

2019-2020

THE HOPE FOUNDATION
HOPE
WORKING WITH STREET & SLUM CHILDREN



VOLUNTEER IN INDIA

Charity number: SC038809

“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.” — Gandhi

What is the HOPE Volunteer Placement Programme?

The Hope Foundation Volunteer Placement Programme is based on the principle of providing support to our existing staff across HOPE’s projects in Kolkata working with street connected children and their families.

How long do I have to commit for?

HOPE recruits volunteers all year round, our minimum commitment is three weeks. There is no maximum time period and a lot of volunteers benefit from completing a three month placement.

What kind of role will I have on HOPE’s projects?

As we are not recruiting to fill specific job vacancies (all required positions are filled by local staff), we emphasize to all applicants that you will be operating in a supporting role based on the requirements of HOPE’s projects, rather than a managerial one, and would be required to follow the guidance of local HOPE staff and the staff of our partner organisations.

Your role will require collaboration between yourself and the team in Kolkata. The skills you bring will shape your time here, as well as other more general skills that may be required to meet the needs of HOPE during your stay. Please talk to the HOPE UK team about any roles you are looking for and we will communicate it to the volunteer coordinator in India.

HOPE’s main areas of work are Child Protection Homes, Education, Healthcare and Community Projects.





What kind of skills is HOPE looking for?

Based on the programmes that HOPE runs, there is a great variety of skills that would make a successful volunteer. Teaching, sports, drama, arts are among the skills that would be welcomed at the protection homes. Healthcare professionals can seek opportunities within HOPE hospital as well as support our health care initiatives with our Community Projects team. Teachers can work at HOPE's education centres across the city and at the protection homes.

If you prefer an office environment, we also welcome professionals from any background that can contribute to our two local offices in Kolkata. In previous years, this has included lawyers, HR professionals, market researchers and social media experts.

Please note that you require Indian professional qualifications to practice areas in such as medicine/law in India – UK qualifications are not sufficient. Tell us what you can bring and we will find a solution for you!

What are the costs involved in a placement?

Volunteers are required to pay their own travel costs (flights, visas, vaccinations and insurance). We also ask all our volunteers to fundraise towards HOPE's projects prior to departure to help contribute to the sustainability of our programmes in Kolkata. The amount of fundraising required is dependent on the length of your placement. Details of fundraising amounts can be found on the Volunteer Programme Application Form. The minimum amount of fundraising required regardless of length of stay starts at £1,800.

What does HOPE provide to volunteers?

HOPE provides all volunteers with a role in Kolkata and preparation support; information ahead of departure, a survival guide to life in Kolkata, accommodation and ongoing supervision and support while in India. Local volunteer coordinators arrange volunteer meetings, help with your timetable through submission of weekly reports, as well as address any other concerns you may have.

How do I apply for a volunteer placement with HOPE?

If you would like to apply for the HOPE Volunteer Placement Programme, please get in touch. As all placements are subject to interview, submission of paperwork/visa, fundraising, flight booking and likely vaccinations – applicants should apply at least 3-6 months in advance of your proposed departure date to allow time for all of the above.



GET IN TOUCH TODAY!

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