



Volunteering Opportunities for Schools

Building homes, communities and hope.

Building Foundations

We believe it all starts at home.

A safe and decent home provides much more than bricks and mortar. It's the foundation for families to be healthier, happier and more secure, and leads to stronger communities that can then grow and sustain themselves.

Habitat for Humanity Australia has changed the lives of families in Australia and around the world. We provide people living in poverty with safe, secure housing and the means to support themselves.

With a safe and stable home, access to clean water and a hygienic toilet, families have a clear path to a brighter future.

A clean dry space means less illness and is the perfect place for children to study or parents to run a business.

This means economic security and gives families every chance of breaking the cycle of poverty. While we're building, we're also training and giving local communities the expertise and knowledge they can then share with others.

It's a 'pay it forward' model and the beginning of generational change. Much of the work we do is made possible thanks to the work of volunteers through the Global Village Program.

Each year we send more than 600 volunteers overseas to work alongside families to help build a new home and a new future.



About us

Habitat for Humanity Australia (HFHA) is a not-for-profit organisation that builds homes, communities and hope.

Our vision is a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live.

Our work extends beyond building and repairing houses – it also addresses land security, gives communities access to clean water and sanitation, provides education and training, and offers families in desperate need real hope for the future. To ensure lasting, sustainable change and to break the cycle of poverty for good, we take an approach that is holistic, community based and focuses on empowering families.

HFHA works to alleviate global poverty by developing long term, sustainable solutions that provide a **'hand up, not a hand out'**. Our partner families help with the building process, by joining volunteers and local tradespeople to build their own home. We call this 'sweat equity'. They also repay a low interest loan and undertake financial literacy training.

Global Village (GV), our international volunteering program, offers an exciting opportunity for your students to learn about another culture, travel to destinations that are off the tourist track and enhance the ongoing work of Habitat for Humanity. It also gives an insight into international community development. The Global Village Program is a vital part of Habitat for Humanity's work.

Countries Available

- Vietnam
- Cambodia
- Nepal
- Fiji
- Indonesia

The Global Village program can be customised to meet your school's individual curriculum needs. Habitat for Humanity can work with you to develop an itinerary with appropriate travel or cultural activities to suit your schools objectives, whether they be cultural awareness, community engagement initiatives or charitable service. Several schools have chosen to offer a Global Village build to fulfil a Gold Duke of Edinburgh Award component or an International Baccalaureate service requirement.

Some of the schools involved in our programs

- SCEGGS Darlinghurst NSW
- Abbotsleigh, NSW
- Baulkham Hills High School, NSW
- Moama Anglican Grammar School, NSW
- Faith Lutheran College, SA
- Concordia College, SA
- Immanuel College, SA
- Prince Alfred College, SA
- St Peters Girls, SA
- Scotch College, VIC
- Beaconhills College, VIC



About the program

Give your students the unique opportunity to see the world and help others by volunteering through our Global Village program.

Working together with the community, teachers and each other, volunteering enables students to strengthen important skills such as teamwork, leadership and communication.

Under staff supervision, students can take part in all aspects of the construction process, from laying bricks to mixing cement and painting. All volunteers are briefed with onsite safety training to ensure everyone stays healthy and happy during the week. Local Habitat for Humanity staff also provide support and supervision at all times while on the worksite.

The Global Village program is a great form of community service and is compatible with both the Duke of Edinburgh Award and the International Baccalaureate.

School teams are encouraged to organise their own fundraising activities and partake in planning their trip, making for a holistic and rewarding experience for all.

A Global Village volunteer experience is a highly personal and reflective journey that will help your students gain an appreciation of life in the developing world. School leavers are also able to take part in volunteer trips to celebrate finishing school, while helping families in need.

FAST FACTS:

Trip dates:

7 days from Saturday afternoon to the following Saturday morning.

Registration fee:

\$200

Fundraising goal per student:

\$1,000

Trip costs per student:

Estimated between \$750-1,000 in-country expenses, *including all accommodation, meals, transport etc.* Cost varies depending on location.

Set up timeline:

It will take us between 4-6 months to curate a build for your team, from registration and fundraising to your return home.

Max team size: No team is too big!

Minimum team size: 12. We recommend 1 teacher, parent or guardian to attend for every 5 students.

Minimum age: 15

The Opportunity

The Global Village Program gives schools the opportunity to take a team of students to work alongside a community to assist in achieving one family’s dream of having a safe and decent home. Each team fundraises to support Habitat For Humanity programs and spends a week on a Habitat project in the Asia Pacific region.

Under the supervision of skilled workers and Habitat staff, students utilise their talents, willingness to learn and muscles to get involved in every aspect of construction from mixing cement, laying bricks, hanging doors and raising walls. By spending a week discovering a culture different to their own, students see firsthand the challenges of poverty and play an active role in a solution. Habitat for Humanity provides an orientation to each team on their arrival covering the issues faced by local communities and how Habitat is working with them to provide a solution. **A Global Village build is an opportunity for students to develop leadership and teamwork skills**, while discovering more about the world and giving back to a community in need. After 5 days of working on site, the team can see the impact they have made through building, working as a team and collaborating with the local community. **This is a truly unique personal growth opportunity** allowing students to implement the teachings and values they have gained in the classroom in a meaningful and impactful way. Teams have the opportunity to participate in local cultural activities such as cooking classes in Vietnam or traditional dance demonstrations in Nepal. Historically significant sights can also be added to your itinerary, for example a trip to the Killing Fields in Cambodia or local temples.

Sample Itinerary for a build in Phnom Penh Cambodia

Sat 7	Sun 8	Mon 9	Tues 10	Wed 11	Thurs 12	Fri 13	Sat 14	
Team Arrival	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	
	Visit to National Museum of Cambodia	Leave Hotel						
		Arrive build - site safety & orientation 8:45am						
		Work / Break / Work						
	Lunch at Romdeng training restaurant	Lunch				Farewell Lunch with family and local workers		Depart
Genocide Museum	Work			Visit to past home partner and complete Habitat Project	Work	House Dedication Ceremony		
	Break				Break			
	Work and Clean Up				Work and Clean Up			
	Leave Worksite				Leave Worksite			

Example partner family profile



Ranuki is 47 years old, and lives with her husband and three adult children in Pipaltar village, Kavre. Pipaltar is a poor village of around 100 houses.

The village was completely destroyed in the April and May earthquakes in Nepal. Houses were made from sundried bricks joined with mud mortar. Most were two stories, and couldn't stand up to the earthquakes.

Ranuki was outside her house when the earthquake struck. Ranuki finds it hard to describe how she feels about what happened. She says it was a very difficult time. Four days after the earthquake, Habitat for Humanity came to assess the damage and see how they could help. Ranuki says that as many as eight families were sheltering under one tarpaulin each night.

The villagers have now been provided with temporary shelters, while they start the long process of permanent rebuilding. One positive thing to come from the earthquake has been bringing the community together.

Before people only thought of their own families, but now they are all working together as a team.

When Australian Global Village volunteers arrived, the community was busy with clearing and building roads. The volunteers joined them in using the rubble to stabilise slopes to prevent landslides, and to widen the access roads so that they could bring in building materials to prepare for house construction. Each family in the village is contributing 200 hours of sweat equity towards their future homes. Some work hard passing rocks, building roads and demolishing houses. Others cook lunch and bring water for the 100 plus people working each day.

Ranuki is hopeful that, with further volunteer help, everyone will have a new house soon.

Example itinerary

Saturday 9th December

Arrive in Kathmandu

Your adventure begins today with your arrival in Kathmandu. We will arrange your transfer from Tribhuvan International Airport to your hotel, where you can take some time to unpack and unwind. Take yourself on a walk to acquaint yourself with the city before heading back to your hotel for dinner. You'll meet your fellow volunteers, your team leader and the Habitat for Humanity coordinator who will be accompanying you for the week. This is your opportunity to get to know one another and get excited to spend the week working together.

Sunday 10th December

Take in the local culture

Today, Habitat for Humanity will arrange for you to spend the morning seeing Kathmandu. In the afternoon you will travel to the East region, where you will settle into your accommodation for the week. After some R&R, you'll reconvene for dinner, where Habitat for Humanity staff will give you a thorough orientation for the week ahead, including construction safety and building tips. Make sure you have a good rest to prepare for your first day on site!

Monday 11th December

Begin construction and repairs

Arriving on the site for your first day of construction and repairs you'll meet the community whom you will be helping, and will have the opportunity to learn about their stories. The construction supervisor and local labourers will show you the ropes, and you can get started with your work. There will be rest breaks for morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea, which will all be provided on site. You can stop for a drink of water and a break as often as you need. At the end of the day, you'll enjoy a team dinner and a well-earned rest!

Tuesday 12th - Thursday 14th December

Full days of construction & repairs with your teammates

On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, you'll see all your hard work pay off, and you'll be amazed at how much can be achieved in just one week. From splitting bamboo to mixing cement and rendering walls (just to name a few) there are plenty of ways to contribute. Throughout the week, make the most of your chance to chat with members of the community and learn about how their lives are in the community. Each night we will take you to some local restaurants, where you can unwind with the team and get to know one another better.



Example itinerary

Friday 15th December

Handover ceremony and farewell lunch

The final day of building is emotional for everyone involved. You'll finish up the last of your work and have a farewell celebration with the community. You will reflect together on the week you've spent together and the contribution that you have all made. This is the time to celebrate all your hard work and imagine the new life that the partner families will have thanks to your efforts. Be sure to bring tissues – there won't be a dry eye in the house. You'll share a final meal with everyone on site before saying farewell.

Saturday 16th December

Conclusion of the build

Today we will take you back to Kathmandu, where you will depart for home or further adventures. You might like to combine your build with travel to other overseas destinations or indulge in some well-deserved R&R. Although your trip has come to a close, you will be left with amazing memories and long lasting friendships that will keep the experience alive.

Not the itinerary you're looking for?

We can customise your build to suit your needs. We understand that every school has different needs when it comes to their students and we're happy to work with you to create an experience that suits you.





Costs

COST TYPE	AMOUNT	WHAT'S INCLUDED
Registration fee	\$200	This amount covers medical and evacuation insurance, your online fundraising page and a build pack to get you on your way.
Minimum Fundraising contribution	\$1,000	This contribution is tax deductible and we encourage you to fundraise this amount. This donation is be split between Habitat Australia and the Habitat host country to fund life changing projects, like your build.
In-country expenses Varies for each country	\$750 - \$1000	These expenses can be fundraised but are not tax deductible. This amount will go towards the budget the Team Leader and the Habitat host country will devise to cover your accommodation, meals, bottled water, ground transportation and local activities.

Flights, visa, vaccinations, travel insurance and personal expenses aren't included in your Global Village trip costs. Not all Global Village trip costs are refundable, please see the Habitat Cancellation Policy on the last page

How we'll help you fundraise

Reaching your \$1,000 target may sound daunting, especially if your students haven't done much fundraising before. You needn't worry though – you'll be amazed at how generous people can be, and we'll be there to help every step of the way. We'll support your fundraising efforts by providing you with:

- A customisable online fundraising page to collect donations.
- Access to our fundraising toolkit, which includes our best tips and resources.
- A Habitat T-Shirt, hat and lanyard so your students can fundraise in style
- Regular updates and reminders to make sure you're on track.

Volunteer insight



To name one best part is far too hard. From the moment you land until the moment you farewell your new friends' goodbye, is an incredibly unique experience like no other.

We live in a country where everything is accessible and easy for us. I found myself feeling like I wanted something else from life and when I heard that a friend had gone overseas to build a house for a family in need, I was reminded of the fact that not all of us are so lucky. Not all of us have a house to live in, safe water to drink and a stomach that is constantly full. I knew this would be a beautiful and heartwarming adventure to travel overseas and help to improve a family's quality of life.

You will be surprised at how much you can bring to a whole community living in Poverty. You will work hard with an amazing and supportive team, build memories as well as a house together.

Don't even hesitate, grab your mates or come on your own. It doesn't matter, you will instantly become part of the team the moment you arrive.

Lisa Divall, Volunteer, 35

I was drawn to volunteering with Habitat because I wanted to help empower people to take control of their lives and have brighter futures.

Unfortunately, it took me 12 or so years before I actually put my words into action. After having done one build, I know it definitely won't be my last.

The best part of the build is meeting the partner family and knowing that you are making a difference in their lives. The family worked alongside us and worked just as hard as the volunteers. It is also incredibly rewarding seeing an actual physical structure in front of you at the end of the build that your team built from scratch. I was also lucky enough to go with a close friend and colleague and come out of the experience with a new partner.

After the 2015 earthquakes in Nepal, I believe it is all the more important to help the people in the vulnerable region construct stronger, resilient houses. Be open to making new friends and get one of the best gifts of all, the ability to change someone's life.

Alex Sieniarski, Everest Build

Safety is our priority

Habitat for Humanity Australia is committed to the health and safety of volunteers, construction workers, home partners and Habitat staff

Habitat for Humanity International has a number of policies and procedures in place concerning Global Village build teams including standards for staff training, construction safety, emergency management plans and communications, accommodation, transport and team orientations.

Habitat for Humanity Australia has a risk management policy and framework which is reviewed regularly. This covers health and safety, disaster and emergency response and includes monitoring and evaluation project visits by Habitat Australia staff. DFAT travel advisories are also monitored on a continual basis. All Global Village participants are covered by Habitat for Humanity's insurance policies which cover medical treatment (including pandemic), medical evacuation, security/political evacuation and natural disaster evacuation.

Health and safety provisions on site

On the first build day, a site and safety orientation is delivered by Habitat staff. In addition, each build site has:

- A well-provisioned first-aid kit readily available
- Access to medical transport services
- A doctor available on call at the hotel, 24 hours
- Personal safety equipment and safety briefings
- Designated and trained construction supervisor and volunteer coordinator
- An emergency management plan
- Plentiful supply of water, fruit and/or other snacks

More information about our risk mitigation processes is available on request.

Support

Each school team is appointed a Global Village team coordinator from the Habitat for Humanity Australia office who will support you through the planning, implementation and post build activities.

Prior to your build, your coordinator will work with you to create your itinerary, supply team member paperwork, assist with school and Board of Studies approval and provide fundraising advice and collateral. The Global Village team also puts an emphasis on preparing students for their build week. This includes providing a guide to the build week, a build pack including setting expectations, and methods for dealing with culture shock.

While in country, each team is supported by a host coordinator for the duration of the build. Host coordinators are local Habitat for Humanity staff members and provide insight into how Habitat is working in the area as well as facilitating each days activities.



Next steps

STEP 1 Confirm your interest in a build

When: As soon as your school has given approval

Action: Contact us and we will call you with next steps for locations options, dates, timelines, etc.

STEP 2 Have your students register

When: Habitat will provide you a link to your campaign homepage

Action: Make sure your students register and post on social media for first donations from friends and family

STEP 3 Start Fundraising!

When: Now!

Action: Have your students log onto their online fundraising page and check out our toolkit for great fundraising ideas on how to reach and exceed their target.

STEP 4 Build Confirmation

When: 2-6 months before the build

Action: You will receive contact when each of these steps have been completed: Everyone is registered, All students have completed fundraising, All documentation has been completed, Your build week costs and registration fees have been invoiced, etc.

STEP 5 Head off and change lives!

When: First day of the build

Action: Today is the day! You'll all leave for the adventure of a lifetime.

"It's amazing seeing the difference you have made in someone's life. Helping them into a safe and secure home will change their life forever and I am so happy to have been part of it."

- Tatum O'Toole, volunteer

Cancellation policy

Habitat for Humanity will make every effort to conduct the trip as scheduled. In the event that this is not possible (due to safety concerns, security issues, COVID-19, or other reasons), Habitat for Humanity will endeavour to re-route or defer the team. If the trip must be cancelled or you can no longer take part, HFHA will work with you to find another suitable trip.

HFHA cannot compensate participants for the cost of unusable airfare or any other expenses resulting from the cancellation. Again, it is strongly recommended that team members purchase travel insurance that covers change of travel and/or country closure.

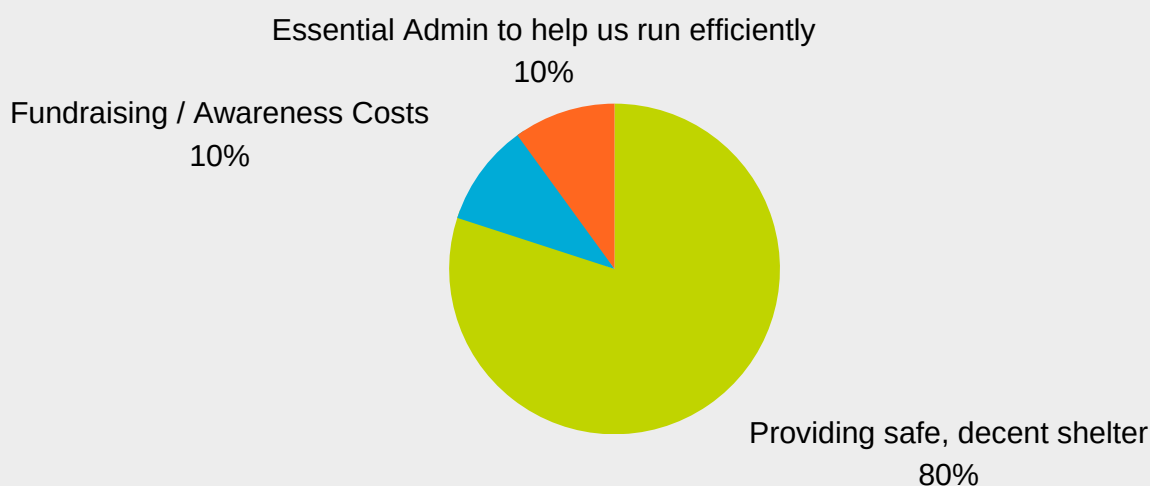
All donations received by HFHA on behalf of the volunteer are committed to the field and are non-refundable. The registration fee is refundable if for any reason HFHA cancels the build before the scheduled start date. If for any reason your team can no longer make the build the registration fee is not refundable. However it is transferable within a 12 month period to join another Global Village team.

Where does my donation go?

Each Global Village team provides a donation to the project they are working on. Without this financial help Habitat would not be able to continue its lifechanging programs.

Your financial contribution may not necessarily be used on the actual house that you will be helping to build. The excess donations go into the revolving fund that is used for the continuous building program. This means that the community may use your contribution to keep the program going even after you have left the country.

All donations over \$2 are tax deductible. Sponsors who contribute to your tax deductible donation will receive a thank you email and tax receipt from Habitat Australia.





Contact us

To find out how a Global Village build can suit your school's curriculum and engage your students please contact the Global Village team today at:

EMAIL: volunteer@habitat.org.au

CALL: 02 9919 7000

WEB: <https://helpinghands.online/schools>