

Global Volunteer Network

Media Fact Sheet

About GVN

- The Global Volunteer Network (GVN) was established by Colin Salisbury in 2000 after Colin visited Ghana and saw the impact volunteers could have in disadvantaged communities. GVN placed its first volunteers in 2002.
- The Global Volunteer Network is based in Wellington, New Zealand.
- Currently, GVN offers programs in: Cambodia, China, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Ghana, Honduras, India, Kenya, Nepal, New Zealand, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Romania, Rwanda, South Africa, South Dakota, Thailand, Uganda and Vietnam.
- GVN's in-country partners are all local, grassroots organizations. GVN adopts the motto: "Local solutions for local problems."
- Over the past 7 years GVN has placed over 11,000 volunteers
- GVN volunteers work in orphanages, schools, refugee camps, IDP camps, animal shelters, nature reserves and villages in the following areas: teaching, medical, HIV/AIDS awareness, community development, women's empowerment, caring for children, wildlife conservation, environmental conservation, building and infrastructure construction.
- Volunteers must be 18 years old to apply, but the upper age limit varies depending on the program. To date, the oldest GVN volunteer was 79 years old.
- GVN volunteers generally work for a minimum of two weeks to a maximum of six months, depending on the program.
- Volunteers fund their own trips through fundraising and out of pocket expenses.
- The GVN Foundation allows people who can't volunteer to support our projects with donations. The GVN Foundation supplies our partner organizations with resources so that they are able to continue to enhance their work in their local communities.
- Currently, GVN has a staff of 22 people, and answer over 400 emails a day.
- GVN volunteers are both international and from New Zealand, and apply for our projects online.

For Press

- In first reference, site Global Volunteer Network (GVN).
- Subsequent references should be GVN or GVN volunteers. Please do not refer to us as Global Volunteers.
- GVN is a non-governmental organization (NGO), not a non-profit.
- Please include our website at the end of the article: www.volunteer.org.nz
- When possible, send a copy of the article to GVN's media contact.
- GVN can provide contact information for past volunteers to interview about their experiences.
- GVN can provide photos to accompany articles. All photos must be attributed to GVN.
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- For all media inquires, contact Lauren McMahon: lauren@volunteer.org.nz