



FRIENDS OF MATTHEW RUSIKE CHILDREN'S HOME

www.friendsofmatthewrusike.org

Becoming a volunteer

Could you be a volunteer at Matthew Rusike Children's Home for a few weeks or even a few months? Have you got a skill which could be useful?

"I want people to know this place is very special but like all institutions it can only go so far to help these children. Volunteers really can make a difference because they can have more time with the children, they have enthusiasm and energy that can easily be sapped when you are living here fulltime." Shelley

Find out more.....

You will be very warmly welcomed by staff and children. Staff will care for you and you will soon become part of their large family. Life is slower, simple and very different at MRCH. You will live in the 3 bedroom guest house and share it with Shelley from the UK who is living there until 2013 (and maybe one or two other volunteers).

Expect to sleep in a very comfortable bed, relax in a comfortable but sparsely furnished living room, cook on a small cooker in the kitchen (when the electricity is on) and store buckets of water under the sink.



You may cook your own meals or have 3 meals a day at Mercy's house, (peanut butter sadza porridge for breakfast is highly recommended)



Remember to fill buckets regularly in readiness for the water to stop flowing from the taps

Learn a few words in [Shona](#) to greet people each time you meet them

good morning - [mangwanane](#) or [mamuka sei?](#)

good afternoon - [maskati](#),

good evening - [manheru](#) or [maswera sei?](#)

goodnight [morara zvakanaka](#)

how are you? [makadini zvenyu](#) or [munofara here?](#)

thank you - [tatenda](#) or [mazvita](#)

Be prepared to.....



Wait patiently.....



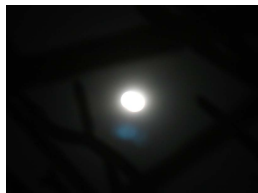
....entertain groups of children who turn up in your house several times a day.



Wash your clothes, your bedding and yourself in buckets of water heated in pans on your little cooker.



Wait patiently



When the sun goes down it is VERY dark so you need a wind up torch (or 2 or 3)



move a carpet or join a sponsored walk to raise money for the Home

fix anything...





become a friend to many individual children,

don't expect to get online easily



teach anything and support children with their homework,



fill burger buns..



..make a biscuit birthday cake..



..distribute gift boxes..



wash toys in the early childcare development centre....



..hold a baby..



..help sort peanuts..



...in fact turn your hand to anything that needs doing.

BUT....raise as much money as you can before you come – many things are needed which have to be at the bottom of their priority list but are available if you have money to spend

AND..... be prepared for children, staff and Zimbabwe to enter your heart and return home with you.

Contact carol2021@banham.net for further information
registered charity 1120944

Carol Banham November 2011