



A project of the Friends Peace Teams

2012 AGLI Workcamps
BURUNDI, KENYA & RWANDA
Saturday, June 23 to Saturday, July 28

1) Burundi Workcamp – Mutaho

Host Partner: REMA - is a group of about 50 women (Hutu, Tutsi, and Twa) from Mutaho Friends Church led by Pastor Sara Gakobwa. The name means be comforted, do not get discouraged. See page 23 - <http://www.aglifpt.org/publications/articles/hroc/pdf/aftergunsstopped.pdf>

Location: Mutaho, Burundi - Northeast of Bujumbura near Gitega – the second largest city in Burundi

Objective: The Workcamp Peace Team will build guest rooms for the Mutaho Women's Group Center.

Housing: Workcampers will stay with local host families.

2) Rwanda Workcamp – Gisenyi

Host Partner: Gisenyi Friends Church

Location: Gisenyi, Rwanda. On the northern edge of Lake Kivu, west of Kigali, just across the border from Goma, Congo

Objective: Workcampers will complete work on the offices and bathroom.

Housing: Workcampers will stay in the Peace Center dormitory

3) Kenya Workcamp – Lugari

Host Partner: Lugari Yearly Meeting

Location: Lugari District is close to the Uganda border with Kenya with a perfect view of Mt Elgon. This is a 350 acre farm owned by Lugari Yearly Meeting and a former Farmers Training Center.

Objective: Workcampers will rehabilitate one or more buildings; cleaning, painting, minor repairs

Housing: Workcampers will stay at the site which is much like camping. It is cold at night so there is usually a nightly campfire.

Contact Dawn Rubbert via dawn@aglifpt.org or go www.aglifpt.org

Workcamper Qualifications/Expectations

General: We accept all ages: workcampers have been as young as 8, as old as 84 and have included an entire family of five. Our goal is for each team to include 6 international (non-local) and 6 local workcampers plus professional builders.

Physical & Skill requirements: Good health and willingness to do manual labor. Construction skills and experience are not necessary.

Living conditions: All workcamps will be spartan. There may be no running water (pit latrines and splash baths), limited electricity, and, email may be non-existent or erratic.

Expected Conduct for Team Members While in Africa: The African Great Lakes Initiative (AGLI) partners with African Quaker Yearly Meetings. Team members will be in close contact with members of these Yearly Meetings. Workcampers are expected to abide by local Quaker behavioral expectations as delineated below. These restrictions apply from the time of arrival in Africa until the individual returns to his/her home country.

Guidelines

Peace Team Members are expected to abide by behavioral guidelines as delineated below.

These guidelines apply during the entire time you are an AGLI Service Team Member.

- Respect and follow directions of the African workcamp leaders supervising the workcamp.
- Do not buy cooked food from street vendors because the food may have been cooked in unsanitary conditions.
- No use of tobacco products, including smoking; no alcohol; no illegal drug use – including marijuana; and, no sex outside of marriage – heterosexual or homosexual. ***If AGLI learns that you are doing any of these activities you will be asked to return home immediately at your own expense.*** If you have concerns or questions ask now.
- There are many ways of behaving that can be rude or insensitive to Africans. Clean clothing, without tears and/or holes must be worn at all times. Good attire is expected at official functions such as attending church -- women should wear skirts or dresses at least covering the knees and men should wear a nice shirt and long slacks.
- Do not go barefoot outside the place where you are sleeping.
- Do not go out at night unless accompanied by a local African workcamp team member or another local adult.
- Be extremely careful with all the gadgets with which internationals are so well endowed — camcorders, CD players, laptops, cameras, video games, etc. This includes the taking of pictures and videos.
- Do not take expensive things, including jewelry, when modestly priced ones will do. Be keenly aware that funds are very scarce for Africans--what you might consider a modest expense (dinner for \$3) might be better used by Africans for family welfare.
- Individuals will frequently ask you for assistance. Under no circumstances give funds to individuals, no matter how much you want to help. In addition, gifts must not be given to individuals as this will create gossip, envy, and hostility in the community. If you would like to be generous, give funds or gifts to the local AGLI partner organization with which you are volunteering, or which is hosting you. Ask them to use your donation for whatever they consider to be the most pressing need in the community.
- Do not take anyone to the hospital, clinic, or doctor. Do not buy medicine for anyone but yourself since you can be blamed if something goes wrong and you perhaps are being scammed and overcharged. If someone is sick, it is the responsibility of African staff to take people for treatment
- When possible attend social events including church services around your area.
- Wear a seat belt whenever you are in a vehicle that has them. Seat belts are required by law in Burundi, Kenya and Rwanda. Be very cautious about riding a motorcycle.
- It is safer not to give a lift to armed people, except when there is no choice. Do not give beer to or buy beer for soldiers, guards, or any other individuals.

If you want a deeper understanding of the need for any of the above rules, please ask Dawn, dawn@aglifpt.org or 314-647-1287 (USA).

Orientation for North American Workcampers: Saturday, June 23 - Monday June 25, at William Penn House in Washington D.C. <http://williampennhouse.org/node/89> Workcampers should arrive Saturday afternoon or early evening. Sessions after Saturday dinner are usually informal. Orientation begins in earnest on Sunday and continue into the evening. On Monday workcampers will be transported to Dulles Airport to depart for Africa.

NOTE: Workcampers coming from Europe are not required to attend in this orientation.

Responsibilities of Workcamp Team Members:

1. Each workcamper is expected to conduct fundraising: a minimum of \$2300 plus the actual cost of airfare to/from Africa (roughly \$2000). AGLI will assist you and your support committee with fundraising ideas. \$2300 includes: the cost of orientation for North Americans; cost of food and lodging in Africa; \$1200 towards building materials for your workcamp project; and \$450 for AGLI expenses. Airline tickets will be purchased for each workcamper when we have received the first \$2000 in donations. If these funds are received by April 1st it is likely that the airfare will be \$2000 or less. Later purchases can cost significantly more.
2. North American workcampers must arrange and pay for travel to/from Washington, DC for Orientation.
3. Visa fees: Burundi \$90; Kenya \$50; Uganda \$50; and Rwanda—none required.
4. Shots and medicines – Information is in AGLI's Volunteer Handbook.
5. One 50 pound suitcase with children's clothes, school supplies, and over-the-counter medicines. Specific details vary with time and place and will be provided to accepted applicants.

Application: To receive an application email Dawn@aglifpt.org or download it from our website <http://www.aglifpt.org>.

Application deadline: We will continue to accept applications until all workcamp quotas have been filled. Send completed applications to Dawn@aglifpt.org via email. Remember that applications will be processed only after receipt of a report from the clerk of the clearness committee, via email. Applications will be considered on a first come/first served basis. AGLI will inform applicants regarding acceptance within two weeks of receiving both the application and the clearness committee report.

-- A Volunteer Handbook is available --

AFRICAN GREAT LAKES INITIATIVE

FRIENDS PEACE TEAMS

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