



**HARVEST INDIA**

**INDIA VOLUNTEERING**

## WHO IS HARVEST INDIA?

**Harvest India** is a Christ centered ministry that is dedicated towards expanding the Kingdom of God in the state of Karnataka, located south west in the democratic nation of India. Established in the year 1993 and headed by Rev. Samuel Jacob, the ministry primarily focuses on enabling and empowering local leaders to help reach the Gospel to the most remote regions of the state.

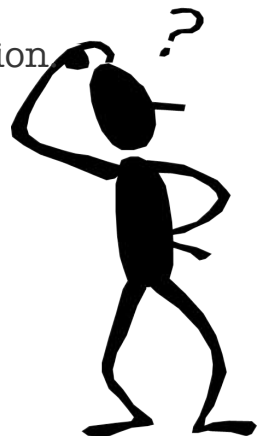
Through the years, Harvest India has been guided by the Lord to discover innovative ways to help train and teach the local leaders and pastors in communicating the essence of the Gospel. One of the significant ways is by organising and conducting pastors' conferences for deeper Biblical understanding and application. In an effort to build a strong network of Christian Leaders in rural Karnataka, *Harvest India* ensures that the venues for these conferences are held in the local setting of participating pastors. This results in a high participation due to ease of access and commute.

Additionally, teachers and participating leaders from outside of Karnataka, different parts of India and the world invited to these conferences provide a diverse cultural blend for the local pastors and in turn they have the unique opportunity to experience firsthand, the lifestyle and involve themselves in community prayer for each district. This also encourages church members in rural Karnataka to increase their awareness of God's word and encourage their own villages and community groups to live a life with Jesus as their foundation.

One of the key areas of focus of *Harvest India* is Village ministry. The long term goal is to reach EVERY village of Karnataka and ensure that the word of God and the Gospel are clearly communicated; and that each believer is made strong in the word of the Lord through proper mentoring, demonstration and care. The medium of instruction is through action

Along with this Harvest India also serves in other areas within the ministry.

1. Summer School of Evangelism
2. Mamathe Home
3. Leadership Development
4. Youth Development





## WHY VOLUNTEER IN INDIA?

India has always held a fascination for travelers. Some are drawn by romantic ideas of the British Empire, while others are inevitably drawn by India's mystical culture, intermingling ancient religions and traditions with contemporary lifestyles.

Despite rapid economic growth, a large portion of India's population remains impoverished and in need of basic human necessities. 70% of the population still has limited access to housing and clean water.

Right now, you could volunteer in India to help underprivileged populations gain access to better education, healthcare, human rights, and infrastructure. This Volunteer program is located in metropolitan area of Bangalore, as well as rural villages in states including Karnataka, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh at the moment. These volunteer projects, when done responsibly and with the engagement of local communities, are important aspects of

India's overall development. There are several projects keeping in mind to the contribution of the UN's SDG.

India is an assault on the senses; the colours, the smells, the cultural differences, the landscapes and the issues you face. It remains, however, an intriguing mixture of charm and beauty, with a warm, generous community who offer so much hospitality in a world where they have so very little.

**Where can you volunteer in India to make a difference?**



### BEING A VOLUNTEER CAN MEAN DIFFERENT THINGS.

The definition of a 'volunteer' working overseas in development or mission can be very muddy; A 'volunteer' could be someone who;

1. Works for an organisation without a salary or payment of any kind and the volunteer finances recruitment, preparation, travel, insurance, support, accommodation and food all from their own pocket. Mission placements are often like this. Of course, a local church or relatives may help the volunteer with these costs.
2. Is recruited by a US volunteer sending agency where some of these costs are met by the supporters of the agency or by grants to the agency. There may be an expectation of a financial contribution but this may be no more than a token contribution to some of the costs of any placement. Some volunteer sending NGOs are like this.
3. Works for an US agency or international placement provider and is provided with a sufficient allowance or local salary to meet all local costs and even maybe an air ticket for international travel to the placement. The 'volunteer' would still consider themselves a volunteer if the volunteer felt that they were 'sacrificing' a good salary back home in order to help the placement with the skills or experience that the volunteer offers. Harvest India, for example, is like this.



## **VOLUNTEERING - Getting things done**

- ❖ Volunteers have an enormous impact on the health and well-being of communities worldwide. Think of all the ways that volunteers make a difference in day-to-day life:
- ❖ Volunteers deliver critical services—from serving as volunteer fire fighters or participating in search and rescue, to delivering meals to homebound seniors or homeless youth, to manning the phone lines at domestic violence and sexual assault centers.
- ❖ Volunteers tutor, teach, mentor, coach, and support young people with everything from math homework to dealing with personal crises to football and soccer tournaments.
- ❖ Volunteers walk dogs, pet cats, clean cages, help with adoptions and feedings, and contribute veterinary expertise to organizations like animal shelters and wildlife rehabilitation centers.
- ❖ Volunteers educate the public on health and safety; doctors and nurses donate time and medical knowledge to free clinics and natural/civil disaster areas worldwide.
- ❖ Volunteers build houses and schools, dig wells, and repair infrastructure around the globe.

You get the idea...

Without Volunteers what would our cities, towns, state/provincial schools, places of worship, and Communities look like? What basic needs would go un-met? What opportunities to grow, learn, and thrive as a society would be lost? The truth is you likely cross paths with a volunteer at least once if not several times a day, no matter where you are in the world.

## HARVEST INDIA VOLUNTEERS

**Aims and Objects :** Harvest India is a faith based organisation and we make no bones about that. We do require anyone who wishes to be a Harvest India volunteer to be a Christian or a person of faith and we do require the volunteer to be willing to work in a placement overseas which is managed by a Harvest India or a local Christian church or agency Partnered with Harvest India. There will be some placements where being a Christian helps or is necessary but generally our placement providers know that we do not normally recruit on that basis. Your counsellor can advise you and help you with your choice of placement. Our purpose is to encourage and support the Christian community overseas in its care for its community. We know that it will be a life changing opportunity no matter how experienced you are and that is exciting. We hope to encourage and support you so that you can make the best use of the experience. Although we will do everything we can to assist you and support you and ensure that the placement is appropriate and enables you to make the kind of contribution that you would like to make, we cannot guarantee anything as we are not the providers of the placement. Managing risk and negotiating difficulties as they arise is part of the preparation that you will receive and to a degree is part of the experience.

Harvest India is a support agency. We provide information on short term projects overseas that we have verified by application form and personal reference. We provide support to a volunteer at all stages of application, placement and return to encourage the best use of the experience.

Among those finding the experience life changing and thoroughly worthwhile in the last eighteen months were Roshell Richard from Jamaica, Micheala from Germany, Jodi From

Colorado, Sarah Frueh from New York.

**HARVEST INDIA ASSOCIATES:** Some travellers and mission partners like to tread the middle ground. Associate Volunteers are those experienced travellers who approach Harvest India to make arrangements for them to work in a project but do not want to have the preparation, support and debriefing package. We are prepared to accept such experienced travellers as associates and help them make the arrangements that they need to make through us. This usually includes One on One interview where the Volunteer gets information about the Mission He/She wishes to join. The general knowledge of the Geography, Culture, Cuisine, and any warning if so. Once the arrangements are made, these associate volunteers are on their own but know that they can come to us for advice if problems arise. It is understood that Harvest India would not have the same responsibility as the organisation would feel for its own volunteers. For further information contact Jacob at **Harvest India**

**ASSOCIATE MISSION PARTNERS:** Similarly some Mission Partners have independent arrangements through church connections and do not have the support of a mission agency. There may be good reasons why agency connections have not been part of the picture. There could be historical reasons. Maybe it is because the church wishes to feel a more immediate link to an overseas project and for that relationship not to be mediated through an agency. It may be also that the mission partner needs more freedom to act experimentally in his or her placement and finds relationships with a mission agency confining. Such can contact for more information at **Harvest India** or Sam at **Harvest India Associate**

## Personal and Professional benefits of Volunteering

**Skill development:** Always wanted to learn about sustainability and conservation methods? Have experience creating podcasts and would like to try using them as an advocacy tool for a nonprofit? Volunteering helps sharpen those Skills

**Career Exploration:** Regardless of your age or career level, volunteering will introduce you to new professional paths. Excellent way to learn more about a particular role or sector workplace or office culture etc..

**Networking;** volunteering offers the opportunity to cross paths—as well as, in many cases, quickly bond—with people from across your community, including many with whom you may otherwise not have had contact.

**Personal Growth & Experience:** Lifelong learning includes hands-on experiences, which can teach you about issues ranging from adult literacy to public health to animal welfare. Need a break from your day-to-day life? Need to work off some stress? Consider some of the more labor-intensive roles like helping to remove invasive species or chopping out non-native trees and bushes. Don't forget that sometimes it just feels good to be valued; as a

volunteer you can contribute unique skills, experiences, and perspectives. For example, you might be great at using online sites like MySpace and Facebook. Many organizations look to branch out into social networking.

**Socialize:** In addition to professional networking, volunteering can be a fun, meaningful way to make new friends. New to the community? Looking to branch out socially? Simply looking for something to do with new people? Volunteer and get to know others who care about the same issues that you do.

### Have an impact:

Last but most certainly not least, volunteering is one of the best ways we know of to make a difference in and around your community. Whatever your passion, however you get involved, volunteering offers a way to have a real and lasting impact on the world.

To help you explore these various options for volunteering, we offer the following formula:

Your Ideal Volunteer Opportunity = **Role + Time commitment + Structure + Issue**



*Help one another; there's no time like the present and no present like the time –  
James Durst*

## Harvest India

Some of the Programs in which we require Volunteers are listed below with the requisite or desired qualifications.



### Sound Engineering:

A minimum Qualification required of managing sound on a Mid-Professional Level. With knowledge of Teaching on a small scale level to Kids of Age 15Yrs onwards.



### Video Shooting and Video Editing:

A Minimum qualification required is to be able to create a curriculum, Teach and be able to assist in making the candidates develop new contents.



### Photography & Editing:

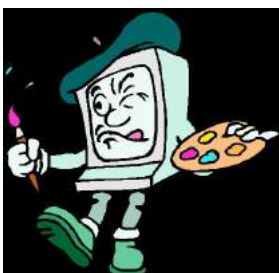
A Minimum qualification required is to be able to create a curriculum, Teach and be able to assist in making the candidates develop new contents. Should also be trained to teach photo editing and various techniques to empower the candidate.



### Computer Course, Aided Learning, Hardware & Software:

A Minimum qualification required is to be able to create a curriculum, Teach and be able to assist in making the candidates develop new knowledge in using the computer in this growing age of technical and digital India. Basics of computers with Typing, DTP work etc.

For hardware & Software: Should be able to create a curriculum, Teach and be able to assist in solving hardware or software issue



### Artist / Painting:

A Minimum qualification required is to be able to create a curriculum, Teach and be able to assist in giving basics of Painting on Paper, Canvas etc and making the candidates develop new contents using their own imaginations.

*Along with this there will be scores of other Programs introduced. Kindly contact Jacob at **Harvest India** to know more. If there are talents or skills that you have and would like to use them along with us, do contact us we will be glad to see how we can accommodate this.*





## HARVEST INDIA

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