



KATOSI INTER-COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ALLIANCE

P.o Box 14 Katosi-Mukono, Uganda.

Tel: +256 753 683197/702 315648

E-mail: info@katosi-community.org

www.katosi-community.org

VOLUNTEERS FIRST HAND INFORMATION

Dear Volunteer (s),

I am thrilled that you have chosen to volunteer at katosi Intercommunity Development Alliance (KIDA).

Volunteers are a vital part in achieving our goals of making Uganda and the rest of the world sustainable by having equal resources and opportunities for all people; and have played a key role in various activities in the past such as fundraising, project development, teaching the children, sharing and raising awareness of what we are doing.

Therefore, I believe that you not only chosen to volunteer with us and gain experience, but you also chosen to contribute to the global development. So keep in mind that you have already started to make a change for which the world shall count on you.

In that respect, I hope that you find the duties of your volunteering to be fulfilling and that you volunteering roles with us shall be rewarding and positive to you and our organization.

This information sheet includes your first hand information about volunteering with us, and its aim is to give you a glance of what to expect and how things work here however, you shall continue to learn more as we shall share more about us while you are here.

So kindly go through the information below and use it to obtain necessary requirements for your trip, and don't hesitate to contact us should you need any help or answers.

Once again, welcome and thank you for choosing to volunteer with us.

Sincerely,

Tony Kabuye
Projects Coordinator



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ABOUT VOLUNTEERING

We are a growing nonprofit that seeks people who are heartfelt about community issues, who would need to be part of the growing organization. We hereby want you to be part of the team, with whatever you can do physically and virtually; your efforts can reach the disadvantaged and under-served majorities. We need volunteers interested or having skills to help us with;

1. Project design and development (we want volunteers who can help us gather ideas into a project or program that can help the community)
2. Training the orphans in various areas such as drama, music, dance, sports, Story reading/telling.
3. We want help with administrative work such as blogging, social media updates & promotion, filming & editing village/orphan life stories.
4. Training computer, business skills, crafts, sewing, screen playing, movie acting and music to empower and giving a chance to village teenage mothers and orphan girls to discover and benefit from their talents.
5. Counseling and career guidance to orphans at the primary school and youths in the village.
6. Fundraising for projects which need funds. Currently we want to construct a skills development and recreational center and this project requires funds.
7. Would you like to volunteer without leaving your home? Just contact us. we have placements for virtual volunteers.....the sky is a limit! You can be involved in many programs, including web updating, online fundraising, volunteer recruitment (suitable for those able to mobilize volunteers), advocacy to our programs, ambassadorial positions and many more. Just get in touch with us. Your efforts today with our community shall remain productive for the next generation.....so come and be part of the growing team, leave a trace of your work and get a certificate of appreciation!

OUR PROGRAM LIST

We have the following programs, with a couple of projects running under each of them;

1. THE ELEMENTARY EDUCATION SUPPORT FOR ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN.

We have over 100 kids attending a partner school in Katosi. We help these children by providing scholastic materials like pens, pencils, notebooks, shoes, clothes and we often meet to encourage, share and play with them.

Therefore, if you could find some donated items and you have space in your luggage, please come along with them.

2. THE SKILLS ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM



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Under this, we offer skills training to young girls, single teenage mothers and old women in tailoring, hairdressing, business management, applying Information technology (IT) in business and computing.

The beneficiaries under this program are impoverished and are unable to fund for materials to use in training.

With the help of volunteers like you and me, we enable them to have these materials to finish the training. Therefore, it would be great if you can find donated tailoring kits, combs or hairstyling items, a computer (laptop), to carry them along with you if you can.

We also have the **FEMALES EMPOWERED & MENTORED (FEM) PROJECT**

Which aims at mentoring and empowering young girls with sustainable life skills through videography, photography and storytelling, to prevent them from getting exposed to life-threatening risks such as early pregnancies, marriages which claim their lives?

By sharing their life stories and experiences, they are made aware of the existence of these risks and ways to prevent them.

This project also lacks materials such as good photo & video cameras, computers and other filming or photography materials to produce a good quality outcome. If you come across one donating any of the above items, please carry it for the girls.

Note: If you have managed to collect some donations, please ask if the donor would like to receive a thank you note from the beneficiaries. And so, note down their desired names. The beneficiaries often appreciate by sending bracelets, necklaces, or table mats with name of donor. These items are made from African materials.

HOW TO COME TO KATOSI

Firstly, you should make sure you are up-to-date on routine vaccines before you book for a trip. These vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine, yearly flu shot and your necessary vaccines related to your health status.

It's a Mandatory entry requirement for you to get a **yellow fever vaccine** and certificate to Uganda.

After that, apply for your [tourist visa](#) to Uganda online and obtain a confirmation before you book flights. After the visa confirmation, book your flights as well but make sure, you have visited your doctor because you have to get vaccinations before you come. Some vaccinations may affect your flights.

After having all that, you are then ready to come to the Pearl of Africa. Be ready to pay \$100 visa fee at Entebbe International Airport on arrival.



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ACCOMODATION

We have a volunteer's house with 2 spacious bedrooms with shower bathrooms and flash toilets. We can accommodate up to 5 people at once.

The house is located in the Mukono town, 27km to Katosi (projects location)

We have electric power in the house, and limited internet access which allows you to check your mail or stay in touch with your family every day.

Our house is in a cool environment, safe and secure.

MEALS

We ask volunteers to contribute towards their feeding for the period they are willing to stay. We charge \$10 for 3 meals a day (breakfast, lunch and dinner), and this includes drinking water and laundry.

Our meals include a variety of natural vegetables and fruits.

AIRPORT PICKUP

It's our obligation to keep our volunteers safe. We therefore suggest an airport pickup at a fee of \$100 (pickup & drop off) paid once.

THE LIFE IN THE VILLAGE (what to expect)

The amazing trip starts with a warm airport reception, by any KIDA official, and a safest ride through the city and finally to Mukono town, our residence.

In the village, is where you meet a team of friendly and lovely people, the members of the community and the children who often welcome visitors with smiling faces.

We have an excellent staff, which takes through the basics of the village life, languages and schedules. In addition, the widows, and mothers in the village are so welcoming and friendly.

Expect recognition from everyone you pass by, reciting a "Hello", and calling you "Mzungu", a local word which describes a "white person".



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Our meals are kind of international but prepared in an African way; we have foods such as rice, beans, cornmeal, potatoes, bananas, yams, cassavas etc and are often steamed on charcoal or gasoline stove.

We often have breakfast in the morning between 8-9am, Lunch in the afternoon between 1-2pm and dinner at 9pm. And all our meals are served on a dining table, where we gather and have fun stories and sharing while eating.

Moving across the village is an awesome activity you might want to do every evening, to watch the sundown at the shores, meeting village people and sometimes, spending a time with our beneficiaries.

On weekend, you may not miss going out to tour around some amazing and historical sites like the forests, falls, mountains, gorilla trekking, hideouts or moving around the city, going to club and so much more, with company of our staff or by yourself upon choice.

Just to mention but a few.....however, what I am sure of is that you will never want to leave!!!

TOURING

In our setting, we encourage volunteers to take up touring activities as this another interesting and rewarding experience. You will need to explore more of the Uganda's heritages, and amazing places around.

We have tourists places nearby our location, which may not cost you a lot to reach. Apart from the [Uganda Wildlife Education center](#) (UWEC) where you could see some animal species, other game parks are quite distant from our location.

However, below is a list of what you shouldn't miss to visit;

- A trip to Kampala city; places to visit include the National museum, the Gaddafi Mosque with a tower which gives you a good city view, the national theatre to watch traditional drama and dances, the kasubi tombs and some good clubs in town to chill out.
- The source of the Nile in Jinja: you can take a boat cruise to Samuka island, where you could live a life you never lived before, or going to scare death by trying Bungee jumping at [Adrift Uganda](#) or rafting on Nile while waters, kayaking and so much more.
- THE RIVER FALLS: the [kalagala](#) and [sezibwa falls](#) are far close from our residence and a breathtaking sundown place for you to relax your minds.
- Not forgetting Katosi itself, a landing site on the shores of lake Victoria. Its also a starting point for you to cruise to many islands like [Ngamba island a chimp sanctuary](#).

If you are interested in more, you can also check out from the list of national game parks and reserves. Find the list [here](#).



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NOTE: The organization offers a car and volunteers taking up the tour are responsible for fueling (gas filling) and all tour logistics are met by the volunteer. This may include lodging, meals and others.

WHAT TO INCLUDE IN YOUR BACKPACK

It all depends on the period that you are willing to spend here, however, include the following in your bag;

1. Enough clothes (pants, dresses, long & short sleeves shirts/blouses/polo shirts, socks/stockings)
2. A pair or two , of boots, sneaker shoes, sandals
3. Carry your shampoos and your skin type lotions, as you may not find some in stores here.
4. All your necessary meds , antimalarials, laxatives in case of effects to changing food or weather.
5. All your sanitary items that you use.
6. A sweater, jumper or raincoat.
7. A few dollars for extra expenses for yourself.

The rest can be got or bought here.

Please note that the Ugandan ATMs accept VISA and MasterCard and banks here exchange any dollar amount.

Also, big commercial banks do not exchange dollar notes below \$50, these notes are however exchanged at foreign exchange (forex) bureaus at a slightly lower than the normal rate I.e, the current dollar rate for small bills (\$1-49) is 2630ugx per dollar and 3605ugx per dollar for bigger notes (\$50 and 100).

Ugandan security is good and stable; there is enough peace and space for everyone to enjoy life. So expect no chaos or wars within here.

Check out our work on: www.katosi-community.org

Facebook: [@katosIDA4kidsandwomen2015](https://www.facebook.com/katosIDA4kidsandwomen2015)

WISH YOU A NICE TRIP TO THE PEARL OF AFRICA.

Can't wait to offer services "for all mankind" with you!