

Camillian Home (Bangkok - Thailand)

is looking for:

Various volunteers

About the hosting agency

Camillian Home is a registered non-profit children's charity operating on behalf of the St. Camillus Foundation of Thailand. The Home was founded by Father Giovanni Contarin, an Italian Priest who has done extensive work for the poor in Thailand since 1987.

The Camillian Home works with children who are living with disabilities, some of whom have been orphaned or abandoned, and some of whom are also living with HIV/AIDS. Managed by the St. Camillus Foundation of Thailand, children are brought up and taught values based on their own beliefs and cultural backgrounds. Everyone is free to express and follow their faith, whatever it may be.

Mission

The Camillian Home is asking for a level of commitment in order to establish a good rapport with the children, enabling interaction with them on a more personal level. This regularity better aids their development as it helps to stabilize the relationships between volunteers and children, as you become a familiar face to them.

It is very disrupting for the children when volunteers come once only, or suddenly stop coming. Similarly, it takes time to make sure that volunteers are properly introduced to the way of working, and they need to ensure that their staff time is used efficiently. Volunteering in an environment like Camillian Home can be emotionally draining and physically tiring; therefore, volunteers must show a level of emotional stability and maturity. The role also requires much patience, enthusiasm, creativity and energy.

Volunteer Profile

Responsibilities and tasks

- ❖ Support the staff in caring for the children, i.e. bathing, changing diapers and feeding
- ❖ Help the staff wash dishes and clean the eating area after meals
- ❖ Help the staff maintain a clean and hygienic environment, general daily cleaning, laundry
- ❖ Constructive playing with the children, especially in ways that make them smile
- ❖ Stimulating the children through a wide variety of personal interactions
- ❖ Teaching them to independently look after themselves
- ❖ Constantly encouraging movement to increase mobility
- ❖ Helping their speech and other communication skills
- ❖ Playing sports, music, art activities
- ❖ Most importantly, just showing them love

Candidate Profile

- ❖ Volunteers with the following skills will be given special consideration: speech therapist, physical therapist, occupational therapist, music teacher, art teacher, early years' teacher, nurse, nutritionist, and cook.
- ❖ Dynamic, creative, and proven skills of animation with children
- ❖ Strong experience in providing recreational activities to children (drama, play, games, circus, sport, storytelling, drawing/painting, artistic activities, music)
- ❖ The Camillian Home works in a way that value the uniqueness of each individual and respects their choices and the decisions that they make - because of this they ask that volunteers do not impose their ideas and beliefs (particularly those about religion, culture and standards of work).
- ❖ Given the stigma in Thailand and the discrimination that many of the children in their project have experienced, the work is confidential. Camillian Home would expect volunteers not to divulge information about people living at or using the services at the project to anyone outside of the organization without prior consent from the staff and children concerned. This includes photographs.
- ❖ While the Camillian Home created a positive and hopeful environment, there are times when working with children living with disabilities can be stressful and upsetting - you need to be sure that you will be able to cope with this kind of work, which is not for everybody.
- ❖ Volunteers need a high degree of self-motivation. The staff is not able to give volunteers continuous guidance. Camillian Home does not have a

volunteer coordinator so you will mostly be on your own among the staff. While some of the staff speaks English, this is extremely limited.

- ❖ While the project welcomes visitors, we would ask that an arrangement is made before visiting (or bringing along a friend or colleague to see the project)
- ❖ The primary focus is the children who use the project. Of course it is natural that volunteers get something from the experience of working at Camillian Home (for many it is the chance to feel that they are making a difference), but the Camillian Home needs to make sure that any offers to help contribute positively to the lives of the children. Whenever there is a conflict between the needs of the children and the volunteer, the staff must ensure that the welfare of the children is the priority.

Camillian Home offers

- ❖ For volunteers who wish to stay onsite with the children and the staff at Camillian Home, the Camillian Home offers free accommodation, meals, laundry facilities and internet access in exchange for your commitment of **a minimum of three months** (most welcome for one year commitment).
- ❖ Enthusiastic and motivated cohesive team.
- ❖ Responsibility, autonomy, room for initiative.

Application Process

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for an interview.

Camillian Home / Caritas Belgium is an equal opportunity employer and the successful candidate will be selected based on merit and in line with the local needs.

How to apply:

Applications (CV/cover letter) to be sent by email to Ann Van der Veken (a.vanderveken@caritasint.be) and Nha Truc Le (nhatruc.le@caritas.be)