



Special
Volunteer Issue

Medical Volunteers Needed

The children of NPH come from a variety of backgrounds, many of which lead to possible negative outcomes on their health, such as chronic illness like HIV, Diabetes, developmental delays, physical and mental disabilities, and a lack of appropriate childhood vaccinations.

International volunteers are a vital part of the healthcare system of NPH, as we strive to provide excellent healthcare to our children. Volunteers assist the local staff in daily tasks in the clinics, or provide the necessary therapies to the children. Volunteers often develop educational sessions on

various topics for the children, childcare providers and to the healthcare staff as appropriate. Flexibility and creativity are essential in all volunteer positions in our homes, as resources are limited and vary from country to country.

The standard commitment for a long term volunteer with NPH is 13 months. This may vary based on need. Please know that the availability of these positions listed below may change. For an updated list of current needs, please see the Volunteer section of our website, www.nph.org or contact your local office as identified on our website.



Physician/Nurse Practitioner

A volunteer physician or nurse practitioner assists the local physician in providing the best healthcare possible to the children, using the NPHI Health Policy and Health Manual as a guide to their practice. Volunteer providers often assist with consults, health education for the children and staff, and provide continuing education to local staff as appropriate.

Honduras: 13 months, **Immediate! Assisting local doctor.**

Haiti/St. Helene: 13 months, **February 2012.**

Guatemala: 13 months, **January 2013, Assisting local doctor.**



Registered Nurse

Most NPH clinics have nursing staff available 24 hours a day. Volunteer nurses assist the local staff in basic nursing duties, such as taking pre-consult vital signs, administering medications for acute and chronic illnesses, caring for sick children that are admitted in the clinic, and may be asked to assist with special projects such as vaccination and nutrition programs. Since doctors are only available during certain hours, the nurses may attend to emergencies as they occur, and transport children to hospitals if necessary.

Haiti/St. Helene: 13 months, **Immediate! Nurse/clinical assistant duties.**

Honduras: 13 months, **January 2012**

Bolivia: 13 months, **January 2012**

Haiti/Fr. Wasson Angels of Light: 13 months, **August 2012**



Clinic Assistant

The desired candidate has strong sensitivity for the medical needs of the young orphaned population, as well as the willingness to meet those needs as appropriate, including hours outside of the regular work day when necessary. Strong team working and intercultural cooperation skills. Main duties will be supporting the local clinic staff in their efforts to follow the NPHI Health Policy. Training and supporting the local clinic staff in terms of accurate record keeping and documentation. Supporting, training and empowering the local clinic staff to improve follow up for the chronically ill population of the orphanage (yellow zone children). Supporting the local clinic staff on improving data collection and documentation skills.

Dominican Republic: 13 months, **December 2011**, could be a physician or nurse.
 Nicaragua: 13 months, **January 2012**, could be a physician or nurse.
 Mexico: 13 months, **July 2012**.



Occupational Therapist

Occupational therapists give individualized attention to children in need of special attention to improve their abilities to carry out their daily activities. They work with children of all ages, starting with developmentally delayed young children through young adults. Some of the homes have an occupational therapy classroom available, which is filled with materials, art supplies, and games. The job requires patience and dedication to the children who are being served and a willingness to teach others how to best serve the needs of these children (both in school and in their home).

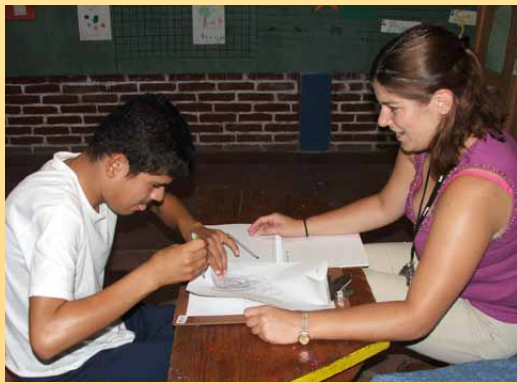
Haiti / Kay St. Germaine: at least 6 months, **Immediate (experienced)**
 Dominican Republic: 13 months, **Immediate**
 Peru: 13 months, **Immediate (two positions available)**
 Guatemala: 13 months, **January 2012 (two positions available)**
 Honduras: 13 months, **January 2012**
 Nicaragua: 13 months, **July 2012**



Physical Therapist

As our children come from varied backgrounds, their physical therapy needs vary greatly. We have many children with severe physical disabilities, and others have more minor needs. Physical therapists will work with all ages, from young infants to elderly patients in some cases. As a result of former severe malnutrition, HIV infections or abuse, many of our children are developmentally delayed. Their physical progress is assessed and exercises prescribed for their caregivers to improve the motor-sensory development. Creativity and resourcefulness are essential skills for PT's working in our homes, as the availability of equipment varies from home to home.

Haiti / Kay St. Germaine: 13 months, **Immediate (experienced)**
 Dominican Republic: 13 months, **Immediate**
 Guatemala: 13 months, **January 2012 (two positions available)**
 Peru: 13 months, **January 2012**
 Honduras: 13 months, **January 2012**
 Nicaragua: 13 months, **July 2012**



Speech-Language Pathologist

The Speech-Language Pathologist generally works in the on-site school and in the baby house providing various types of therapy to children and young adults. The types of disorders include cognitive disorders, language delay, phonological/articulation disorders, fluency, and developmental delays. Therapy can be done in a one-on-one or group setting depending on the severity of the disorder.

Haiti / Kay St. Germaine: at least 6 months, **Immediate (experienced)**

Honduras: 13 months, **January 2012**

Peru: 13 months, **January 2012**



Art Therapist

The role of the art therapist is to assist in identifying children in need of therapy, and to provide therapy as appropriate for children, many of whom come to our home with a history of violence (physical, sexual, or verbal), or are struggling with a chronic illness, such as HIV. The art therapist uses the characteristics and possibilities of art as a way to communicate and express thoughts and feelings, both of which some of our children struggle with. The art therapist helps children to recognize, guide, survive, reduce or accept emotional, social, cognitive and psychomotor problems. The therapist works individually and in groups with children and teenagers.

Nicaragua: 13 months, **January 2012**



Caregiver in Special Needs Home

Must have experience working with children with disabilities, healthcare aid or special education teacher. This volunteer will be working in Casa St. Mathias, a home for disabled children. Job responsibilities include feeding, bathing, dressing, positioning, administering medications, and making the children as comfortable as possible. The volunteer will work with other caregivers and therapists to perform therapies as appropriate.

Dominican Republic: 13 months, **February 2012**



Clinical Psychologist

A licensed Psychologist with additional clinical/therapy, with experience working with children with a history of challenging social backgrounds such as trauma, neglect, sexual abuse, domestic violence and/or chronic health conditions (HIV, organ failure/transplantation, cancer, and scoliosis) as well as physical handicap(s) will support the local psychologist and work under his/her direction in the areas in need. Strong team working and intercultural - cooperation skills are fundamental.

Guatemala: 13 months, **January 2012**

Honduras: 13 months, **January 2012**

Dominican Republic: 13 months, **July 2012**



NPFI Excellence in Healthcare

For more information contact:

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