



# Lily of the Valley

## TEAM VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

### INTRODUCTION

We are grateful that you are considering bringing a team to serve at Lily of the Valley Children's Village. Thank you for being willing to offer your time, experience and gifts to benefit these vulnerable children and this ministry.

Lily of the Valley facilitates several life-changing opportunities for those who would like to volunteer on a team. We are sure you must have many questions and we hope that this information will answer most of them and help you make an informed decision regarding bringing your group to serve at Lily.

### WHAT COULD OUR TEAM DO AT LILY?

Teams can choose to be involved in one or more of the following options:

- **BUILD** - Help with building and maintenance projects, as well as general upkeep around the campus.
- **MEDICAL** – Team members in the health or medical professions can come and participate in meeting the needs of those under Lily's care, provide health education and training for the staff or facilitate outreach clinics to the wider communities surrounding Lily.
- **MINISTRY** – Those with a heart for ministry could run Bible Clubs with the children during school holidays, facilitate bible studies with young adults and staff, plan a Youth Group event for young adults, and plan outreach events for our kids to take part in.
- **EDUCATION** – Teams with a desire to invest in the futures of Lily's children could run various life-skills workshops and seminars for children and young adults, help care for toddlers during school holidays, take kids out on educational field trips, and plan camps and outings for the children.
- **ETC.** – We know that each team is unique, with it's own sets of skills and passions, so we welcome your ideas.

## **WHAT DOES A SHORT-TERM GROUP LOOK LIKE?**

Short-term groups can look very different, as we welcome groups from all over the world and in all walks of life. Groups can come from churches, organizations, schools, or even businesses. All groups should however follow our basic guidelines:

- Groups can range from 5 to 16 people.
- Teenagers must be accompanied by adult leaders
- Groups must be able to raise their own funds to cover all aspects of the trip's expenses.
- Groups should stay for a min. of 3 days and a maximum of 14 days.

## **WHEN CAN OUR GROUP COME?**

Because of the high volume of groups that volunteer their services at Lily, booking dates often becomes complicated. Because of this, we make dates available using the tier system you see below:

- Tier 1: Partner Organization Groups
  - Have first priority of dates, may exclusively reserve up until 12 months prior
- Tier 2: Returning Groups
  - Have second priority of dates, may exclusively reserve from 12 months until 10 months prior
- Tier 3: Public
  - At 10 months prior all dates become open to the public.

Keep in mind that due to school holidays and the Northern Hemisphere summer, the months of June and July tend to be quite busy. If your group is interested in coming while the kids at Lily are on school holiday, and June and July are already booked, December and January can often be a less busy (and warmer) alternative!

## **WHERE WILL OUR GROUP STAY?**

Short-term groups are housed in our conference center, which is located about a 10 minutes walk from the children's village. This facility can accommodate up to 16 people and includes shared bedrooms and bathrooms, and a communal kitchen, dining room and living room.

- Please note: There is a fee, which helps to cover utility costs during your stay. The rate for staying in the conference center is **R25.00 per person per night (subject to change)**.
- The conference center is located at the bottom of a fairly steep hill, so if your group includes members who would have a hard time walking up and down the hill, you may want to consider renting a vehicle to accommodate their needs during your stay.
- Bed linens, pillows, and towels are provided.
- Unless alternate plans have been arranged, teams are responsible for the provision of their own food and for preparation and cooking of their own meals as well as keeping their accommodations tidy.

## **DISCLAIMER**

Lily of the Valley Children's Village cannot and does not guarantee your safety, health, or comfort. We are serving in an underdeveloped and dangerous area of South Africa. You will be joining us in trusting God as provider and protector. Due to the busy nature of our work, you will not have the full attention of any staff or long-term volunteers, so please try to plan ahead in order to be as self-reliant as possible. We see over and over again that God does amazing work in each visitor, so come being open to what He may do with you here. He is good!

*Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator at [volunteer@lov.org.za](mailto:volunteer@lov.org.za) if you have any further questions.*