

Who Are We,

Service Civil International (SCI) is one of the world's largest volunteering organizations with more than 90 years of experience in conducting short and long term voluntary projects for people of all ages and backgrounds. It has 43 branches and groups worldwide and an ever growing number of partner organizations. The network spans 5 continents, but is based mainly in Europe and Asia.

SCI was introduced to Sri Lanka in the early 1960's (June 30, 1963) and the organization has been active ever since. SCI has played a significant role in the promotion of peace and national integration in Sri Lanka. It has organized countless work camps, short term projects, long term projects, and international projects from the time it was established until now.

Our Mission Is,

"Promote peace, international understanding, and solidarity, social justice, sustainable development, and respect for the environment."!

Our Vision Is,

"A world peace: social justice and sustainable development, where all people live together with mutual respect and without resource to any form of violence to solve conflict."!

Project Name: Mother Theresa's home (Daya Niwasa)

Project description:

Mother Theresa's Home which is also called the "Daya Nivasa" (House of Love) is a home/orphanage for destitute children situated in the outskirts of the Kandy City. The Home is being run by catholic nuns. There are nearly 90 inmates and are all disabled. Some are severely disabled and are confined to wheel chairs or bedridden. Many need individual assistance to do their daily activities. The inmates are of all ages and all females. There are nearly 5 nuns and nearly 10 paid staff. In addition there are foreign and local volunteers who work there time to time.

Work: The main task of the volunteer is to help the staff to maintain the day today tasks at the home. Volunteers will help with the daily activities of the home like: Teaching, playing, singing, physical exercises etc.

Project Address: Daya Niwasa, Peradeniya Road, Kandy, Sri Lanka

Accommodation and food: Food is provided by the hosting organization. Since the center has a quite big and well equipped kitchen, it would be interested for the volunteers to share their culture and to learn new local dishes.

Accommodation would be at SCI center where volunteer has to share a room (attached bathroom) with a one more volunteer. It would be interested and a good experience to work and live in an international environment while sharing their own cultures. 24 hours accessibility to internet (Wi-Fi) and other facilities are available

Local Language: Tamil and Sinhala. All the nuns at the home speak English and both local languages.

Currency: The currency we use in Sri Lanka is Sri Lankan rupees.

1 €= 140 LKR 1\$= 130 LKR

There are many facilities to exchange your money in banks or take money using your bank cards in every city of the country.

Needed skills (inc. language requirement): Basic competency in English Language and interested in work with disable people. The volunteer should be ready to help the staff of Mother Theresa's in different ways.

Holidays & free time: Thursdays are free for all the volunteers work at the home. There are few holidays except the weekends in a month. Since there are a lot of things to see in the country you can plan to travel in these free days. Weekends are free for volunteers.

Working days and hours: Monday to Friday (except Thursdays) from 8.30 am – 4.30 pm with 1 and half hour break from 12.30-2pm. working hours/days could be adjusted through mutual agreement/arrangement.

What to bring: Personal needs. First aid, torchlight, pen knife, rain coat, mosquito repellents/mosquito nets. Musical instruments – if any. Simple game (enjoy your time with other volunteers ,cotton clothing, long trousers, shirts/blouses with sleeves (could be bought locally – rather cheap)and a great sense of humour would be very useful.

Travel directions: Kandy is Situated nearly 110 Km away from the central (Colombo) of Sri Lanka. The project situated nearly 3 Km from SCI center where you can easily take a bus or if you are sporty person it will be walk able distance.

This is our recommendation of Daya Nivasa:

“Your first day at Daya Nivasa can seem a bit overwhelming, with all of the women and kids that have all sorts of disabilities. But after a couple of days when you find your way of dealing with these wonderful women and experience their unlimited love for you, it will become a wonderful place to work. You will experience the pleasure of bringing love and joy into someone else's life. It really gives you a great experience and not only because of the disabled but also because of the nuns and other helpers at the place. The nuns share a lot of knowledge and respect all cultures and religions. You can always ask the nuns for help and you can be sure to get the needed help but also a joke on the way.

Working at Daya Nivasa is amazing; your boundaries will be expanded and you will do things you never thought were possible”.

Best regards,

Trine