

# Long Term Volunteering

*Those who say it cannot be done should not interrupt the people doing it.*  
(Chinese proverb)



## Quaker Cottage

*in Great Britain, hosted by IVS GB*

<b>Theme:</b>	Children, teenagers, elderly people
<b>Location</b>	Belfast, Northern Ireland
<b>Duration:</b>	6-12 months (12 months preferred) Vacancies now!
<b>Application:</b>	Internal application form. Phone/Skype interview. 2 references. Police background check in own country. Driving licence for a minimum of 2 years.
<b>Vacancies</b>	2
<b>Languages:</b>	
↔ <b>Project:</b>	English
↔ <b>Local:</b>	English

*If you are interested in taking part in this project, or if you would like to get more information about becoming a long term volunteer, please contact your local SCI organisation. You can search for the contact information here: <http://www.sciint.org/contact-us/local-sci-branch-or-partner>*

### **Project Description:**

Quaker Cottage aims to provide a safe and caring environment to actively promote self-esteem, family understanding and cooperation, improved social and life skills, enhanced development, mutual understanding and respect. Volunteers live and work at Quaker Cottage, a very special day centre that provides care and support for disadvantaged families referred by social services. Typically, the families have experienced some form of trauma in their lives or have difficulty coping with day-to-day living. All participant families live in areas most affected by the conflict in Northern Ireland.

**Work:** There are have two main volunteer roles: - A Childrens Program Volunteer works with children from 0-18 years old, using a very individualized and effective model of child care. These children come from areas which have experienced a high level of violence, and much of the behaviour that they display is negative. An attitude of tolerance and understanding is imperative. Other tasks include cooking, cleaning, and minibus driving. - A Teenage Program Volunteer further develops and deliver the group and individual work with young people in the 13-25 age range, under the direction of the Teenage Program group worker.

The volunteers work will often involve face-to-face work with groups of young people including project-based work, one-to-one sessions, and group/individual trips out. The work involves some administrative tasks, day-to-day running of the centre, and mini-bus driving, and will include three evenings per week and occasional weekends.

**Requirements:** Love for children Experience working with children Cooking and cleaning Driving Any skills that can be used in a child care environment art, storytelling, music, dance etc

**Food:** Volunteers receive a stipend of 55 pounds sterling per week to cover food etc.

**Accommodation:** Volunteers are provided with purpose-built accommodation and transport. We have good quality purpose-built volunteer accommodation adjacent to the workplace - with a private bedroom for each person.

**Pocket money:** 55 GBP per week

**Insurance:** VOLUNTEERS MUST HAVE APPROPRIATE HEALTH INSURANCE, ARRANGED EITHER THROUGH THE SCI SENDING ORGANISATION OR INDEPENDENTLY. PROOF IS REQUIRED: WITHOUT THIS VOLUNTEERS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. Separate travel insurance will be also required.

**Fees:** None

**Visa:** IVS(or the host)will issue a certificate of sponsorship for anyone living outside the EU and who requires an entry visa. Details of how to do this are given to each volunteer by IVS. Check your countries requirements for living and working in the UK.

**Others:** Experience with children is helpful; love for them is essential. One week in six, the childcare volunteers will be expected to prepare a meal for 10 adults and 12 children. In-house induction programme, Child Protection training and First Aid training. Volunteers are not expected to be trained counsellors and would not be working in isolation with a young person. Volunteers are expected to give 40+ hours per week. Evenings and weekends are free time.