

**Physiotherapist Trainer**

**Tonga**

*This assignment has been negotiated in good faith with the Partner Organisation, and the information contained was correct at the time of acceptance of the request. However, while we take responsibility for matters under our direct control, all assignments and arrangements are subject to change. This assignment may be amended or withdrawn to reflect changes in circumstances.*

**ASSIGNMENT DETAILS**

<b>Assignment title</b>	Physiotherapist Trainer		
<b>Partner Organisation</b>	The Mango Tree Centre for People with Disabilities		
<b>Location</b>	Houmakelikao		
<b>Website of Partner Organisation</b>	NIL		
<b>Duration of assignment</b>	3 months	<b>Start date</b>	12/08/2021
<b>Type of assignment</b>	Remote	<b>Australian Organisation</b>	N/A
<b>Time commitment</b>	Part-time (less than 25 hours per week) (Remote volunteers only)		

**PARTNER ORGANISATION OVERVIEW**

The Mango Tree Centre for People with Disabilities (MTC), established by the Church of the Nazarene in 2002, provides rehabilitative and family support services for 130 people with disabilities on the main island of Tongatapu. Whilst awareness of disability is growing in Tonga, the number of reported people with disabilities remains low. This is due in part to the associated stigma and to a lack of proper identification and understanding of various disabilities. Tonga currently has limited services and programs for children or adults with disabilities. The services offered include early intervention sessions, wheelchair and equipment provision, home visits and parent support, Vocational and computer training. Many of the children attending MTC have cerebral palsy. Following intervention, some children with the disability are able to enrol in an Inclusive Education (IE) class at a government primary school or at mainstream schools.

# Australian Volunteers Program

## ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

### Assignment overview

The Physiotherapist will work within the Mango Tree Centre, who require a skilled paediatric therapist to consolidate and build on child assessment and treatment skills, in order for the centre to provide quality, sustainable therapy services and support to children with disabilities and their families.

The volunteer will be expected to build the capacity of the host organisation in three key areas. Firstly, the volunteer will increase staff capacity assessing the condition of each child and developing a relevant therapy plan by helping staff to assess the needs of disabled children, to develop and review treatment plans for each child, and to set short and long term therapy goals for each child. Secondly, the volunteer will increase the ability of staff to provide rehabilitation therapy according to an assessment based plan by providing training in rehabilitation therapy techniques, providing support to build parent and caregiver capacity by teaching them relevant therapy techniques at home. Finally, the volunteer will develop a basic sustainable rehabilitative therapy system for children with a disability by assisting staff with the ongoing development of client records management system.

### Assignment objectives

To develop the staff's skills on how to assess the disability and set up the treatment plan for individual disabled child.

To build capacity of MTC staffs through method of how to keep a record and keep track of the child's progress/improvement report.

To educate caregiver/parents the way of how to take care of a child with the disability at home.

To include all people directly affected by the volunteer assignment in the Partner Organisation and community, using strategies that promote: gender equality; inclusion of youth; inclusion of people with a disability; child protection and safeguarding; inclusion of marginalised groups.

### Duties and responsibilities of the volunteer

Assist staff in developing, monitoring and reviewing individualised treatment plans

Assist staff in setting individualised short and long term therapy goals

Train caregivers in caring for disabled children in home environment

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### Selection criteria

Tertiary qualifications in Paediatric Rehabilitation Therapy

One year of experience with children with disabilities

Experience in the assessment and treatment of children with a range of disabilities particularly cerebral palsy
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<b>Desirable skills, language and experience</b>
Experience working with families and caregivers of children with disabilities
Willingness to learn how to speak basic Tongan

<b>Line Manager</b>	Program Manager
<b>Staff Supervision</b>	No - This assignment is not deemed to require professional indemnity insurance
<b>Working relationships</b>	<i>The volunteer will work closely with the MTC team</i>
<b>Hours and days of work</b>	10:30pm-11:30pm, Monday to Friday(subject to change)
<b>Leave</b>	All volunteers are entitled to 20 days leave per 12 months, unless advised otherwise. The same conditions and terms as local colleagues apply, including national holidays.
<b>Professional indemnity insurance</b>	<b>No - This assignment is not deemed to require professional indemnity insurance</b>
(Required for all volunteers who are acting as a medical, allied health or legal professional whilst on assignment.)	The volunteer should consult the partner organisation about the need for professional indemnity insurance for the role prior to departure. Where required and/or considered essential to hold this insurance, please discuss this with the Volunteer Services Manager in Melbourne prior to departure.

## LIVING AS A VOLUNTEER

The Australian Volunteers Program supports volunteers from preparing to go on assignment through to returning home. For a full breakdown of support provided, please visit: <https://www.australianvolunteers.com/volunteering/lifestyle-and-support/>

<b>Living allowance</b>	18AUD
<b>Accommodation allowance</b>	N/A
<b>Language support</b>	Language support is provided during the in-country orientation period. Most often, additional resources for further development later in the assignment will be available if required.
<b>Country profile</b>	Learn more about the host country location by reading the country profile. We encourage candidates to research the specific location of this assignment as it will be discussed and addressed with a recruitment officer during the interview process. <a href="https://www.australianvolunteers.com/countries/tonga">https://www.australianvolunteers.com/countries/tonga</a>

## Australian Volunteers Program

### HOW TO APPLY

All applications must be submitted online through the Australian Volunteers Program website. If you have not already done so, you will need to register on our website prior to applying. For more information about how to apply, please visit:

<https://www.australianvolunteers.com/volunteering/how-it-works>

We actively support and encourage people of all backgrounds and abilities to volunteer internationally, and aim to make the program as accessible and inclusive as possible. The program has a dedicated Indigenous Programs Coordinator to support Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander volunteers, who can be contacted at [indigenouspathways@australianvolunteers.com](mailto:indigenouspathways@australianvolunteers.com). Access and inclusion plans

are available for volunteers with disabilities, to ensure their assignments and living and working arrangements are made more accessible.

Personal circumstances

Due to security, cultural, legal or visa restrictions associated with this location, we ask that applicants disclose:

- If they have a criminal conviction where a criminal conviction may be relevant to the inherent requirements of the assignment.