

We invite you to join us on a life-changing, unforgettable working adventure to the Democratic Republic of Congo to see for yourself the work of The Msenwa Foundation in its partnership with Congo for Christ Centre (CCC) in Uvira, South Kivu.

Your heart will break at the struggles and poverty that war has caused on the Congolese people, but then your heart will burst with joy as you see the smiles and laughter of the children at CCC. These precious ones have come from tears, tragedy and loss to a place of security, love and a hope for the future.

You will see tenacity and strength that will challenge your own walk of life. Will you feel helpless? Yes, but with the knowledge this gift you give through helping with the building of the sewing machine project and the impact it will make on this village, your heart will be full knowing with each stone laid you bring opportunity and a hope for a future to so many.

How often do we have an opportunity to help change one's life, let alone a village? In giving of yourself, your life will also be challenged and changed forever.

Take time to think about this lifetime opportunity to make a difference. Read the information below that we have put together about the trip. Do not hesitate to connect with Oliver or any of the board members to ask any questions.



Why Should I Serve Abroad?

If you asked anyone who has served abroad, they will most certainly tell you that it is a life-transforming experience and one of the most rewarding things they have ever done. Here are some reasons why you should consider to volunteer abroad:

Broaden Your Worldview

Those who travel abroad return home with an informed and less biased perspective toward other cultures and people. Cultural differences extend beyond language, food, appearance, and personal habits. They include perceptions, beliefs, and values that influence one's way of life and world view. People who experience cultural differences first-hand can grow to truly understand and appreciate where other cultures are coming from.

Acquire Skills that a Classroom setting cannot provide

Being immersed in an entirely new cultural setting is scary at first, but it's also exciting. It's an opportunity to discover new strengths and abilities, conquer challenges, and solve problems. As you encounter situations that are unfamiliar you will learn to adapt and respond in effective ways.

Discover More About Yourself

Those who serve or study abroad return home with new ideas and perspectives about themselves and their own culture as well as a strengthened belief system.

Get Connected Globally

While abroad, you will meet Congolese people as well as volunteers who have traveled as far away from home as you have.

Become Part of Transforming Other People's Lives

Volunteering abroad is an amazing opportunity to immerse yourself in other people's lives through service. Giving your time, skills and resources to enhance someone else's life is not only rewarding but it adds value and life to the giver. You will have many opportunities to learn about the Congolese culture and people and become part of the change that we are making on the ground.



Enhance your employment opportunities

Did you know that students who study abroad are twice as likely to find employment and they have out-earned their peers by nearly 20%? A student who has served abroad is self-motivated, independent, willing to embrace challenges, and able to cope with diverse problems and situations. Your experience negotiating another culture in a foreign country will set you apart from other job applicants.

Volunteering abroad also offers a great opportunity to break out of your life routines.

Program Length: 2-4 weeks

Standard trips are two weeks in length but can be extended to over a month.

Ministry Work: Various Activities and Flexible Hours

WHAT YOU WILL BE DOING WHILE IN DR CONGO

You will be working at Congo for Christ Centre and also through local churches. The team or individual will be involved in a variety of projects such as home visits, activity days, teaching English, teaching sewing, construction of the sewing training centre, sports programs, running VBS, working at the school and tutoring, and leading workshops on various topics for youth and staff.

Requirements

Mission trips are open to mature and resourceful individuals who exhibit a commitment to ministry and community participation.

Successful volunteers are those who are willing to step out of their comfort zone and be used where needed. It is essential that volunteers be flexible, open-minded, capable and willing to adapt to new situations. A positive attitude and empathy, even in frustrating or difficult circumstances, are vital.

Housing and Food: Guest House

There are hotels available in Uvira and not very far from the centre. They are clean and comfortable with modern toilets, running water, Wi-Fi and electricity.



Funds in Canadian Money

Item	Estimated Cost in CAD	Note
Airfare cost	\$1600	Price may change
Hotel accommodation	\$700 (\$50 x 14 days)	
Meals and drinking water	\$378 (\$27 x 14 days)	Meals will be made by CCC staff
Airport and local transportation	\$200	Including airport pickup in Bujumbura
DR Congo Immigration documents	\$160	Required for visa and 1 st visit
Visas – DR Congo and Burundi	\$210 (\$120 for DR Congo; \$90 for Burundi)	The DR Congo visa covers a 1-month single entry visa. Those wishing to visit Burundi other than to go to the airport will need a 1-month multiple entry visa, which costs \$190)
Total Cost	\$3,243	

If you wish to participate in projects, such as home repairs, children's camps, sports and arts, you will need to bring funding from home to support these projects.

Vaccinations are an additional cost (yellow fever, malaria, typhoid, traveller's cholera, etc.) You will require a card verifying yellow fever vaccination to enter Congo and Burundi. These vaccinations are often covered through work health benefits.