FIND THE VOLUNTEER INSIDE YOU

VOLUNTEER CATALOGUE

Trinidad & Tobago Red Cross Society
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Hello and welcome to The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society’s 2019 Volunteer Catalogue.

So you have decided to come to our doors and open your heart to something new? You are about to embark on an adventure which is filled with exciting, challenging and engaging experiences!

This catalogue will provide you with important information about TTRCS’ Volunteer Programs, as well as our mission and vision. It will give you thorough information about our various Volunteer opportunities and a journey into some of our exciting projects and initiatives, in order to make the choice easier for you. Take some time to read through this catalogue, so that you can get an impression of what your volunteer journey with the TTRCS will look like.

Volunteers have been the backbone of our Movement since its birth in 1863. Today, the Movement currently has around 12 million active volunteers and they are central to all activities of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, contributing to the success of our National Societies and assisting millions of vulnerable people in times of greatest need.

Explore this catalogue and find out how you can become part of the world’s largest humanitarian network. Discover how you can contribute toward making this world a better place by providing support to the most vulnerable people in our communities.

At TTRCS we truly believe that Volunteers are can make a difference, and so we would like to officially invite you to for part of our family. Your experience may be life changing if your heart is open to sharing yourself and eager to learn.

Hundreds of volunteers have walked through our doors and you can be the next one. Just find the volunteer inside you.

Sádé Budhlall
Director, Volunteer Development

THE TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO RED CROSS SOCIETY

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society (TTRCS) is part of the Internal Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement- the world’s largest humanitarian network- and operates as an auxiliary in the humanitarian field to the Government of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago.

TTRCS focuses our resources on providing communities with disaster preparedness and quality health programmes designed to empower the most vulnerable in our society. We are one National Society, comprised of a Headquarters and three Branches situated in Port-of-Spain, San Fernando and Scarborough, Tobago.

WE ARE PEOPLE FOCUSED, MISSION-BASED, AND COMMUNITY-DRIVEN!

Mission
We will create a nation where present and future generations are empowered, resilient and self-reliant.

Vision
To mobilize the power of humanity through volunteerism and by being a beacon of hope that supports and connects people to regain control of their lives.

Purpose
The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society’s duty is to carry out humanitarian efforts that impact and protect vulnerable communities and save lives.

OUR SEVEN FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES:

1. Humanity
2. Impartiality
3. Neutrality
4. Independence
5. Voluntary Service
6. Unity
7. Universality

OUR CORE VALUES:

Diversity
Innovation
Integrity
Professionalism
Unity
Service
Results-Oriented
Volunteer Management is one of the supporting pillars of TTRCS’ 2019-2022 Strategic Plan.

We acknowledge that volunteers are our biggest asset as they play an essential role in our purpose to protect vulnerable communities and save lives. The management of volunteers is thus a significant factor for TTRCS as we continuously seek to improve and establish good volunteer management systems, as well as ensure that the environment which it operates in is volunteering enabling.

Volunteering development takes time and requires commitment. It begins with analyzing the current state of how our National Society manages and supports its volunteers. Taking the analysis into a process to put in place, improve or change the practice of volunteer management.

It is about assessing all organizational levels as well as the current practice of the various programmes and activities run by TTRCS. It is also vital to advocate for volunteering enabling environments through heightening awareness on the importance of Red Cross volunteers are at the heart of effective humanitarian assistance for vulnerable people.

Volunteers are our strength. They are what defines us and what makes us a unique humanitarian force in the world. As such, one of our strategic focuses is making a long-term investment in volunteers and giving them the tools and resources, they need to meet the high demands and expectations that we — and our supporters — place on them.
THE TEAM

STRATEGY
Director of Volunteer Development: Sádé Budhlall
Governing Council on the National Society.
The Director of Volunteer Development is responsible for developing the strategy and infrastructure for mission-driven volunteer engagement to be implemented in all Branches across Trinidad & Tobago. For the past six (6) years Ms. Budhlall has worked in volunteer management operations in various, diverse contexts for civil society, non-profit and public entities both locally and regionally. She has also held a number of progressively senior positions within volunteer engaging organizations. Her intent is to develop a sound, socially-innovative volunteer management system, and ensure that the environment in which TTRCS operates is volunteering enabling.

IMPLEMENTATION
Volunteer Development Focal Point- Mrs. Vilma Benjamin-Watts
Location: Headquarters
Mrs. Vilma Benjamin-Watts comes with a wealth of experience in the management and mobilization of volunteers. She is responsible for implementing our volunteer strategy and upholding our Volunteer management system to assist in the delivery of the Trinidad & Tobago Red Cross programs and services.

COORDINATION
Branch Volunteer Officers:
Location: North, South & Tobago
Presently Vacant
Our Branch Volunteer Officers are responsible for the overall coordination and management of volunteers at the branch-level, and ensuring that our Volunteer Management Cycle is streamlined- each component playing an integral role in supporting TTRCS in reaching their volunteering goals and objectives in terms of volunteering. One officer is assigned to each branch and receives technical support from the Volunteer Development Focal Point.
WHO IS A TTRCS VOLUNTEER?

The TTRCS Volunteer is an individual whose work exemplifies or inspires the humanitarian values of human dignity, respect, compassion and the protection and assistance implied in the Fundamental Principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement.

Upon joining TTRCS, volunteers are placed in a 3-month induction period where they are exposed to the various departments and programmes of the organization. TTRCS works with and through its volunteers in a variety of service areas, depending on the humanitarian needs of communities. These activities can include tackling challenges such as migration, violence, and health including HIV and AIDS, and thus requires specialized training to support the mission of each intervention area.

Volunteers are placed, oriented and trained succeeding their 3-month induction period, when they have demonstrated consistent interest, passion and dedication to support the work of the Movement.

Join our vibrant community of volunteers. There are many options you can choose from, short-term, long-term, remotely from home or volunteer for a day or as the need arises!
YOUR VOLUNTEER JOURNEY

Our goal is to make your volunteering experience memorable, meaningful and empowering!

The volunteer management cycle illustrates a system that supports the goals and objectives of the Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross. It organizes voluntary effort in order to accomplish the mission of the Movement. The cycle moves through the various components of volunteer management, with each component playing an integral role.
DISASTER RESPONSE

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society’s (TTRCS) Disaster Management Department is one of the foremost responders to disasters in Trinidad and Tobago working alongside the first responders such as Municipal Corporation’s Disaster Management Units, Emergency Health Services, Fire and Rescue and other agencies. The disaster teams prepare persons in the community to be first responders before formal assistance arrives.

Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society’s (TTRCS) disaster relief focuses on meeting people’s immediate emergency disaster-caused needs. When a disaster threatens or strikes, the TTRCS provides shelter, food, health and psychosocial support services to those affected both pre and post disaster. In addition to these services, the core of the TTRCS disaster relief function in providing assistance to disaster victims is to enable them to resume their normal daily activities independently. The TTRCS also handles inquiries from concerned family members outside the disaster area and helps those affected by disasters to access other available resources.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Emergency Medical Response
- Disaster Response
- Program Facilitation
- Logistics & Quality Management
- Relief & Distribution Coordination
- Administrative Program Support
- Communications and Information Systems Coordination
- Information Management
Health

Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA)

The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Society is proud to state that we are the first country in the Caribbean region to implement the Community Based Health and First Aid (CBHFA) programme. The goal of the CBHFA is to have an integrated community-based approach in which Red Cross volunteers work with their communities on disease prevention, vector-control, health promotion, first aid and disaster preparedness and response.

HIV and AIDS Community OUTREACH

The TTRCS Health Department has mounted an aggressive campaign against the spread of HIV and AIDS, seeing it as a humanitarian disaster. Since 2003, the Department has implemented a number of strategic programmes, campaigns and projects to step up the fight against the virus locally with the aim of educating the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago about HIV and AIDS and other Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs). To the TTRCS, education is key to prevention!

Volunteer opportunities in our Health Department include:

- Public Health Education (for NCDs HIV & Zika)
- Research, Assessment, and Data Collection
- Monitoring and Evaluation
- Health Navigator
- Program Development
- Project Management
- Advocacy
- Peer Counselling
- Community Outreach via Community Based Health and First Aid
- Community-based Disaster response (for Zika)
- Facilitation
- Administration

Youth Development

TTRCS recognizes the importance of building the capacity of youth as key agents for social change and economic development, and to further promote youth volunteering as a way for young people to become aware of the benefits of civic engagement.

We believe in nurturing and developing the next generation of leaders and our programs are designed help younger leaders build leadership skills, expand education and learn the value of humanitarian service.

Our diverse Youth Program is supported by our Youth Executive Committee, and consists of our Youth Links in various Primary and Secondary schools across Trinidad and Tobago, a para-military force of Cadets, and Youth Volunteers all of whom are essential to programmatic success by supporting the following areas:

- Educators, Facilitators and Tutors
- Policy Development
- Research
- Youth Advocacy
- Camp Aide and Support
- Peer Counselling
- Administration
- Event Planning and Coordination
- Project Management
- Proposal Writing
- Community Service
- Culture, Visual and Performing Arts
MIGRATION

Our Migration Project was established to address the surge in migration to Trinidad and Tobago. Through this project we aim to address the humanitarian concerns of the migrant population and provide assistance and protection, working towards social inclusion.

Volunteers undergo a specialized training pathway to support the following intervention areas:

- Financial Aid
- CBHFA
- Psychosocial support
- Education
- Monitoring and Evaluation

PRISON OUTREACH

TTRCS volunteers are trained as medics, health educators and facilitators to support inmates in the justice system through health services, life skills training, and skills-building initiatives.

These programs aim to consciously and systematically incorporate the needs of vulnerable and sensitive population groups into all aspects of health, economic and psychosocial support services. Volunteers are therefore strategically recruited based on program needs, and undertake specialized training to enhance their skills and improve socio-cultural understanding of the problems these vulnerable populations face, which can all lead to inclusive and viable solutions.
Parallel to supporting our programs there is an array of skills-based volunteering opportunities from which you can choose from:

- Administration
- Fundraising
- Proposal writing
- Research
- Communications
- Construction & Beautification
- Training and Development
- Finance
- Culinary Arts
- IT Support
- Transport
- Event Planning
- Telecom
- Marketing
- Visual & Performing Arts
TTRC CHILDREN’S CARNIVAL - A MAGICAL EXPERIENCE FOR OUR VOLUNTEERS

Each year the TTRCS engages almost 200 volunteers to execute its most spectacular event: The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Children’s Carnival.

‘Kiddies Carnival’, as it is fondly known, was first held in 1956 under the patronage of Lady Beetham. Today the TTRCS Children’s Carnival has become an institution on the Carnival scene. The event has brought vibrant colour, splendour and various dimensions of local creativity to the forefront of attention just before the Big Mass.

From inception to finish, Volunteers are the pulse of this cultural spectacle, and the catalyst that makes it so transformational.
The Trinidad and Tobago Red Cross Children’s Carnival is proud to inspire volunteers to free the creative forces within themselves and soar in:

- Event Planning and Coordination
- Logistics
- Administration
- Stage Support
- Health and Safety
- Marketing and Communications
- Volunteer Coordination
- Hospitality
- Creative Arts and Design
Businesses can give more than financial support to the community. They can offer their most valuable asset: their employees’ time.
BENEFITS OF CORPORATE VOLUNTEERING

FOR BUSINESS:
- Increased company pride and loyalty from staff.
- Heightened and positive recognition by customers and consumers.
- Improved staff morale, motivation, team spirit and initiative.
- Enhanced workplace relationships and unique opportunities for staff to work with people from different areas and levels of their organization.
- Better employee attendance, recruitment and retention.
- New skill development opportunities for staff.
- New business opportunities.
- Improved triple bottom line.
- A more positive corporate image.
- Transformative relationships between the company and the local community.

FOR EMPLOYEES:
- Opportunities to meet new people and explore new situations and challenges.
- Unique opportunities to interact with people from other areas of the company.
- Opportunities to meet new people and explore new situations and challenges.
- Unique opportunities to interact with people from other areas of the company.
- New and more positive perceptions of career, workplace, peers and management teams.
- Pathways to community involvement for employees reaching retirement age or considering part-time employment.

FOR THE COMMUNITY:
- The transfer of skills, knowledge and technical expertise into the community.
- Changing behaviours and practices that create social, economic or environmental problems.
- Providing access to teams of volunteers for major tasks and events.
- Providing access to free or subsidised resources.
- Increasing public awareness of community issues.
- Creating new income streams for community projects.
- Improving understanding and appreciation between the business and voluntary sectors.

It is well documented that corporate volunteering programs can improve a company’s profile. The Centre for Volunteering, Australia (2008) found that in most companies surveyed, community relations were improved, the company’s image was enhanced, and the program assisted the company to implement its core mission.

TTRCS’ 3-dimensional corporate volunteering model is carefully crafted to support companies in their business-related goals, employee satisfaction, and community impact with quantitative and qualitative measurable outcomes. It allows companies to undertake strategic community profile building for business development, engender personal and professional growth in employees, and make a difference to the community with acts of service.

We aim to re-define corporate practice, in order to create a society where businesses are actively involved in co-creating sustainable change and solutions for the world, and we do so because we believe that true commitment to social change and community development requires stepping out of the office, and engaging with those who are most vulnerable.
TTRCS employs a team-building approach where companies and organizations can support one project or area of intervention, e.g., Environmental Service, Beautification, Community Outreach.

TTRCS can help you establish an Employee Volunteering Program by supporting you with the following:

• Employee volunteering audit- we can conduct an audit to canvass the interests and passions of your employees. This information can be gathered by a combination of survey and focus groups.

• Link employees with specialist skills- we can tailor a skills-based volunteer program for your employees with skills in areas such as marketing, customer service, organizational development and strategic planning.

• Intelligent mapping- we can match employees with meaningful volunteer opportunities based on their interests and skill sets.

• Employee preparation- we can provide your employees with a comprehensive orientation, and relevant training for their volunteer roles.

• Link teams of employees into volunteer positions - we will source projects which are tailored to meet both the requirements of your specific team, and the needs of the community or our organization.

• Risk Analysis

• Evaluation- we can collect feedback from employee volunteers and the community organization to determine your impact and write a full evaluation report which will measure the success of your program’s objectives. This information may be used for promotional and marketing purposes.

• Recognition- we can recognize employee efforts and evaluate the success of the program and partnership.

Contact us today for more information.
APPLICATION PROCESS

Sign up:
Scan the code to complete our online application or visit: https://ttrcs.org/volunteer-form/

Interview:
Sit for an interview with one of our volunteer officers. Show them why you care about Red Cross. Ask Questions.

Learn:
Find out more about TTRCS at your Induction.

Explore:
Attend Branch meetings, meet the team, get involved in our activities!

Become:
After 3 months, you are now Red Cross ready! Attend your orientation ceremony, receive your volunteer pin and get ready for a world of possibilities!
CONTACT INFORMATION

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