

MONKEY BAY MALAWI

Teaching and HIV/AIDS Education



At African Impact, we see ourselves as the on-the-ground AFRICANSPECIALISTS in volunteering. We were founded over 5 years ago in Zimbabwe and have our head office in Cape Town, South Africa, with supporting operations offices in Kenya, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia. To date we, together with our project managers out in the field, have had the privilege of sharing Africa with over 3,000 volunteers who were determined to make a difference in the amazing communities and conservation areas in which we work. And they did... and so can you...

Your volunteering mission on The Malawi Teaching and Community Development Project...
Contribute to child development and the community through assistant teaching in a rural primary school which lacks the sufficient resources, funds and teachers. Make a meaningful difference in the community, when you teach pupils on how to preserve and protect the wildlife of Malawi as well as educating them on HIV and AIDS.



African Impact

PHYSICAL ADDRESS 6 Carlton Close, Noordhoek, 7985, Cape Town, South Africa.

TELEPHONE +27217854319 Direct Line or CALL US TOLL FREE 08000988440 (UK) 18006067185 (USA)



Project Highlights:

- Assist in a rural community primary school
- Work with disadvantaged, orphaned and vulnerable children
- Educate pupils and the community at large on HIV and AIDS
- Help to uplift the community through education, health care, building projects and sports coaching
- Teach additional lessons for those children struggling to learn
- Raise awareness and understanding of wildlife and conservation in Malawi

More about our Malawi Teaching Program:

The introduction of free primary education in Malawi has seen a large increase in the number of pupils going to primary school, but this increase in access to education has also brought major infrastructure problems and a large decline in the quality of education. There are a number of rural schools that are seriously under-funded and do not have the resources or sufficient teachers for the huge number of children that attend each school. At each of the schools there is a ratio of between 150 and 200 students to each permanent teacher.

As a result, many of the children do not fit into the classrooms and have to sit on the floors to receive instruction from just one teacher. They do not receive any vital one-on-one attention and those with learning difficulties often get left behind and may even find themselves years below their fellow classmates.

Most children start formal education at primary school from the age of six. There are often mixed ages in each grade and it is not uncommon for secondary school age children to attend primary schools, as they may have started schooling late, or have been held back a year.

You will be working in one of the local schools, teaching core subjects to the children of different ages and levels. There are teachers who you will be assisting you and you may wish to focus on certain individuals, or groups to provide closer or more individual attention.

The main subject that you will teach will be English, then Math. You may get involved in other academic subjects, though this will depend on what the teacher is teaching at the time. If you are creative you can plan your own lessons to incorporate almost anything.

Your volunteer work in the primary schools will involve, but will not be restricted to:

- Assistant teaching: Provide individual attention and assistance to children during lessons
- Help with arts, crafts, painting, reading and games
- Organize special needs classes for children who have not been able to keep up with the pace of the classes



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After having spent the morning at one of the schools, you will assist in the local community in various aspects in the afternoon. You will rotate between the following community projects 4 times a week:

Extra Lessons

We recommend that you try and identify those children who would benefit from extra help, to take part in the additional afternoon lessons. You will be able to use the library and the classrooms during this time. Help the students to express their views through debates and forums, provide educational sessions and activities, whilst also creating fun and encouraging students to learn. Use song writing, short plays, poems and posters to assist them.

Development Workshops

Make posters and flyers with the children to try and raise awareness and understanding of various topics within the school and the wider community. Educate pupils on conservation and how to preserve and protect the wildlife of Malawi or advise them on HIV and AIDS. Use pictures, songs, games and dancing, while making learning easy, yet beneficial.

Computer Literacy

Educate local teachers on how to use a computer and in the future, children as well when sufficient equipment is obtained.



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Project Cost:

4 weeks: GBP925 | US\$1665

8 weeks: GBP1525 | US\$2745

Project Cost Includes:

- Project Fee: this entails financing that goes directly back into the project that you are involved with. This fee facilitates funding for items such as medical supplies, building materials, equipment, etc. Project fees are also used to buy vehicles / equipment for the project, and for developing new housing for volunteers to provide for the expansion of the project.
- All airport transfers Lilongwe International Airport upon arrival and departure (outside these dates there will be a fee of USD175).
- Comprehensive orientation program.
- All daily transfers to and from your projects during your stay.
- Full board and lodging which includes 3 meals a day at our volunteer house.
- Assistance in your projects by various Project Managers and Coordinators.
- 24 field support and contact in the case of an emergency.

Project Cost Excludes:

- Personal travel insurance for the duration of your placement, which must include cover for repatriation
- All transport by air or bus to Malawi
- All items of a personal nature, such as curios, gifts, clothing (work and other)
- E-mail / Internet and telephone calls
- Soft drinks, wines and spirits
- All visas for border crossings
- Any excursions over-and-above your planned itinerary in Malawi

Project Support:

Throughout your placement you will have the support and guidance of experienced Volunteer Coordinators, which will provide you with competent 24-hour field support and assistance.



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Project Orientation:

On your first full day in Monkey Bay, you will be given a comprehensive orientation by one of the project coordinators.

The orientation will include:

- An introduction to Malawian culture and values
- Basic local language lessons
- Your health and safety whilst in Malawi
- Workplace ethics
- Money and transportation in Malawi
- An introduction to the area, the teaching project and the staff
- Local food and practices
- Places to visit in your free time
- Excursion to the local town

Project Meals:

You will be provided with three meals a day. Breakfast is on a help-yourself basis consisting of porridge, toast, pancakes, french toast, tea and coffee. Lunch will either be a packed lunch or self service if you plan to return to the volunteer house at lunchtime. Dinner will be cooked or prepared for you by one of the cooks at your volunteer house.

We can make allowances for most dietary requirements, including vegetarians, vegans and common food allergies. In these cases, please speak to the Camp Manager or cook on arrival. However, you must take responsibility for your own allergies and carefully monitor the food that you consume. It is important that you let us and your Project Manager know of any dietary requirements that you may have before and upon arrival.

Please note: There is a fridge at the volunteer house, which is used to store the food for your meals each day and some additional drinks, which you can purchase from the staff. If you do wish to buy some of your own food/snacks and drinks, this will be fine to do, though you must be aware it cannot be stored in the communal fridge.



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Project Accommodation:

You will stay in a very comfortable, shared volunteer house. The property is fenced and gated and has a large green garden. Rooms in the house are dormitory style and there is cold running water showers (it's generally hot all year round in Malawi, so cold showers are usually welcome), and western style toilets. Please be aware that whilst electricity and water are fairly reliable, power cuts and water shortages may be experienced from time to time. Staff are present at the house, including a cook, house keeper (although volunteers are also expected to do their bit to keep the house clean and tidy) and night watchmen for your security. All bedding is provided, but you will however need to bring your own towels please.



How to get there: *We will meet you at the airport!* Our Destination Manager will assist you with the procedures and one of the project representatives will meet you at the airport upon your arrival in Malawi. You will then be escorted to your volunteer base in Monkey Bay.

Our Preferred Travel Insurance Partners



Visit www.worldnomads.com for a great deal on reliable travel insurance

10 Reasons to volunteer in Malawi on our Teaching Project:

1. Brighten the day of the pupils' lives by providing them with energy and affection. This is your chance to really make a difference in their first years of schooling and provide them with some basic English.
2. Catch an infectious smile and become humble by the way the local people live so simply yet so content.
3. Assist one on one with a child struggling to understand math or even reading, when you work out of the development workshops in the afternoon.
4. Learn more about HIV/AIDS and how it affects the lives of the people we work alongside.



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5. Relax at Lake Malawi or snorkel and scuba dive in the nearby village of Cape Maclear.
6. Visit Liwonde National Park where you will encounter hippos, crocodiles and impala.
7. Get even more involved when you assist in community building work or volunteer at the local tree nursery.
8. Spread conservation and wildlife awareness throughout the community and schools of Monkey Bay.
9. Meet many like-minded volunteers who you will become friends with for life!
10. Be inspired knowing that if it wasn't for people like you we wouldn't be able to have such a great impact on such deserving communities.

Malawi Teaching and Community Project notes:

- We have found in the past that the more you as a volunteer put in to your involvement, the more you will get out. If you are coming to assist teachers, we suggest that you have some lesson plans or ideas, bring or make charts, maps, pictures of body parts etc and take initiative with the children. We are excited to offer you the opportunity to educate them, to entertain them and to love them...
- During the school holidays volunteers will assist teachers in the community projects and will be involved in holiday classes and activities for the children with the aim of keeping them off the streets. You can work at the local orphanage and educate the children, assist with building projects or extra curricular activities in the library, coach sports and teach art and music. Though the project might be slightly less 'structured' than during school term, there will be NO shortage of amazing, rewarding and exciting work to do with the local kids and in the local communities. You should be prepared to work hard to think up ways to entice the children to come into school and you should expect to be creative and motivated to implement your own ideas with the children each day. The school holiday dates for 2010 are as follows: ***Mid April - early May *Late July - late August *Mid November - mid January**
- If you wish to spend some of your free time getting involved with other community projects, you can volunteer at the local tree nursery or assist with local community building work. Please speak to your project coordinator if you would like to get more involved.
- Please also understand that our projects are continuously evolving, being improved, and adapting to the needs of the local communities that we are involved with, so involvement areas do change from time to time. Rest assured your work will be necessary, rewarding and exciting. We invite you to be more than a tourist...



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Meet your Destination Manager for this project! Valerie will guide you through the whole pre-arrival procedure for this placement and you will receive comprehensive information throughout to ensure you are fully prepared for your project placement with us.



Valerie is from Cape Town, South Africa and holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree majoring in Law and Economics. She is also currently studying her postgraduate Bachelor of Laws degree in her own time. Continuing to learn and one day travel the world are two of Valerie's passions, together with being part of assisting and sustaining African communities. Learning more about the African continent is her goal each day and she hopes to make a meaningful difference through her involvement with African Impact.

Skype Valerie on [valerie.bam](https://www.skype.com/people/valerie.bam)



Our Partners

The Happy Africa Foundation www.happyafricafoundation.org African Impact is proud to have been instrumental in the establishment of The Happy Africa Foundation in 2007 and continues to be one of the Foundations major supporters. UK Registered Charity Number: 1123529. The mission of The Happy Africa Foundation is to empower the African people through the support of community and conservation based initiatives that operate at grass roots level.

We are proudly affiliated to the UK-based **Know Before You Go** campaign that promotes education and knowledge-sharing amongst travelers.

African Impact is delighted to have been nominated as a **2009 World Travel Awards Finalist** and see this as exciting recognition of our position as African specialists in Volunteering, with over 5 years experience in sharing Africa with travelers who have a passion for making a difference.



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