has not been extensively studied.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

- Making tree nursery beds and maintaining the tree nursery facilities.
- Plant care to maintain the habitat of the butterflies, cleaning the facility, cultivating butterflies in the butterfly farms.
- Building the traditional houses known as "Simba" with the local community.
- Accumulating, preparing and process the necessary natural materials for maintaining the forest.
- Isukuti dance and sports competition between the locals and the volunteers.
- Physical education & Fitness, Playing the drums, Singing
- Watering and watching after the trees, clearing of weeds, Digging holes, fencing of the tree nursery
- Logging and cutting trees, preparing the site, assemble the scaffold, prepare the wall material, filling the scaffold, fetching water from the river.
- Teaching and playing with the kids through school visits in the local schools.

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

Volunteers will stay with local hosts. Accommodations are very simple, there is running water, and meals will be prepared by volunteers and sometimes the hosts will cook. Beds and Mattresses will be provided. Volunteer to carry; mosquito nets, sleeping bag, a pillow and water purifying tablets.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the **3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025** at KVSO offices and you will be picked up from the accommodation precincts and taken to the orientation place which will be conducted by KVSO staff in Nairobi and cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenya and Luhya Land, luhya customs, language training (Kiswahili and Kiluhya), routes and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

The Southern part of Kakamega forest, Isecheno Forest station run by the Kenya Forest Service is the most accessible in Tourism. There is the well-known Mama Mtere tree, a historic tree and the most photographed tree in Kakamega forest, there are also strangler fig trees.



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**MAMA NGINA ST.**

**00100 NAIROBI KENYA**

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There are hiking trails in the forest that allow for forest walking, camping, hiking, primate watching, bird and butterfly watching, game watching and village walks. The Kakamega Rainforest Tour Guides (KRFTG) can arrange tours to visit the weeping stone (Crying stone) at Ilesi, located along the Kakamega-Kisumu road, or Kisere Forest to see the De-brazes monkey in the north of Kakamega. Also bird watching, morning 6:30 am - 8:30 am is fantastic walk or evening 4:30 pm - 6:30 pm.

### **ARRIVAL TERMINAL**

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**Code: KVSO 02/02**

**Project name: Vihiga Primary School,**

**Project type: EDU/ENVI - Education, Conservation and Cultural Exchange**

**Project dates: 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025 – 25<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

**Duration: 7 months**

**Location: Vihiga County, Western - KENYA**

**Community: Luhya**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of vols: 20 locals and internationals**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Vihiga Primary School was started in 1920 as a community initiative to reduce distance covered by pupils to seek education in neighbouring schools which are more than 15 km away.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

Volunteers will be involved in the project work in schools like: teaching English language, computer skills, creative arts, participation in cultural events, sports and games, environmental awareness, planting of trees, transfer of seedling, conservation, in orphanages, sports, games, theatre, computer lessons, basic education, workshops, music and intercultural events and guiding, counselling, nursing care, social investigation, art therapy, home visits, record management, report writing, primary school teaching, horticultural activities, dairy management, general gardening, maintenance and policy development.

### LANGUAGE

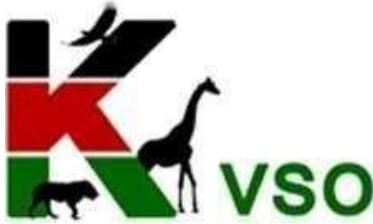
English is the official language of the work camp.

### ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

Volunteers will stay in host family for the first and last day of the project. Volunteers will prepare and share meals together. Volunteers need to carry a mosquito net.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the **13<sup>th</sup> March 2025** at KVSO offices or hostels and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation will be conducted by our local staff in Nairobi and cover everything you need to know for your volunteering program in know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenya and Luhya land, Kenya and Luhya customs, language and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing. Once orientation is complete, volunteers will travel by bus.



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**P.O BOX 35232 NORWICH UNION 6TH FLOOR**

**MAMA NGINA ST.**

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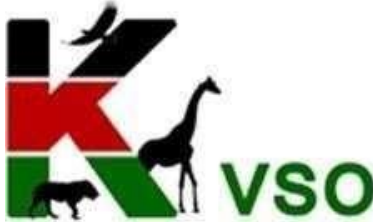
### **LEISURE ACTIVITY**

Most of our free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to visit the ocean for a swim, go to a local market, attend church, play soccer and participate in other community activities. Kakamega forest is also a thrown stone away and volunteers can also visit.

### **ARRIVAL TERMINAL**

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**Code: KVSO 03/01**

**Project name: Thim Lich Primary School**

**Project name: EDU/KIDS - Education and Support**

**Project dates: 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2025 – 25<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

**Duration: 6 months**

**Location: Siaya County - KENYA**

**Community: Luo tribe**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of vols: 20 locals and internationals**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Thim Primary School was founded in 1988, and is a mixed sex school. The boys and girls who attend thim primary are between 6 and 15 years old. The school currently has 250 pupils and 11 teachers. The school has its own land with a title deed. It is a government school

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

Volunteers will be involved in the following activities in project work in schools like teaching English language, computer skills, creative arts, participation in cultural events, sports and games, environmental awareness, planting of trees, transfer of seedling, conservation, in orphanages, sports, games, theatre, computer lessons, basic education, workshops, music and intercultural events and guiding, counselling, Nursing care, social investigation, art therapy, home visits, record management, report writing, primary school teaching, horticultural activities, dairy management, general gardening, maintenance and policy development.

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD

Volunteers will stay with the host families. Meals will be prepared by community members with the help of volunteers.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the **2<sup>nd</sup> May 2025** at KVSO offices or hostels and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation place that will be conducted by KVSO staff or coordinator and cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenya and Luo land, Kenya and Luo customs, and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing. Once orientation is complete, volunteers will travel by bus to the project site.

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### **LEISURE ACTIVITY**

Most of our free time will be spent sharing culture and friendship with local community members and the other volunteers on the project. There will be an opportunity to visit a local market, attend church, play soccer and participate in other community activities. Games like chess, playing cards and musical instruments are welcomed.

### **ARRIVAL TERMINAL**

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**Project date:** KVSO 04/01

**Project name:** KVSO Cerebral Palsy Society Of Kenya (CPSK)

**Project type:** Disability - Cerebral Palsy Disability Project

**Project dates:** 7<sup>th</sup> June 2025 – 25<sup>th</sup> February 2025

**Duration:** 9 months

**Location:** Nairobi – KENYA

**Number of vol:** 14 Locals and international

**Disabled:** Yes

**Age:** 18+

### BACKGROUND

Cerebral Palsy Society of Kenya (CPSK) is a charitable Organisation working towards the improvement of the welfare of children/persons afflicted by Cerebral Palsy (C.P) in the Country. The organisation has been operating as a society since in 1996 has remained steadfast in its endeavour to enable as many children/person as possible live more fulfilling lives.

Being a charitable Organization, CPSK relies wholly on support from well-wishers and other people of goodwill for its upkeep. Today, the organisation caters for over 350 children/persons who benefit directly from therapy and rehabilitation services that are offered at extremely subsidized fees.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

The volunteers will be expected to perform the following services;

- Rehabilitation
- Provision of therapy
- Provision of assistive devices
- Special Needs Education
- Psychosocial Services
- Creation and enhancement of awareness
- Promotion of legislative policy and other measures to improve the welfare
- Resource mobilization
- Economic Empowerment

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### FOOD AND ACCOMMODATION

Volunteers will stay in host family for the first and last day of the project. Volunteers will prepare and share meals together. Volunteers need to carry a sleeping mat, sleeping bag and mosquito net.



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### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the **6<sup>th</sup> of June 2025** at KVSO offices or hostels and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation will be conducted will be conducted by our local staff in Nairobi and cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenyan customs, language and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

Major attraction for your leisure time in the Nairobi national park where there is; the black rhino, lion, leopard, cheetah, hyena, buffaloes, Giraffe, zebra, wildebeest, elands and diverse birdlife with over 400 species recorded. Other attractions include; the ivory burning site monument, Nairobi safari walk, the orphanage and the walking trails.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

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**Code: KVSO 05/01**

**Project name: KVSO Oloisukut Conservancy Wildlife project,**

**Project type: ENV/Wildlife - Wildlife Environment Management and Conservation Program**

**Project dates: 14<sup>th</sup> July 2025 – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2025**

**Duration: 6 months**

**Location: Narok - KENYA**

**Community: Maasai**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of vol: 14 Locals and international**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

The Maasai tribe (or Maasai) is a unique and popular tribe due to their long preserved culture. Despite education, civilization and western cultural influences, the Maasai people have clung to their traditional way of life, making them a symbol of Kenyan culture.

Maasai's distinctive culture, dress style and strategic territory along the game parks of Kenya and Tanzania have made them one of East Africa's most internationally famous tourist attractions.

The Maasai people reside in both Kenya and Tanzania, living along the border of the two countries. They are a smaller tribe, accounting for only about 0.7 percent of Kenya's population, with a similar number living in Tanzania. Maasai's speak Maa, a Nilotic ethnic language from their origin in the Nile region of North Africa.

The Samburu tribe is the closest to the Maasai in both language and cultural authenticity.

Through rituals and ceremonies, including circumcision, Maasai boys are guided and mentored by their fathers and other elders on how to become a warrior. Although they still live their carefree lives as boys - raiding cattle, chasing young girls, and game hunting - a Maasai boy must also learn all of the cultural practices, customary laws and responsibilities he'll require as an elder.

The wildlife, culture, conservation and education village centre offers volunteers the ultimate opportunity to explore, learn and interact with the Maasai community and their culture. The Mara conservation gives them a platform to serve, interact and also live like the Maasai people. Above all, the Conservancy is managed according to a model that protects the delicate eco-system and benefits the landowners who are the Maasai people.

The wild life, culture, conservation and education in Kenya is home to the big cats situated on the mararienda most point of the Greater Mara Ecosystem; borders the Olchorro Oliroua Conservancy to the south, and MMNC to the East. The important focus of the conservancy is livestock improvement through innovative cattle management programs, running alongside novel tourism projects.

The habitat comprises wooded acacia savannah with open plains on flat plateaus, riverine acacia forest and rocky, undulating hills which provide a varied habitat for browsing and grazing ungulates, as well as hideout thickets for the predators. The Mara River runs alongside the conservancy. There is a large number of giraffe and resident buffalo that live close to the Olerai boundary along the Mara River. Elephants frequent the conservancy and there is a pride of lion based on the edge of oloisukut. There are many hippos and crocodiles in the section of the river that borders the conservancy and the riverine forests which provide an



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area popular with leopards. Rare species such as Aardvark, Caracal, serval cat and Aardwolf are occasionally found. Colobus monkeys have been spotted in the valleys on the Kileleoni Hill and there have also been sightings of wild dog in Enonkishu. There is no doubt that Mara Osero offers an incredible game viewing experience.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

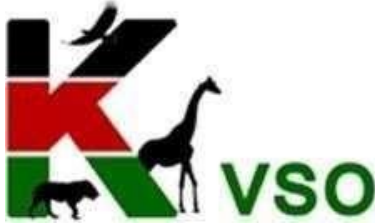
- Animal conservation
  - ✓ Regular ground patrols and safari walk
  - ✓ Identifying animal species found within the area
  - ✓ Identify and name indigenous plants and uses
  - ✓ Monitoring wildlife movement
- Cultural
  - ✓ Experience Maasai way of life
  - ✓ Control cattle grazing, milking and caring for cattles
  - ✓ Maintenance, building and renovation of the manyatta houses
- **School teaching programme**
  - ✓ Teaching lessons and playing with kids
  - ✓ Planting of trees
    - Gardening and land scaping
    - Outreach programme in the local dispensary.
    - Extra activities learning life skills bead work, cooking using fire wood e.t.c
    - Ensure upkeep of the conservancy
    - Work with other stake holders in ensuring up keep of the conservancy
    - Extra activities Bird watching for interested volunteers.

Other activities depending on the interest of the volunteers:

- Promoting Sustainable Tourism
- Teach English in local school
- Assisting in the local hospitals
- Clean-up campaigns and planting trees in school and community
- Engaging the surrounding communities in protecting their cultural heritage
- Fostering dialogue and interaction between local communities
- Disseminate information about Maasai Mara
- Raise awareness to the local community
- Train and empower the community and preserve and promote natural heritage

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the **13<sup>th</sup> of July 2025** at KVSO offices or hostels and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation will be conducted by our local staff in Nairobi and cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenyan customs, language and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your



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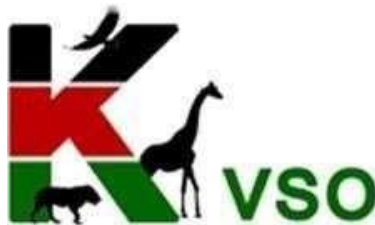
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project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### **ARRIVAL TERMINAL**

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**Code: KVSO 06/01**

**Project name: KVSO Kaimosi Special School Project,**

**Project type: Education/disability**

**Project dates: 4th August 2025 – 25th February 2025**

**Duration: 6 months**

**Location: Kaimosi, Vihiga County - KENYA**

**Community: Luhya**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of vol: 19 Locals and international**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Kaimosi Special School was established and founded missionaries from Quakers Friends church in the year 1987 with an aim of empowering the disabled people (both mentally and physically challenged) from the communities around and give them basic education and hope for future life as well as to be self-reliant and be integrated into the society. Currently the School hosts about 104 disabled people who are children and young adults and ranges from the age of 6 years to about 32 years and they are from all parts of Kenya. Most of these people are autistic, down syndrome, mentally challenged, multiple handicapped and epileptic and therefore they are engaged to different classes according to their disabilities and their level of understanding and so the school offer lessons to them in different classes such as Autism class, Foundation class, intermediate class, prevocational and vocational class. The school is now a full boarding national school which is owned by the government of Kenya and the friend's Quaker church.

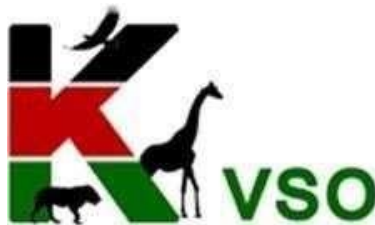
### ACTIVITIES

- The volunteers will be involved in the following areas:
- Helping in preparation of meals, serving and feeding the children
- Engaging in farm work activities of the school and general cleaning
- Helping in nursing services such as taking care of the sick and giving them medicine
- Engaging in dressmaking and tailoring
- Training children vocational skills such as agriculture, weaving, tailoring, carpentry and bead work
- Playing together with children through extracurricular activities such a sports and dance
- Assisting with physiotherapy skills
- Assisting in mobility
- Organizing and Giving guiding and counselling sessions
- Taking them to events outside the school such as music and sports

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the **3<sup>rd</sup> of August 2025** at KVSO offices or hostels and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation center which will be conducted by our local staff in Nairobi and cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenyan customs, language and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and

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Placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

This project will provide opportunities for international volunteers to learn/ enjoy local life and exchange with local people, making a while experience life through the eyes of the locals and exploring the great seven wonders of Maasai Mara National Game Reserve. Volunteers will enjoy the beautiful savannah. Numerous plains games including antelopes, wild beasts, zebras, Maasai giraffes can be seen as well as scavengers like hyena and vulture. Volunteers will have the chance to take a guided safari on a weekend trip to go deeper into the Maasai Mara reserve to spot lions, gazelles and water buffalo.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

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**Code: KVSO 07/01**

**Project name: KVSO Kasaala Secondary School project,**

**Project type: Education Program**

**Project dates: 4th July 2025 – 4th July 2025**

**Duration: 12 months**

**Location: KITUI - KENYA**

**Community: Kamba**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of vol: 16 Locals and international**

**Disabled: No**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Kasaala Primary School is a Public Primary school. It is located in Kitui South Constituency, Kasaala Location, Ikutha Division within the Kitui District of Kitui County in the Eastern Province of Kenya. It is a Day and boarding school for both Boys and Girls that caters to Ordinary Students. Learning is carried out through a Kenyan Curriculum.

The school is located near Tsavo east national park and they are also involved in wildlife and environmental conservation practices.

The school has young adults between the ages of 13 to 18 years old.

### MAIN WORK ACTIVITIES

Volunteers will be involved in the following activities:

- Project work in schools: teaching English language, computer skills, creative arts, participation in cultural events, sports and games
  - Environmental awareness, planting of trees, transfer of seedling, conservation
  - In orphanages: sports, games, theatre, computer lessons, basic education, workshops, music and intercultural events and guiding, counseling, nursing care
  - And many others such as: social investigation, art therapy, home visits, record management, report writing, primary school teaching, horticultural activities, dairy management, general gardening, maintenance and policy development.
-

### **ACCOMMODATION AND FOOD**

Volunteers will stay with the host families. Meals will be prepared by community members with the help of volunteers.

### **ORIENTATION**

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 3rd of July 2025 at KVS0 offices or hostels and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation center which will be conducted by our local staff in Nairobi and cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenyan customs, language and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### **LEISURE**

You can visit Tsavo East National Park and do a safari.





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Tsavo is made up of two separate parks, Tsavo East National Park and Tsavo West National Park. Located in Coast Province of Kenya in between Nairobi City and Mombasa. Tsavo is nearly 22,000km<sup>2</sup>, being the largest national park in Kenya and one of the largest in the world. The park was split into two due to the railway going from Mombasa to the interior of Kenya. Tsavo East National Park is one of the oldest parks in Kenya, located South East of Kenya near the Town of Voi in the Taita-Taveta District of Coast Province, inland from the Coast, it is 13,747 sq.km. While the Tsavo West National Park is also located in the Coast Province of Kenya covering an area of 9,065 sq.km. The park was opened in April 1948.

Tsavo remained the homeland for Akamba and Maasai pastoralists and Waata hunter-gatherers until 1948, when it was gazetted a national park. At that time, the indigenous populations were relocated to Voi and Mtito Andei as well as other locations within the nearby Taita Hills. Following Kenyan independence in 1963, hunting was banned in the park and management of Tsavo was turned over to the authority that eventually became the Kenya Wildlife Service. Tsavo currently attracts photo-tourists from all over the world interested in experiencing the vastness of the wilderness and incredible terrain.

- Tsavo East Features

The slightly larger Tsavo East is generally flat, with dry plains across which the Galana River flows. Other features include the Yatta Plateau and Lugard Falls. The prolific bird life features 500 recorded species.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

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**Code: KVS0 08/01**

**Name: Tujitahidi Women Community Development Self Help Group**

**Type: Environmental / Culture**

**Project dates: 01/08/25 – 01/08/25**

**Duration: 12 Months**

**Location of the camp: Kaimosi, Vihiga County**

**Community: Luhya**

**Languages: English & Kiswahili**

**Number of volunteers: 15**

**Disabled: Yes**

**Age: 18+**

### BACKGROUND

Tujitahidi self Help Group, a non-profit initiative that is based on the community development which was started by joint women in Mulundu village and its neighbors(found in Kaimosi,Vihiga county of Kenya), due to increase in poverty and illiteracy in the village as a result of cultural influence. Tujitahidi literally means 'let's work hard' had a main aim of improving peoples life in the community especially the vulnerable as well as linking the community with other players in order to address the challenges faced by the local community. The mission of this organization is concerned with the well-being of children, women, widows, widowers, men and youths who are disadvantaged due to their economic, social and cultural background. We want to build a healthy, transformed, and interactive community. The project has two women group whereby one deals with women who are affected or infected by HIV/AIDS and another one dealing with empowerment of women in various areas. The women groups are involved with the following activities;

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## MAIN ACTIVITIES

- Empowering the women through involving them in agriculture activities whereby they keep poultry and do some farm work. Through this, the women are self-reliable by selling their produce there by earn a living and support their families.
- The women practice table banking. This empowers the women to get a certain amount of money which they may use it to start a small scale business or uses the money to pay school fees for their children.
- Helping in construction of houses for the vulnerable and widows, families and the old people who are not able to improve their housing facilities. This depend with the availability of funds and willingness of the members of the group by contributing with building materials
- Organize community reach out with community health volunteers for HIV/AIDS campaign especially for young people.
- The women group has a kindergarten for children aged 2-5yrs from poor families especially from single parent families.
- Organizing life skill sessions with the children in order to nurture them and live positive life while avoiding drug abuse and engaging in bad groups
- The women group involve in sport competition against other women groups from neighboring communities
- There is a special school in the village and sometimes the group visits and help with some activities such as;
  - ✓ Clearing the bushes and general cleaning of the school
  - ✓ Bringing along other kids to play with the disabled kids so that they feel part of the society





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- ✓ Help the kids with mobility
- ✓ Preparation and serving of meals
- ✓ Washing clothes for the disabled

### LANGUAGE

English is the official language of the work camp.

### ACCOMMODATION

Volunteers will be living in the orphanage or host family; there is toilet tap water. Electricity is available.

### ORIENTATION

Orientation will begin in the morning of the 30th July 2025 at KVSO offices and you will be picked up from accommodation and taken to the orientation center which will be conducted by KVSO staff at Nairobi and will cover everything you need to know about your project placement. Introduction to Kenya and Luhya land, Luhya customs, and expectations, safety, travel opportunities in Kenya, introduction to your project and placement. The orientation will also give you a chance to meet other volunteers and swap contact details for weekend travel and socializing.

### LEISURE ACTIVITY

There will be an opportunity to visit the town any time at your free time, play soccer and participate in other community activities. They will be an opportunity to visit the vast and most beautiful Kakamega forest with different species of birds and colobus monkeys. Sunset and sunrise sighting. Visit Kisumu city in Lake Victoria for boat ride, hippo search and Dunga hill camp.

### ARRIVAL TERMINAL

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MAMA NGINA ST.  
00100 NAIROBI KENYA  
+254720803531  
INFO@KVSOKENYA.ORG

**KVSO** is willing to welcome your motivated volunteers!

### CONTACT US!

kvsokenya@gmail.com  
+254 72.08.03.531  
P.O Box 35232 Norwich Union 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Mama Ngina Street  
00100 NAIROBI  
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