



What You Can Do - Volunteering

MenelikEducation is very different to most charities working in Africa. Normally, so much money is wasted on administration, monitoring, report writing, inefficient systems, etc., that very little money actually finds its way to the people who the donors wish to help. MenelikEducation in Kinshasa and has minimal local overheads. The charity deals directly with the local communities, and we help people who help themselves. The charity often acts as a catalyst to make things happen. MenelikHealth is a branch of MenelikEducation dedicated to health. We are involved in education and healthcare principally in the Democratic Republic of Congo but we also work in partnership with other organisations in:

- 1) Ethiopia,
- 2) Cameroun, and
- 3) Uganda

Public Health Projects

Public health education is essential to community development because it enables communities to understand health issues and how it could affect their wellbeing. Our volunteers have been involved in a variety of public health activities, ranging from immunisation and awareness programmes, to childbirth. We have raised funds and been given medical materials and equipments for two of our clinics but still need much more. We would like to buy some motorbikes and turn them into ambulances as in deprived areas, they are the only way for pregnant women for example and malaria patients to actually get to their local health centre which could quite a distance away.

We started a hygiene awareness campaign in schools, and MenelikEducation has now, a dedicated officer in the DRC who deals with health related matters. We hope to increase the number of health officer over the next 3 years. The health officer's visit local churches on Sundays where they give a 10 minute talk followed by a 10 minute question and answer session.

This has been a very successful programme and, for a small investment, the number of children going to the school clinic has dropped quite considerably (25%) compared to last year. Future volunteer groups, together with our health officers, will put together health guides with pictures drawn by local artists, with simple messages.



Medical Volunteers

Who?

Healthcare professionals who have had some post-training experience, mature medical or nursing students (mature or not), and retired doctors or nurses interested in community healthcare in Africa are most welcome. Also, healthcare professionals with an interest in public health issues are invited to apply. We are not able to consider medical or nursing students doing their electives as there are no sufficiently qualified staff at the health centre to supervise them. Work or travel experience in less developed countries is useful but not necessary. Please be aware that the health centre has very few facilities, and some healthcare professionals may find working there limiting and frustrating (please contact us if you need to discuss this further). Doctors and nurses are urgently required.

Placement Length:

We would prefer our medical volunteers to make a commitment of a minimum of three weeks, longer stays can be arranged. It is important to recognise that, although the volunteers will benefit enormously from their experience in Africa, our main responsibility is to provide consistent and effective assistance to the community.

Programme Coordination:

It is very important to maintain consistency and continuity in relationships, projects and work already underway and, to this end, we have a Healthcare Coordinator who will introduce arriving volunteers to the health centre and the staff there, and give them tour of the clinics we work in partnership with.

MenelikHealth Clinics

All the clinics are based in vary deprived areas and this volunteer opportunity is very much a self-directed initiative which involves evaluating the needs of the health centre with the Health Coordinator and staff, and tailoring your responsibilities to best meet these, taking into account your special skills and interests. Working hours and days off are arranged directly with the health centre staff, but a volunteer will normally work at least half a day — either mornings or afternoons — five days a week. There is also an opportunity to work on various outreach projects which can be arranged in liaison with the health centre staff. If you are interested in volunteering with MenelikHealth, please send us your resume and a covering letter to: [**volunteer@menelikpartnership.org**](mailto:volunteer@menelikpartnership.org)



Volunteering in Africa, a lifetime experience!

Experience another culture like never before while making a real difference in people's lives. You'll gain perspectives and insights into the local culture and yourself. It's an exciting and personally inspiring experience, and you'll develop memories that will be with you forever. Programmes operate in Kinshasa (DR Congo), Addis Abeba (Ethiopia), and Yaounde (Cameroun).

How much does it cost?

Volunteering cost may vary depending on local circumstances, but below is an indication of how much it may cost.

Offered: Choose from start dates year-round and lengths-of-stay from:

2-12 weeks (**longer stay may be arranged depending on project**).

Costs: Fee for a two-week programme (all inclusive) is about £1,200

Break down:

1- £150 per week accommodation and food

2- £600/£700 flight ticket

3- £200 fundraising (minimum)

Contact: info@menelikpartnership.org



Educate African Youth through Sports!

MenelikSports (MS) organises short term volunteer service trips for people who want to travel with a purpose. Volunteers will use sports as the vehicle to teach important life skills to kids in orphanages and schools while also seeing and experiencing the culture, wildlife and countryside. MS also implements sustainable after school sports programs to teach life skills and the importance of physical fitness and healthy living.

Date: June – October (Jan/Feb/Mar/Apr/May/June/July/Aug/Sept/October)

Outreach through Education

MenelikEducation offers you the opportunity to work directly with students, teachers, and community members, educating on various issues such as health, environmental conservation, and gender equality. Enjoy the support of a team of volunteers working together for 5 weeks, while traveling to rural villages, teaching at local primary and secondary schools, conducting various outreach projects in the community, and even supporting wildlife conservation. ME will enable you to surpass volunteering and become a real agent of change.



VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS REQUIRED

We intend to increase the number of countries in Africa we work with. From Admin to Practical Support here in the UK or the DRC, please get in touch if interested.

[FUNDRAISING GUIDELINES](#)

[A-Z FUNDRAISING IDEAS](#)

[ME VOLUNTEER MANUAL 2010](#)

Go back to [Home Page](#)