

Alternative Community Practice

Occupational Therapy Volunteer Opportunities

Working with Children & Youth in Romania

Typical Broken Heart Ministries / Fundatia Broken Heart Programs:

Guest Lectures

Conducting Seminars & Training on Occupation based Interventions

Consultation, Evaluation, & Direct Intervention

Patient population: premature infants through young adults

Diagnostic groups: Autism, CP, DD, Psychiatric disabilities, Down syndrome, post institutionalized children, attachment disorder and behavioral deficits, and learning disabilities

Treatment Settings include: Hospitals, Schools, Prisons, Out-patient Clinics, Day Centers, Orphanages, Home Visits in both Urban and Rural placements.

Durations of Program: 2-4 weeks, 5-8 weeks and 9-12 weeks

Volunteer Opportunity:

Volunteering on this vital project will allow you to truly immerse yourself in all aspects of Romanian life while giving you the opportunity to meet some of the rehabilitation needs for disadvantaged & marginalized children & youths in Romania.

This is a real opportunity for outgoing types to throw themselves in at the deep end, getting involved with the day-to-day running of community based practice, from planning treatments to helping with the organizational and operational elements.

By volunteering on this project you will help the children & youths to develop key skills which will open important doors for social integration and maximize their potential for independence and career options, helping them to build brighter futures.

Highlights:

The projects we have developed in Romania through the Transitional Living Center gives shelter, support, basic education and social welfare to disadvantaged youths, and occupational therapy services for disabled populations from birth through young adulthood. This project was established in 2005 by Luke J. McDannel and his wife, Dr. Renée McDannel, Occupational Scientist & Therapist. The project now incorporates buildings for accommodation, administration, training, sport and worship. This Translational Living Center has helped nurture the skills and well-being of youths leaving the

orphanages and integrating into society. They aim to provide a safe and stable environment so that these children can focus on their education, develop life skills and confidently leave the TLC to lead happy and fruitful lives.

Qualifications:

Occupational Therapy volunteers must have a BS or MA in the field of Occupational Therapy and have graduated from an accredited school holding World Federation of Occupational Therapy Standards. Pediatric and psychiatric experience is preferred, but we welcome new graduates who are seeking to develop their skills. Also, we desire to have expert clinicians and academicians to assist in training and seminar projects. You will need to be flexible and be willing to get involved in as much as possible. The project encourages vocational skills with youths with Down syndrome and other developmental delays. However, there is plenty of scope to be involved in other activities such as music, art, dance, gardening, and initiatives to promote the development of occupational therapy in Romania. To ensure that you get the most out of - and contribute fully to - your placement, a pro-active attitude is essential.

Age Range of Volunteers: 18-80

Program is Open to World Wide Participants.

Participants Travel to Romania: Independently or in Groups

Application Process Involves:

- Letters of Reference
- Alumni Network
- Completing an Application
- Initial Interview & Second Interview
- Fundraising Initiative
- Pre-dispatching one week training
- In country orientation

To apply for a volunteer position with Broken Heart Ministries / Fundatia Broken Heart, please submit your Resume/CV via e-mail to: mpmberg@yahoo.com

www.BrokenHeartMinistries.com