

Grace

English School
Chimaltenango,
Guatemala



Volunteer Manual

Grace English School is working to provide more opportunities to young people in Chimaltenango, Guatemala through English education. As an accredited 501(c)(3) nongovernmental organization, our mission is to contribute to the education of young Guatemalans through professional English instruction utilizing modern technology while also providing health programs and vocational training to the community. We work in alliance with other national and international organizations that are also contributing to the educational development of the Guatemalan community.

GES Thrives Because of Volunteers

Our GES staff cannot speak highly enough about the volunteers that have partnered with our organization. Working with such great volunteers makes our students excited to come to class every day and allows our other programs to continue to grow and succeed. We are always looking forward to partnering with different individuals and groups to see what exciting new ideas and people will contribute to our organization whether they are there for a day or 6 months! At Grace, we want our volunteers to know their value and that without them the services we provide to the local community would not be the same. If you are interested in volunteering with Grace, then please send us an email at info@graceenglishschool.org about how you or your group can get involved!

“Grace is changing the community in a positive way.”

“I enjoy seeing the kids learning to speak English and seeing how excited they get when they are able to understand and respond. Grace is not only a school but also an opportunity for the students to achieve great things.”

—Amy Keyes, volunteer



What We Expect from Our Volunteers and What You Can Expect from Us in Return

It can be daunting choosing the right organization to volunteer with. At Grace, we hope to make your decision a lot easier! We want to work with individuals and groups alike. We do ask that if you or a member of your group is under 18, they have a parent/guardian sign a waiver before arriving in Guatemala! We also ask that our volunteers are respectful of our school, students, and staff and we will return the same! We truly value our volunteers and will arrange your housing and transportation. You will also have contact to in-country staff 24/7 during your time with Grace. We want you to have a great experience volunteering with us and hope that we can work together to accomplish just that! Please note that we do not charge any volunteering or administration fees! You can read more about the fees associated with some of our other projects below. We hope to see you in Guatemala soon! Please email info@graceenglishschool.org if you have any questions or want to volunteer!

Mission Statement

Our vision is to educate young ow people in Guatemala and give them a high quality of English instruction and utilize technology so they not only learn English but also experience other cultures. Our educational programs will help to raise the level of standards and success in education. Through these programs, our students will obtain a professional career in the community.



Different Ways to Volunteer Customizable Itineraries to Fit Your Needs

Grace is proud to be home to a number of different projects that serve the needs of the local community. Besides our after-school English program for children in the community, Grace also offers a music program, art program, medical clinic, and a dental clinic that are all free to the families of Grace students. Besides this, we also have programs to install water purification systems and wood efficiency stoves, and construct safe housing for families in need. With so many different projects we are able to provide a customizable experience for any volunteer or group! You can choose the area(s) where you would like to get involved and visit some of our partner organizations as well. We will work with you so that you not only get a meaningful service trip but also enjoy the beautiful country and people of Guatemala as well. If you're interested in working with Grace, then please check out the sections describing each of our projects below and send an email to info@graceenglishschool.org if you are interested.



"Volunteering at Grace was a wonderful experience. It is amazing to see the work being accomplished in the community and I love that I can still be involved even after my trip was over!"



After-School English Program

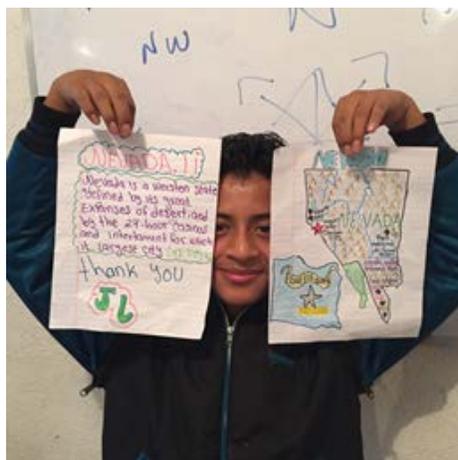
Spending time in our after-school program is a great way for anyone to volunteer with Grace. Our students love to practice their English with volunteers! You can talk, play games, and develop relationships while still helping them with their English language acquisition! There is no charge for this program except for any donations or projects you may want to do in the classes.

Grace staff made volunteering easy!

GES staff helped us plan our trip from little to big details accommodations, transportation, food, etc. They even helped us plan a trip to Lake Panajachel and hike a volcano! With no administration fee, volunteering with Grace was exactly the fit I was looking for.

Home Construction Project

Are you interested in providing safe and sustainable housing for families living in poor conditions? Perhaps you would enjoy working with GES to help resolve the financial burden from families living in poverty. The cost to construct one cinder block home is \$2,400. The families we partner with are required to pay back a small portion of the total cost of the home. This is a great opportunity to work alongside many hardworking families and masons throughout the construction process.



Music and Art Program

Are you musically or artistically gifted? Would you like to work with our arts program at Grace to help develop these talents in our students? Many of our students don't have the funds to take classes in art and music so the GES music and art program allows them to engage in a truly universal language! Come and share with our students some of your talents. There is no cost to participate in this program just anything you wish to bring with you or do in country.



Mi Especial Tesoro (My Special Treasure)

If you want to work with another great organization in the local area, Grace partners with Mi Especial Tesoro on many projects. You can go spend an afternoon or day volunteering with their organization that provides education and food for children that live in the local dump. They do wonderful work and we want to share that with our volunteers!



Stove Installation

Grace is happy to be able to work with the individual needs of the families in the community. Many families cook over open fires at home and are exposed to many different health concerns. For \$180 / stove, you and a team can go to the family's home and see how they are living and also how this stove can make a positive impact on the lives of every family member.



Dental and Medical Clinics

Grace is lucky to have two functional clinics to serve the local community. While we have staff that regularly sees the GES community however our staff and volunteers are always excited to have volunteer medical and dental professionals spend some time in the clinics. If you have experience in either area, and want to use your talents to give back then our clinic space is for you! There is no charge to volunteer in our clinics just any additional supplies you may want to bring is out of pocket.



Water Purification System

GES is also working to install water purification systems throughout the department of Chimaltenango. By installing one system for \$3,200, more than 5,000 people in the area have access to clean water. The system is self-sustainable. Volunteers have the ability to install a system and spread information about the importance of clean water throughout the community.

Volunteer with

Grace
English School