

## GUIDELINE REQUIREMENTS FOR VOLUNTEERS IN DAR ASNI.

This volunteer position is suitable for those who have something to give, not really as an 'experience' for those who want to receive something from their stay (although you will most certainly get this, it is not the sole aim of the project!). If you simply want to learn and acquire new skills, use this as a platform to develop your own language skills, or just experience life in a different country/culture, this position may **not** be for you. There are many volunteer programmes around the world which you can take part in and pay for these sorts of experiences. What we are looking for are people who want to give more than receive!

The position is therefore aimed at female volunteers who ideally have significant teaching experience or who are able to share language skills, especially English or French, and IT skills with the girls in the boarding house and help them to manage their own education and help them to get what they want and need. A key part of the role is to help the girls with their school work in the evenings and during 'free-periods' from school. Ordinarily, this is not a post suitable for 'Gap Year' students, unless they are particularly independent and have other volunteer experience ideally in education.



### CHARACTER REQUIREMENTS:

There is currently one house mother who lives in the house full time in Asni. Her name is Latifa and she is a 28 year old Moroccan woman. She is responsible for the daily running of the house, the preparation of meals and the monitoring of the girls' educational progress. Your main role is to assist her in her daily tasks, but other beneficial traits include:



- ❖ Be prepared to help the girls when they need it – with their French, English, Information Technology and anything else they require. Help us to empower them in their own education, by encouraging independent thought and help them organise their time and work.
- ❖ A willingness to spring out of bed in the morning to assist in preparing the breakfast;
- ❖ An interest in learning how to cook delicious Moroccan food, and in sharing your favorite recipes;

- ❖ Being able to maintain a sense of wonder... and a sense of humour – every day brings new and varied experiences of Moroccan life;
- ❖ Don't be afraid to ask for help or to suggest new ideas about how things may be done differently;
- ❖ Assisting with households jobs such as cleaning and gardening;
- ❖ Remember your job is not of the "9 to 5" variety. However, if you need time out, all you need to do is ask. If you wish to pursue other interests throughout the day you are most welcome;
- ❖ Show a genuine interest in getting to know the girls. This may involve weekend visits to their villages.

#### **WORKING FOR THE CHARITY:**

With any charity organization, one of the most crucial aspects of getting funding is to connect with the donors. This occurs in Education For All in a number of ways. The website [www.efamaroc.org](http://www.efamaroc.org) is a dynamic site where donors can check on the progress of the house and the girls. There is a blog which you should update occasionally to show the general happenings of the house. As well as this, you may wish to assist the girls in communicating with the donors twice a year (October and February). You may also wish to contribute to the EFA Newsletter with stories from your visit. There is the opportunity for you to be dynamic and innovative in communicating with the outside world. It will be a key part of your role that you will drive some activity in the house in this manner. If you have ideas, by all means charge forward with them to bring this charity to life for the donors.

You may also consider raising the profile of Education for All within your community at home. This can be done both before and after your stay and could involve fund raising, and thinking carefully about what you bring with you – don't fill your suitcase with junk, either for your own use or to 'donate' to the charity. You may think you'd like to get rid of that old laptop running Window 95, but believe me, it will be as useless in Morocco as it is in your own country! Some key educational materials and resources such as books, flash cards, anything to enliven the classroom are all appreciated! There are some really imaginative teaching aids out there which the girls would really enjoy such as electronic 'translation pens', software, some fabulous books, etc. We are never ungrateful for any donations, but think hard before you bring things out – if it is outdated and boring in your country, it won't really be a worthwhile use of your luggage space!