



*... your labour, your time, your sweat, your compassion can be the difference between*



*a smile or  
a tear.*



*going to school or staying at home.*



*security or  
instability.*



*sickness or  
health.*



*a home or a hovel.*

The philosophy behind Habitat for Humanity Sri Lanka's (HFHSL) success has been one of commitment, participation and looking out for and after one another. From seeing first-hand how poverty housing undermines the life chances of children and adults alike, to being part of a process that takes all of us one step closer to ensuring that everyone in Sri Lanka has an adequate home to live in – volunteers have made all the difference.

In isolation, a few hours by one volunteer might not look like much but, when combined, the actions of volunteer teams or Global Village volunteers have made a huge impact on the work done by HFHSL.

As potential local volunteers, global volunteers and friends of HFHSL here's what you should know:

- Each volunteer decreases the cost of a build by 5-10%.
- A 12 member team working 32 hours a week can provide all the unskilled labour to complete an entire house.
- Short-term volunteers who haul water and mix cement decrease fatigue on paid skilled labour allowing for a more efficient build.
- The participation of volunteers fosters a sense of community encouraging more people to participate in builds as volunteers.
- The knowledge that people care and are willing to give their time to help, adds to the motivation of these communities.



**VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS**

Rolling up your sleeves to build homes and communities for people in need, while witnessing the transformation in the lives of these families is an 'experience that will last a lifetime'. Be it individual volunteers, groups, families, students or corporations HFHSL offers a range of volunteer programs that create opportunities for anyone wanting to contribute in any way they can.

Volunteering for HFHSL is not just an experience that allows you to feel a sense of giving but will also give you an opportunity to experience customs, traditions and a unique sense of community in an island nation renowned for the charm and hospitality of its people.

**Volunteer Spotlight**

What began as a week long program at HFHSL, led Patrick Thur and his mum Vibeke to become ambassadors of the HFHSL cause. Their efforts led to the construction of almost 100 homes in the Southern region of Galle.

*(In recognition of this unique contribution Patrick & Vibeke were awarded the prestigious Nehemiah award in 2009)*

***An adequate home can make all the difference in a family's life... all it takes is YOU.***