

## **Description of Orphanage Volunteer Project**

The high mortality rate for mothers during childbirth, as well as the short life expectancy in general, leaves thousands of children without parents each year. As a result, most of these needy children are deprived of education and find work as child labourers in restaurants, factories, hotels, slaves, and as trash collectors. These disadvantaged children need attention, love, care, and the opportunity to further their education. Orphanages provide these kids with daily meals, a bed, and some hope with education.

Volunteer work at the orphanage is a great opportunity to experience the obstacles and rewards of serving helpless children. Volunteers will be placed either in the orphanages or in the host family near to the orphanages, where they will spend most of the time with the children, assisting them in their day-to-day routines.

The children are mostly between the ages of four and fifteen and have a basic understanding of English. The general role of the volunteer will be to act as an older sibling: to care for, look after and encourage the children. Volunteers will teach the children general life skills, including health and sanitation, as well as arts, crafts and music. They may also help the children with their schoolwork. As a volunteer, you may also organize tours, games, drawing classes, singing, dancing, painting and other activities that children enjoy.

### **A typical day at the children's home looks as follows**

- Assist with breakfast and getting the children off to school in the morning;
- Help out with organizing and cleaning up the house;
- Assist the children with their home work after school  
Play with the children, either just games or educational;
- Read with the children;
- Assist with dinner and getting the children to bed; In general, spend time with the children and the caregivers.