



# BLUEPRINT FOR VOLUNTEERING

Habitat for Humanity's Global Village program



## WHAT IS GLOBAL VILLAGE?

Global Village offers international volunteers the opportunity to take part in the "hands on" construction or renovation of homes in more than 40 countries around the world. Participating in a Global Village team offers a unique travel experience and an unforgettable opportunity to be fully immersed in the local community. Team members experience great personal growth through cultural and linguistic challenges, and return to their home countries transformed.

**Join a Global Village team** and you can make a difference in the lives of families in Malawi that are in need of a simple, decent place to live. You might just find your own life changed as well.

## Building together for a brighter future

Malawi is a country of immense beauty, yet also of extreme poverty. The country is rated as one of the least developed countries in the world. 90 percent of its population lives in rural areas.

The economy is predominately agricultural and is dependent on substantial international assistance. Because of the widespread poverty, four out of five families live in substandard homes, with little hope of ever being able to afford a decent house. A typical village hut is built of mud and daub with a dirt floor and thatched roof and requires frequent repair. The conditions put families at high risk of all kinds of diseases, with leaky roofs making the house damp and mud floors attracting insects.

The number of orphans and vulnerable children in Malawi has increased from 937,000 in 2001 to 1,400,000 in 2010, representing a 66 percent growth in less than a decade.

## HABITAT FACTS

**Families served:**  
more than 10,000

**Construction types:**  
New homes

**Hosting season:**  
April - early November

**Team size:**  
10-30 volunteers

**Number of volunteers hosted:**  
more than 2,000

# MALAWI



## DID YOU KNOW

Lake Malawi is sometimes called the Calendar Lake as it is about 365 miles long and 52 miles wide.

Malawians are famous for their beautiful hand crafts (wooden masterpieces) and hand painted pictures with animal which reflect different cultures in Malawi.



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## MALAWI

### Logistics

#### How to get there

Teams fly to Lilongwe International Airport if they are building in Salima, drive to the build site which is about 1.5 hours drive from the airport. Teams building in Mulanje can fly to Lilongwe and drive 6 hours to Mulanje (2 planned stops on the way) or fly to Lilongwe and take an internal flight to Blantyre (Chileka Intl Airport) and drive for 1,5 hours Mulanje.

#### Transportation

Volunteers arriving individually are kindly asked to take a taxi from the airport. Those arriving in groups are picked-up by a rented bus. Teams are taken to the project location by a rented bus, which is also used for daily

transportation from the local hotel to the work site and back.

#### Lodging

Teams are accommodated in double rooms with en-suite bathroom in simple and affordable lodges both in Lilongwe and at the project locations. The lodges offer breakfast and wireless internet access. It takes around 40 minutes to drive from the lodge to the work site.

#### Food and water

Breakfast is provided at the lodge. Lunch is carried to the site in form of packed snacks. Dinner is served at the lodge. Bottled water is provided throughout the day.



### MEET A HABITAT FAMILY

Fyness Frazer lives in Njete village, in Mulanje district. Fyness' husband died in 2007 and left her with four children. Fyness earns her small income by cultivating crops in other people's gardens. The family used to live in a small, poorly ventilated one-bedroom house. The floor was made of mud and therefore not conducive for healthy living. The walls were made of mud bricks and the roof was grass thatched with a torn plastic sheet cover. All this changed when a Global Village team came and built a house with burnt bricks for the family. "I still remember the team's dedication in building my house. They have changed my life and that of my family forever! I just hope that one day all those who helped build will come to see my new house and how it is helping my children. They now have a good place to sleep and study. We now have clean space to sleep and keep our items. This is my treasure and I will take care of it as of my own child", stated Fyness with full of smiles.

### WHAT DO THE VOLUNTEERS SAY?

"I have been completely changed by this experience. Seeing the smiling faces of the children and the entire community while living in utter poverty encourages me and my family to appreciate what God has given us. I will never forget this trip, it has helped me to love more. Thanks Malawi for hosting us!"

Join us in a  
journey of  
adventure, life  
enrichment  
and joy, choose  
a place and  
start making  
a difference  
now!

### CONTACT

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