



Children's Global Alliance

Service Trips 2025

The adventure starts here...

Welcome to Children's Global Alliance. If you are reading this, congratulations on taking the first step to participating in one of our life-changing, purpose-driven service trips. Welcome back to our returning students!

Who we are: Children's Global Alliance is a 501(c)3 non-profit program based in Vail, Colorado. The organization was created in 2010 to fill the void of large-scale volunteer experiences for students ages 12-18. Our organization offers service-learning travel opportunities and a leadership development program for students from the United States. This year we are offering service trips to Nicaragua, Morocco, Nepal and Tanzania. These trips will be taken in June/July/Early August of 2025 with exact dates given 4 months before travel.

What we do: Our volunteers are selected from a very competitive application and interview process which is open NOW! Once Chosen, you will participate in monthly meetings starting late November/early December that promote personal growth, leadership development, team building, and prepare you for work overseas. For each country program, this work culminates in an international service trip to a developing country. While abroad, students work, teach English, and support children and families who are living in poverty. Students will also experience the culture, make friendships that last a lifetime, and learn more about themselves and their capabilities than they ever have before. While the work we do varies in each country, we believe education is the key to helping end the poverty cycle, so we are heavily focused on teaching English in schools, working with children and building relationships.

How we do it: Children's Global Alliance gives student volunteers an unparalleled, hands-on experience and permits them to be immersed in a completely different way of life. Our volunteers are able to witness an up close and personal example of what life is like for children living in poverty. We work to build character, promote integrity, and learn the importance of accountability and communication from the moment our students are chosen. We also work hard to make each trip unique and fun with surprises in our schedule each week! Each student is responsible for lesson planning with their teaching partner prior to travel and earning the funds required for each trip. This is not a check written by their parents. It is a well-executed fundraising plan created by each student

that they are held accountable for throughout the process. They have unlimited support from their team leaders to help them reach their goals.

What we have done: We have helped thousands of children and families around the world by providing relief and support year-round through teaching English, providing meals, clothing, medicine, educational support, and working on self-sustainability projects. We have helped students in the United States by providing life-changing personal growth and leadership development, which, in turn, helps them discover what they are passionate about, learn to have compassion towards others, and develops financial literacy through completing their own fundraising. We also require our students to give back in their own communities, and fully and completely assist and support them on their paths to uncovering what they are truly passionate about in their lives. In 2024 alone, we contributed 400 hours of local volunteer work and facilitated 3 service trips by selecting 35 students to participate in these experiences.

Our goal: Now, more than ever, teenagers need positive programs, outlets and experiences to help navigate daily life. Our experiences not only foster positivity in their lives but they also encourage social connections and support networks, which are essential during the tumultuous teenage years. By engaging in positive activities, teens can develop essential life skills, enhance their self-esteem, and learn to navigate challenges more effectively. It's all about creating a supportive environment where they feel empowered to express themselves and pursue their passions!

We created these experiences with the idea that our volunteers would participate in a different trip, year after year. This goal provides them a positive outlook and focus for the year far beyond other programs and has been proven to make them globally minded, more aware, and compassionate human beings.

How to make the cut: It is important that our volunteers are physically, mentally, and emotionally prepared to handle this type of work. It is also important that our students want this experience as much as their parents may want it. If their heart and time are not fully invested in the program, it will not work. Please check in with your families, and confirm that this experience is something you all truly believe in and value. **Please also make sure this is something you have time for.** This program requires you to adhere to deadlines and attend 1 mandatory meeting per month. This will sometimes be via zoom but is mandatory to maintain your spot on the team. This program is elective and deadlines are given far in advance, so time management issues and/or excuses will not be tolerated and could cost you your spot on your team. Open communication with your team leader by requesting assistance when situations arise will always be considered and is greatly appreciated.

Are you ready? Here's how to make it happen:

Our registration process is NOW OPEN our Nicaragua, Nepal, Morocco and Tanzania trips, which happen between June-Early August 2025.

If you are a **returning student ONLY**, meaning you have already completed one trip with us:

FIRST: Fill out the online information sheet, via this link [CGA 2024/2025 Sign Up Link](#)

SECOND: email childrensglobalalliance@gmail.com with the answers to the three questions below.

THIRD: You will then be contacted and scheduled for an interview via zoom or Facetime.

Returning Student's Questions:

1. What did you learn about yourself on your last trip with us and what did you learn about the world?
2. What did you feel you did well with on your last trip and what would you like to work on if you are chosen for another trip?
3. Why do you think it is important to experience the world through these trips with CGA?

If you are a **NEW student:**

FIRST: Fill out the sign-up sheet using this link: [CGA 2024/2025 Sign Up Link](#)

SECOND: Email your written essay (word document please) and fundraising plan to our executive director, Lisa-Marie Provo, at childrensglobalalliance@gmail.com. The questions you need to answer in your essay are below, the fundraising plan you come up with on your own. As a reminder, you have to earn your own money for this trip through facilitating your fundraising ideas and please note that **all crowd-funding sites are prohibited. So, no "Gofundme" or any of those platforms.**

THIRD: We will then contact you to schedule an interview via Zoom or Facetime.

We typically choose 8 students per trip so it is first come first served. Once a trip is filled it is closed, so time is of the essence. This opportunity officially opens September 2024 for returning and new students. **Priority will be given to those that apply first.**

At the top of the page, under your name, please write which trip you are applying for.

Please choose any 3 of the following questions to answer within your essay:

1. What's something about yourself or your life that might surprise others to learn?
2. What are some challenges, difficulties, and hardships you've overcome or are working to overcome? How can what you learned help others?
3. What gives your life meaning?
4. What's missing from your life? From the world?
5. What do you wish you had more time to do?
6. How do you know when you're being completely authentic? When did you last feel that way?
7. Over the last 6 months, when have you felt the most alive and electrified?
8. What do you secretly love about yourself?
9. What do you love to do for others?
10. Why does giving back to the world feel important for you to do?
11. What scares you most about this experience?
12. Is your work ethic something you are proud of or is it something you are challenged by?

It is extremely important to follow directions and include all of the requirements in the essay. This essay is the first impression we will have of you, and attention to detail is a critical part of this process. **Please make sure your full name is on the front page.** Our biggest piece of advice is to write from your heart. We encourage creativity and out-of-the-box thinking. Show us who you are in your essay!

Step 3- Fundraising Plan

The second page should consist of a detailed fundraising plan and ideas of how you are going to raise money to fund your trip. The plan should be broken down into monthly goals.

Have more questions or want to hear stories from past volunteers and parents?

Informational Meetings and Interviews: Informational meetings will be conducted via zoom by request to address questions and provide more detailed

information for those that need it. Email us at childrensglobalalliance@gmail.com to get started.

The Work

Below you will find brief descriptions of the work we do while in each country. Please keep in mind that although we have worked in these placements for years, they could change at any time; this is the nature of working in developing countries, so you should always remain flexible.

Nicaragua: We work at the El Tambo School in the rural farming town of El Tambo, Nicaragua, located about 2.5 hours from the capital city of Managua. This town is absolutely incredible and you will leave with a full heart and true sense that you did your part to help this community. The school is a 15-minute drive from our home base and enrolls 60 students ranging from Preschool through sixth grade. We will be teaching Monday-Friday from 7:00am to 12:00pm, teaching classes, working one on one with students, assisting teachers in their classrooms and supporting students. After school we teach an English class for the mothers in the community who want to better themselves and have more work opportunities. Then is our chance to meet the families and sit in the homes of our students to learn about their culture. These "home visits" typically happen 3 times per week during your trip, after our teaching is done for the day. We also get to experience Nicaraguan culture through different activities during the trip. This trip typically lasts 9 days and is tentatively scheduled for early June.

Morocco: We work in an artisan school that serves children from middle school to young adults in the old medina in Rabat, the capital city of Morocco. We walk through one of Morocco's oldest outdoor markets every day on our way to school and often run into our students in the streets. We set up our "CGA English School" from inside this existing school which consists of 4 classrooms and 40-60 students total. We typically teach 4-5 English lessons each day from 9:30am-2:30pm. These students do not speak English at all so we use translators in each classroom. The dedication the students show on a daily basis will change the way you look at your own opportunities, simply just to go to school. You will also have a new appreciation for your own teachers and the work that they do. After school we get to visit the homes of our students, meet their families and learn about their way of life. This trip will be between 10-14 days and include a variety of cultural experiences so you really get to experience and learn about this magical country.

Tanzania: L.O.A.M.O school in Arusha, Tanzania, is home to 500 students from baby class to grade 7. We teach every day from 8:00am-3:00pm and get to teach a variety of subjects, experiments and fun concepts! There is no place on earth like this school. For between 10-14 days we will be immersed in teaching, giving and loving to the students, staff and families of this incredible institution. You will feel your confidence grow every day and our students are usually teaching 4-6 classes a day, with their teaching partners. We will be teaching 30-50 children in each classroom, so THIS IS HARD WORK, but nothing you cannot handle with the right attitude and work ethic!

Nepal: LISHA school serves children from Dattatraya square, located in Bhaktapur, Nepal about 40 minutes from Kathmandu. The school is walking distance (10 minutes) from our guesthouse. Our student volunteers teach classes daily from 10:00am-3:00pm with classes from 4th to 10th grade. Each day we also save time to help at the pre-school which is 2 blocks away from the primary campus. Our home visits take place after school and are our chance to sit in the homes of the children we are teaching and learn about their culture and way of life. This trip is filled with cultural experiences throughout our time so you will really get a great understanding of what life is like for our Nepalese friends. For 2025 we are also tentatively planning a surprise weekend trip!

Service Trip Dates:

All service trips will be taken in the summer of 2025. Trips will be from June, July, and early August and will be between 9-14 days. Please remain flexible, since there are many factors out of our control that determine when we travel. In these countries they don't plan so far ahead like we do, so we are still in the confirmation stages from each of the schools. Below you will find the approximate dates of each trip.

Nicaragua- Early June

Morocco Mid-June

Nepal- Early July

Tanzania- Late July/early August

Flight Information:

All flights will leave from Denver, Colorado. Exact dates will be given approximately three months before departure. **If you are coming from another state, you are responsible for making your own travel arrangements to and from Denver. You must depart from Denver as a team, no exceptions.**

Financial responsibilities of student volunteers:

Each of the students chosen must commit to fundraising to offset the travel costs for his/her trip. Fundraising is a critical part of this process and a priceless opportunity for each student to earn his/her trip through planning, hard work, responsibility, and follow through. The fundraising requirements and deadlines are:

Nicaragua- \$3,200

Morocco-\$4,500

Nepal-\$4,500

Tanzania-\$4,500

All trips must have 50% of the money raised by Monday, February 3rd, 2025. Final deadline is Monday, April 14th, 2025. All donations turned in are non-refundable.

What is covered:

Airfare

Luggage costs

Accommodation

Transportation

Travel Insurance

Translators

Excursions

Cultural Activities

Visas/Entry & exit fees

3 meals per day and water

Around the clock support- 3 chaperones per trip

What is not covered:

Spending money for souvenirs

Meals on travel days (at the airport)

Do not be intimidated by the fundraising. With dedication, drive, and creativity, this aspect will become the easiest part of the experience year after year. Once chosen you can start fundraising immediately. **Please, no crowd-funding sites like GoFundme!** Once chosen you will receive fundraising details and ideas.

Students have access to unlimited support and guidance from CGA. Any extra money raised by the students or chaperones will go directly to the children we are helping for food, medical care, structural repairs to their facilities, and educational scholarships. Quite simply put, the more you raise, the more we can do.

Additional Responsibilities:

Attending monthly meetings 1-2 per month, some may be on Zoom, all are mandatory. Out of state students do not have to attend in person, but will be expected to call in to each meeting via Zoom or Facetime with their group.

Each student will sign and adhere to a contract regarding his/her behavior prior to, during, and after the trips. The behavioral expectation of each student chosen for the trip is at the highest level. Parents will also sign an agreement regarding fundraising, flights, and expectations.

Students will commit to learning the language basics for the country where they are traveling; tools and assistance will be provided. Each student will be responsible for creating lesson plans with his/her group to use in the countries where we are teaching.

Have more questions or want to hear stories from past volunteers?

Below are blog links from some of our student volunteers who traveled with us in the past.

Sebastiancga.blogspot.com

berkeleycga.blogspot.com

karsencga.blogspot.com

catecga.blogspot.com
gabyfuentes-cga.blogspot.com

More information about Children's Global Alliance can be found at:
www.childrensglobalalliance.org

Facebook page: "Children's Global Alliance"
Instagram page: @childrensglobalalliance