

volunteering for school groups

transformative learning and
life changing experiences



through shelter, we empower

Habitat's vision is a world where everyone has a safe and decent place to live. Global Village enables students to contribute to our mission of bringing communities together to help families build strength, stability, and self-reliance through shelter. Each team fundraises to support Habitat for Humanity Australia's programs and spends a week building a house alongside the local community in the Asia Pacific region.

A Global Village build is a unique opportunity to develop leadership and teamwork skills, build intercultural competence, and engage in genuine service learning.

You will spend a week immersed in cultures very different from your own. Working in partnership with the local communities overseas, you can witness firsthand and understand the challenges of living without safe and secure housing, and play an active role in contributing to a solution.

what's included

- ✓ all meals
- ✓ hotel accommodation
- ✓ ground transportation
- ✓ build week insurance
- ✓ welcome orientation
- ✓ five days building on site
(with plenty of breaks for drinks and snacks)
- ✓ all training, tools and safety equipment
- ✓ translators
- ✓ house dedication ceremony
- ✓ social learning exchange activities



"I think this build was so eye-opening and really helped expand my world and make me a more thoughtful, conscious person."

Phoebe (student)

"It is the most AMAZING experience ever!!!"

Tiah (student)

"It's a great way to give, receive, learn, and grow."

Alex (student)



“Partnering with Habitat is great because they do all the organisation and make it all work so well.”

David (teacher)



what will i do on a build?

Your team may work on one or several houses, or you may even build a toilet or well. The work will use local construction techniques and materials. You could be mixing concrete, weaving bamboo, digging foundations, laying bricks, hammering, rendering or painting. You will be supported by skilled workers and encouraged to try new tasks, take breaks and work to your strengths.



why volunteer?

Why volunteer as a student?

- Looks great on your resume
- Work towards a Duke of Edinburgh award
- Explore career options
- Find your purpose and contribute to the global housing need
- Increase your independence and confidence

quick facts

Experience global village:

- students 15 years and older
- all fitness levels
- 1:5 teacher student ratio
- five days building
- one or more days cultural activities and
- visit to a previous build to see firsthand what a difference a safe, decent house can make



“The biggest impact on me was the final house handover. Seeing the emotion and happiness of the families was amazing and to be able to celebrate with them was special.”

Rory (student)

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 program donation	\$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, team size and itinerary	\$800 – \$1300	These expenses can be fundraised but are not tax deductible. This amount will go towards the budget the school 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 are not included in your Global Village build costs.
Not all Global Village build costs are refundable, please see the Habitat Cancellation Policy on the last page.

fundraising

How we will help you fundraise

Reaching your \$1,000 target may sound daunting, especially if you have not done much fundraising before. No need to worry though – you will be amazed at how generous people can be, and we will be there to help every step of the way. We will support your fundraising efforts by providing you with:

- Customisable online fundraising page to collect donations.
- Habitat t-shirt, hat and lanyard so you can fundraise in style.
- Our fundraising toolkit, which includes our best tips and resources.
- Regular updates, reminders, and support to make sure you are on track.

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.

I sold handmade candles, donated the money I earned umpiring games of netball as well as donations from friends and family
– Aleisha (student)

I had lots of support from family and friends, we baked and sold biscuits, and my parents' work donated generously.
– Skyler (student)



“Habitat is great, keeping students safe and setting up an environment where safety is a priority.”

Tim Bowles - Moama Anglican Grammar School Chaplain

safety

what about safety?

Habitat has a long history of working in other countries, and volunteer health and safety is our top priority.

Habitat Country Program Staff know and live in the area and help ensure a safe and valuable experience for volunteers year after year. We also follow international travel advisories closely. We do everything possible to keep volunteers safe, both on and off the work site, and your registration fee includes insurance which covers medical treatment, medical evacuation, security/political evacuation and natural disaster evacuation. However, it is up to each individual to follow the instructions of team leaders and country program coordinators for the best experience possible. Safety briefings are given both in Australia (before you leave) and in country.

health and safety provisions on site

Each build site has:

- A comprehensive first-aid kit
- Emergency vehicle on standby
- Personal safety equipment
- Safety signage and regular safety reminders
- Designated and trained construction supervisor and volunteer coordinator
- An emergency management plan
- Plentiful supply of water, fruit and/or other snacks



Global Village is such a great program, especially for young people and school students. It can give them the agency to contribute, and they will bring their learnings and experiences back home to share with their friends. (My daughter has) grown more confident. She is now willing to step out of her comfort zone a lot more. It is really good for her to have an adjustable world view.

– Lena (parent)

Cancellation



Cancellation policy

Habitat for Humanity Australia (HFHA) 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), HFHA 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 build.

HFHA cannot compensate participants for the cost of unusable airfare or any other expenses resulting from the cancellation. It is strongly recommended that school groups purchase travel insurance that covers change of travel and/or country closure.

All donations received by HFHA on behalf of the volunteer or team 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, if the cancellation is more than 60 days before the build start date, the registration fee is transferable within a 24 month period to join another Global Village team.

“I feel very relieved to have moved into this new home. When I was living in an old house, I was always worried that my hut would be blown away one day. But now I can sleep well, no matter how windy or rainy it is. I never thought my family would be able to afford this. Thank you all for helping my family and community.”

- Luch (partner family Cambodia)

FAQ's

Q. What is the minimum age requirement?

Global Village volunteers must have turned 15 before the first day on the build site.

Q. Do GV School builds follow best practices for ethical and responsible student volunteering overseas?

Absolutely! Ask for a copy of our assessment for details.

Q. Can parents come too?

Yes, and it can be an amazing experience to share. Each school has different policies on this though, and students may prefer to go it alone, so talk with them first.

Q. Where will we stay?

Where you stay will vary depending on your destination but all volunteers will stay together in a comfortable hotel, with single, twin or triple-share rooms. The Habitat team will provide daily travel to the build site.

