



## How do I become a 'Children in Crossfire' volunteer?

Becoming a volunteer for 'Children in Crossfire' is very easy. Just follow the guide below:

- 1 Read through this pack to find out all you need to know about becoming a 'Children in Crossfire' volunteer. If you have any further questions then please call us on 02871 269898.
- 2 Complete the registration form included with this pack and return it to us at 2 St Joseph's Avenue, Derry/Londonderry, BT48 6TH.
- 3 One of the 'Children in Crossfire' Volunteer Team will then have a chat with you about the volunteering opportunities in your area.
- 4 You will receive regular information from 'Children in Crossfire' to keep you updated on our news and latest volunteering opportunities and activities.
- 5 If you need support at any time, then please do not hesitate to contact us on 02871 269898, or email [volunteer@childrenincrossfire.org](mailto:volunteer@childrenincrossfire.org)

## Frequently asked questions

### What are the benefits of volunteering?

Volunteers have the opportunity to work on a variety of fun activities, developing skills and meeting lots of people in the local area, while also helping to make a positive difference to the lives of other people overseas. Volunteering can also act as valuable work experience that can be added to a CV and used when seeking future employment.

### Who can volunteer for 'Children in Crossfire'?

Anyone over 16 can volunteer for Children in Crossfire and we have a wide range of activities that are suitable for young and old.

### Where is this voluntary work based? (Can I work on projects in Africa?)

All of our voluntary work is based exclusively in Ireland and the UK; there are no opportunities for people to work on a voluntary basis on our projects in Africa.

### How much time do I have to give?

The time that you give is entirely up to you – you can volunteer as much or as little as you like. You could help at one-off events such as supermarket and street collections, or set up a fundraising group that meets to discuss and plan your own events.

### What skills and experiences do I need?

Volunteers don't require any specific skills or experiences, just a desire to help us whenever you can. Of course, if you have any specific skills or expertise we would love to hear about them and see how you can apply them to volunteering activities.

### What will happen after I have signed up?

Once we have received your completed registration, a member of our Volunteer Team will contact you and have a chat about some of the things you might wish to help us with. After this, we will send you regular communications on the charity's news, information on upcoming events and volunteering activities that you might be interested in.

### Will I be given any training?

We will provide you with information on the charity, the work we do and the projects that we support and the communities we serve.

As with any volunteering activities, you will be fully briefed on all of the necessary information required for that event or activity.

### Can I claim expenses?

We will refund any travel expenses while volunteering for us. Just complete an expense form and submit this along with any tickets or receipts as proof of purchase.



If you have any questions, please contact us on 02871 269898, or email [volunteer@childrenincrossfire.org](mailto:volunteer@childrenincrossfire.org)

Children in Crossfire,  
2 St Joseph's Avenue,  
Derry/Londonderry,  
BT48 6TH  
Tel: 02871 269898  
[www.childrenincrossfire.org](http://www.childrenincrossfire.org)



## Volunteer Pack

# Welcome

Thank you for your interest in volunteering for Children in Crossfire.

Children in Crossfire's vision is for a world where child's rights are protected so they can reach their potential and lead fuller lives; we do so by supporting local organisations in communities in the developing world to improve the lives of young children, with a particular focus on children with disabilities.

One of the vital elements of our organisation is the participation and involvement of volunteers in our local community to help us achieve our aim of making a positive difference to the lives of vulnerable young children living in Ethiopia, Tanzania and The Gambia.

Voluntary work can take many forms – helping with street collections, doing work in our office, or raising awareness of our organisation – and the input of volunteers is very important. Volunteering is also great fun and an excellent way of meeting people and making new friends. Everyone's a winner!

This pack is designed to give you lots of information on volunteering for Children in Crossfire. You will find out more about how you can get involved, ways of helping us, and hear from existing volunteers about their experiences.

We are available to support you whenever you need us. Call us on 02871 269898, or email [volunteer@childrenincrossfire.org](mailto:volunteer@childrenincrossfire.org). We also warmly welcome visitors to our offices at 2 St Joseph's Avenue, Derry/Londonderry, BT48 6TH.

We look forward to working with you.

The Volunteer Team

# Volunteer Profiles

'Children in Crossfire' are lucky to have some great volunteers...



## Laura Fuentes

Laura is an overseas student who has helped us with administrative tasks in our office, street collections, and the promotion of events in the local community.

*"I am volunteering for Children in Crossfire to make a contribution through an organisation that I believe makes a real difference to the lives of other people. I really feel that I am part of the team here, and I believe that I get the opportunity to do something positive with my spare time. It's also a lot of fun!"*

## Ciaran O'Connor

Ciaran is a university student who has been volunteering for Children in Crossfire in his free time. He has helped with the processing of donations raised through our Advent Appeal, and has also collected donations on flag days and promoted events in the local community.

*"I enjoy contributing what time I can to help Children in Crossfire continue their important work. There is a great working environment here and it's very rewarding to know that everyone in the office is working towards the same goals. Children in Crossfire gives me the opportunity to understand some of the problems facing people in the poorest parts of the world while helping in what little way I can."*



## Catherine & Laura

Catherine & Laura have volunteered in our office after school as well as assisting with bag packs in local supermarkets. They have helped us maintain records, thanked donors, and promoted events.

*Laura: "I find volunteering very beneficial and it is worth every minute spent doing it. It is very fulfilling and extremely rewarding"*

*Catherine: "Volunteering for Children in Crossfire is fun and the people there are very friendly, you come away with a sense of achievement and it feels like anything but work."*

## Catherine McMahon

Catherine is regularly involved in flag days, bag packs, and church collections, and helped to coordinate the distribution of Advent calendar boxes and the collection of donations in her local church during Children in Crossfire's Advent Appeal.

*"I have admired the work of Children in Crossfire and it's founder, Richard Moore, for a long time, and I feel privileged to play my part in helping children in Africa to have better opportunities for the future. I do voluntary work because I feel it is important to help to increase the awareness of the organisation in the local community, and to talk to people about the important work that they do overseas."*



# Top ways to volunteer

There are many ways that you can help us make a difference, including the following:

### Flag day volunteer

We organise a number of flag days (street collections) in various locations in Northern Ireland throughout the year and we require volunteers to help us collect donations from the public at these events.

### Bag pack volunteer

We need volunteers to help customers in local supermarkets to pack their shopping in return for donations to Children in Crossfire.

### General collection volunteer

There are a number of opportunities that come up during the year at which we gather donations, including collections at local supermarkets and shopping centres.

### Church volunteer

We are looking for volunteers to help with occasional collections at churches and with the distribution of our Advent Appeal packs and collection of donations at churches during our annual Advent Appeal.

### Advent volunteer

Our annual Advent Appeal is growing every year and we require people to help with the promotion of the campaign in the local community; this would involve distributing Advent calendar boxes, putting up posters and helping to count donations.

### Events volunteer

Children in Crossfire organise a number of events throughout the year and we require people who can help at these; duties might include selling raffle tickets, welcoming guests, etc.

### Schools facilitator

Our Development Education team works with local schools on projects that raise awareness of development issues and are looking for people to help facilitate workshops and training courses.

### Volunteer ambassador

We are always working to recruit more volunteers and what better way to do this than for current volunteers to talk to others about what it's like to be a CIC volunteer? Being a volunteer ambassador would involve working with volunteer organizations, helping at volunteer fairs and other events at which we might recruit new volunteers.

Raising awareness of our charity and the work we do in the local community is vital in achieving our aims.

