



SPW IS AN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANISATION

SPW works with rural communities in southern Africa. Using specially trained overseas and local volunteers, the focus is peer education: young people working with young people in African communities to build knowledge, skills and self confidence. The outcome is that both groups are better equipped to make decisions regarding health and the environment that not only affect them personally, but can involve their families, communities and governments.

THE NEED FOR SPW'S PROGRAMMES

In rural communities in developing countries it is difficult for people to access information and services which could safeguard their health and improve their livelihoods. Many are not aware of the water/disease relationship, the principles of basic nutrition or how HIV is transmitted. Tackling these issues requires fresh thinking and practical action.

YOUR ROLE

There are more young people in the world today than ever before. In the experience of VSA and SPW, they are more willing to listen to and act upon guidance offered by people their own age. You are uniquely placed to act as a catalyst for change amongst them. We want to harness your enthusiasm and talents to create a better future for developing countries.

If you are 18 – 28 and committed to making a difference, volunteer with SPW and work in a community in southern Africa to empower your generation.

Tel VSA 04 4725759 | Email vsa@vsa.org.nz
www.vsa.org.nz | www.spw.org.au

The VSA - SPW link



"The training, the workshops, the set up with government and district officials and the contacts with other NGOs provided us with a brilliant and worthwhile opportunity that's not offered to people our age by any other organisation"

CAIRE MINIT, TANZANIA

Volunteer Service Abroad has a long standing reputation in New Zealand. For many years we have been sending volunteers to share skills in Asia, the Pacific and parts of Africa. VSA and SPW share similar values and approaches to development. VSA believes that a partnership with SPW will expand opportunities for young New Zealanders to contribute to development in southern Africa. We would be happy to talk to you about this in detail and to answer any questions you may have.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON SPW OR VSA

Tel VSA 04 4725759 | Email vsa@vsa.org.nz | www.vsa.org.nz | www.spw.org.au



Young people ↔ Young people

Imagine a world where...

no child or young person contracts HIV... all children have access to safe drinking water... education effectively equips young people with the skills they need for life...

SPW and VSA are working to make this happen. You could be part of it.



**STUDENTS PARTNERSHIP WORLDWIDE (SPW)
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH VSA**



YOUTH-TO-YOUTH EDUCATION

SPW volunteers are trained to deliver important health and environmental information in ways that engage other young people. By acting as role models and by using innovative interactive games, you will work with young people to equip them with the skills and knowledge they need to make informed choices about their lives.

"SPW volunteers teach us about many things when parents and relatives cannot. Since SPW volunteers are peer educators, then they touch all issues even about STI, HIV/AIDS, and teenage pregnancy, without phobia. SPW volunteers and students, we are the same age, which makes a big difference."

YEAR 10 STUDENT, WANGING'OMBE SCHOOL TANZANIA

PARTNERSHIP

SPW volunteers work alongside local volunteers. This helps you to integrate more successfully into your community. Together your skills and knowledge will allow you to act as a catalyst for community action.

"Communication with local people became much less of a barrier and our objectives within the community became more focused and productive thanks to partnership with local volunteers."

ROBERT HUTCHINSON, NEPAL

Volunteering with SPW you will discover skills you never thought you had.

"On SPW programmes you will discover something about yourself that encourages growth in a direction that you never knew existed...Feel proud of yourself for embarking on this path - you'll never regret being a volunteer." Adele Paulsen, South Africa

HEALTH EDUCATION PROGRAMME

Many diseases, such as HIV/AIDS and malaria are preventable, if only people had access to basic information. You'll work in partnership with local volunteers to communicate youth-friendly information on adolescent issues such as HIV/AIDS, STIs, sanitation and nutrition.

COMMUNITY RESOURCE PROGRAMME

It is important for the development of rural communities that they better understand their surrounding environment, impacts on their health, and how to use resources they have efficiently and sustainably. You'll work with local volunteers to help communities identify their own needs, and, together, find sustainable solutions to problems such as low crop yield, soil erosion, deforestation, and water-borne diseases.



SPW South Africa

South Africa is a land of contrasts; from the excitement of safari and the vibrancy of Cape Town - to the beautiful coastline of sleepy villages where sand and sea meet mountains.

SPW works in the rural areas of the Eastern Cape. Ranging from the tail end of the Garden Route to the subtropical wild coast on the Indian Ocean, these are the traditional heartlands of the Xhosa people. Rural communities in this area are among the most disadvantaged in Africa and most at risk from HIV/AIDS.

You'll work on a health education programme with out-of-school youth groups, SPW Community Committees, local clinics and local NGOs on issues such as gender relations, youth empowerment and awareness of HIV/AIDS.



Our rationale

COMMUNITY LINKS

Partnerships are the dynamic for creating links in and between communities. You'll live and work as local people do so that you integrate into your community. In doing so, you'll promote links between schools, communities, local NGOs, councils and businesses so that they can work together after you leave.

"Truly, I have never known an NGO like this, who have the approach of going straight to the villagers and living with them. You could have given me a million shillings and I would have spent it all by now, but you gave me knowledge and I will have that forever."

MADINA, KASANJA WOMENS GROUP, MBALE, UGANDA

LONG TERM COMMITMENT TO DEVELOPMENT

In each country we have permanent local and international staff who support volunteers and work with national and local government. SPW works with communities for three to five years and creates links with local NGOs and local government institutions. Our approach has been endorsed by international agencies and national governments. SPW believes that, by training and empowering young people, our programmes will have an impact for generations to come.

"The achievements of SPW are an important part of our collective efforts to bring about behavioural change, improved health and sustainable development."

CAROL BELLAMY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UNICEF

Our programmes

COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT AND TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEERS

Before you leave:

As a volunteer for a non profit organisation you can fundraise for your time overseas. We provide fundraising advice and will support your fundraising efforts. During your pre-departure training you will receive detailed information about your country programme, cultural sensitivity, international and community development, cross-cultural communication skills, health and travel issues, as well as the chance to talk to returned volunteers.

In-Country Training and Support:

You'll receive one month's intensive training from our offices overseas covering cross-cultural awareness, leadership and team building, local language classes, sessions

on basic development theory and appropriate rural technologies.

You'll also learn how to use informal techniques such as drama, debate, sport and dance to communicate vital health and environmental messages. Throughout your placement you'll be supported by field workers and receive visits from in-country staff.

Return:

You'll receive a debrief both in-country and after you return home and become part of our returned volunteer network. SPW will keep you up to date with developments in-country, organise reunions and provide you with career development advice and workshops. We encourage you to keep actively involved in the work of SPW and VSA through campaigning and fundraising.

Country programmes

SPW Zambia

Zambia is one of Africa's most overlooked countries. It has some of the most stunning landscapes on the continent including the Zambezi river and Victoria Falls.

SPW runs its programme in Central Province to the west of the capital Lusaka. Mine closure has led to more unemployment in the area; with the Tanzania - Zambia railway comes trade but also increased risk of HIV/AIDS.

You'll work on a health education programme that is run in partnership with the Zambian government. This will include working with schools (teaching adolescent health lessons), with youth resource centres, and with the wider community, to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS and STIs, and provide life skills for the next generation.

