Global Service Corps

Community Development and Leadership Training Program

Global Service Corps (GSC) Volunteer Participants (VPs) in the Community Development and Leadership Training Program join the staff of a Cambodia local NGO working to empower youth and young adults to become engaged, peace-minded leaders amidst a country still recovering from brutal civil war and genocide.

Four Program Placement Options

- Civic Leadership and Governance Program
  - Action research and community mapping
  - Provide training in a province on Leadership and Governance
- Career Development and International Relations Program
  - Provide training in a province on International Relations
  - Provide training on IT skills and English for Tourism
- Environmental and Eco Tourism Program
  - Program in a province at youth eco camp
  - Provide training on waste and plastic management and eco-tourism
- Reproductive and Public Health Program
  - Provide training on reproductive and sexual rights
  - Provide training in a province on life skills

VPs discover Cambodia by living, working, and learning among Khmer people in their own communities. Cambodian society continues its efforts to overcome the harsh effects of the Khmer Rouge genocide on its leadership and community infrastructure. VPs play a hands-on role in building a culture of peace and social justice in Cambodia.

The Community Development and Leadership Training Program provide VPs with a unique opportunity to help prepare the Cambodian younger generation for active citizenship, leadership and community development work. VPs will assist GSC’s Cambodian partner organizations as needed, which may include writing and editing program and website material and/or grant proposals, assisting with social media, facilitating workshops in a rural location, teaching English, and assisting with the development of new or existing programs. Those with a background or interest in community development, public health, environmental work, youth empowerment, self-esteem, peacebuilding, social work, and/or social justice are encouraged to apply.
VP’s Role

A VP’s role will be highly intertwined with our Cambodian partner’s development work that is in phase at the time of your placement. VP activities will vary based on the partner’s needs but will include some or all of the following:

- Working with partner staff to further develop existing or future community training curricula and educational programs
- Planning and leading leadership training programs in a province location during one week of the program
- Assisting with preparing program evaluation reports or grant proposals
- Developing written and/or video reports for use on the organization’s website and/or social media sites

This placement has a four-week minimum commitment.

Housing and Meals

VPs will be housed in a private room in one of our partner organization’s Phnom Penh facilities near the work site. The room has air conditioning, wi-fi, and access to a Western-style bathroom. Meals are usually taken in local restaurants or can be prepared with a neighboring host family. Laundry can be done by hand or at a local cleaner.

Sample Schedules

Below is a sample daily schedule of a placement following the GSC Cambodia orientation. However, these activities are flexible and subject to change based on partner organization’s needs.

VPs spend the initial time during their placement undergoing GSC and our partner organization’s orientation in Phnom Penh. Following this orientation, a typical day at the might look like the following:

7:00 am - 8:00 am Wake up and have breakfast
8:00 am - 12:00 pm Driver escorts VPs to volunteer service site for the workday
12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Have lunch at nearby restaurant or bring packed lunch
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm Continue working
5:00 pm Return to accommodations and enjoy an evening in Phnom Penh or surrounding area

Phnom Penh Arrival and Program Orientation Information

If you are flying to Cambodia, the GSC In-Country Coordinator or GSC driver will meet you at the Phnom Penh International Airport on Sunday to transfer you to the designated hotel for your orientation in and around Phnom Penh. If you arrive early, between Thursday and Saturday, you will be picked up at the airport but will be responsible to make your own hotel arrangements prior to meeting up with GSC staff and VPs on Sunday afternoon. Meeting instructions will be clearly communicated to you by GSC U.S. headquarters staff prior to your departure. The cultural orientation takes place from Monday through Wednesday and will include an introduction to Cambodian history and Buddhism, a sightseeing tour of Phnom Penh area including the Khmer Rouge Killing Fields. Mid-week you will be introduced to your placement site and begin your service work.
**Sample Four Week Itinerary**

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<tr>
<th>Arrival Day (Sunday)</th>
<th>Arrival in Phnom Penh. VPs are met at Phnom Penh International Airport by the GSC In-Country Coordinator (ICC) or GSC driver and transported to the hotel. Unpack and relax. Your first day on Sunday in Phnom Penh will include an afternoon meeting with the ICC and culminate in a Khmer dinner with fellow VPs and the ICC.</th>
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<tr>
<td>Days 1-3 (Monday-Wednesday)</td>
<td>A GSC representative meets all VPs in the morning after breakfast in the hotel and escorts you as you explore important cultural and historical sites. The tours include visits to the Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda, National Museum, Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, the Killing Fields at Cheoung Ek and other areas of interest in Phnom Penh. Time will also be devoted to include lectures on Cambodia history and current events, and an introduction to Buddhism by a Buddhist monk at a Phnom Penh monastery. Move to your accommodations Wednesday evening (or Thursday morning.)</td>
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<td>Days 4-5 (Thursday-Friday)</td>
<td>Introduction to your project and begin to volunteer at your project site</td>
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<td>Days 6-7 (Saturday-Sunday)</td>
<td>Free days to explore Phnom Penh or the rural site, participate in community activities.</td>
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<td>Days 8-26 (Monday-Friday)</td>
<td>Participants join in the activities of the partner organization and quickly become friends with staff including international interns from other countries. One of these weeks will consist of a visit to a province site for training and other activities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekend Activities (Saturday-Sunday)</td>
<td>During either the second or third weekend, VPs will travel to Siem Reap for a weekend away, leaving on Friday evening and returning Monday morning. On other weekends VPs are free to explore the surrounding areas either individually or in groups.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Final Day of Program (Sunday)</td>
<td>The program concludes after breakfast and you will say goodbye to your new friends and the GSC Cambodia Team. Depart Cambodia.</td>
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Please note that this is a sample itinerary. Schedules and activities are subject to change due to local conditions, participant preference, and programmatic changes.

**Program fees include:** Airport pick-up, drop off, and project transportation; accommodations including all meals; language and cultural orientation and project preparation guidance, project administration; donations to partner organizations, and the weekend excursion to Siem Reap and Angkor Wat for programs 4 weeks or longer.

**Program fees* do not include:** Airfare ($1,000-$2,500), travel insurance ($150-$350), background checks ($15 - required for all VPs) and visas ($30-$100 depending on length of stay).

*These costs are estimates. Actual prices will depend on program length, your chosen vendors, visiting country's government regulations, and other factors beyond GSC's control.

Please visit the GSC website, [www.globalservicecorps.org](http://www.globalservicecorps.org), or the [GSC Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/GSC), which will further acquaint you with our programs and provide a glimpse into life as a GSC service-learning VP.