



# *Volunteer pack*

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# 01 / Intro

Thanks for your interest in volunteering with us at our skateboarding project in Trujillo!

Initiated in 2017, we work in the most disadvantaged areas around Peru's third largest city, Trujillo. Here, our team of local and international volunteers teach CJF's Edu-Skate Programme to work with its participants on personal development and community development through skateboarding.

As a volunteer at the Trujillo Skateboarding project you get the chance to teach CJF's Edu-Skate Programme (teaching life-skills through skateboarding), help manage the skateparks, organise skateboarding sessions, events and workshops, as well as support local youth leaders at the park. If you like to skate, support kids in their personal development, improve your Spanish and see Peru off the beaten track, you'll fit right in.



## — 02 / Where do we work?

# Alto Trujillo

### Background

El Porvenir, or Alto (i.e. 'Higher') Trujillo, is an underserved migrant community on the hillside of Peru's third largest city, Trujillo. Illegal settlements began appearing in the area in the 1960s, with economic and ecological crises fueling it in the 1970s, and civic violence, guerilla terrorism, and government seizure of indigenous land escalating migration into the twenty-first century. The result of this lengthy process is modern Alto Trujillo: a densely populated urban area with makeshift infrastructure, poverty-stricken life, and lack of support from the city municipality.

Many of the settlers in Alto Trujillo have been victims of political terrorism or have suffered from various types of social or economic marginalization, as well as direct physical and psychological abuse. While the locals are incredibly friendly, violence and crime are rampant here. It is not a place to venture after dark.

Perhaps no group of people suffer more from these problems than the children that inhabit the area. And it is for them that the Alto Trujillo Skatepark and the Edu-Skate Programme are for. **This is their place to be safe, play, learn, laugh and grow as individuals - both on and off the board.**



**18%**  
have no electricity



**14%**  
have no running water



**46%**  
are migrants



**33%**  
live in poverty



**33%**  
have earth floors

## The Skatepark

Initiated in 2017, the Alto Trujillo Skatepark project was CJF's first full-scale community project. With a core team of 10 international volunteers, supported by around 40 local and international volunteers that helped out a few days, the skatepark was built inside a school in 1 month with a budget of \$10,000 that was crowdfunded. The skatepark faced its in 2020, as the whole school would be destroyed in order to be renovated. CJF aims to build a new skatepark at the renovated school in 2021. Activity at the Alto Trujillo Skatepark will restart when the school reopens.



Opening Day, 28th April 2017

## Partner: El Colegio Simon Lozano Garcia

In Alto Trujillo we work together with the school Colegio Simon Lozano Garcia. The school serves both as a primary and secondary school: during the morning (7:30 - 12.30) the primary students have lessons, during the afternoon the secondary students have lessons. You will only teach primary school students in the morning from second up to sixth grade (6-12 years old). The students can choose to get skate classes instead of the Physical Education (PE) classes: this means you function as a teacher of the school! The students refer to you as 'profesor', carry this position with responsibility. You will teach 1-3 classes on 4-5 schooldays, and host an open session on Saturday from 9.00 - 12.00. This means you might have some early wake-ups! However, you might also find that with Trujillo's desert climate, starting your day early is not a bad way to deal with the heat.

Your main point of contact will be Hernan, the school's director. He's a very positive and kind person, and loves improving his English. If you run into any issues this is the person to go to. The person you'll be most in contact with however, is the school's PE teacher. The PE teacher goes to get the students out of their classrooms to the PE pitch (which is next to the skatepark). Once he arrives there, you go down and name the list of children that are in the skate class. Keep an eye out for when the PE teacher stops his class so the students are back in class on time (classes are 1,5 hour). Since you're working together with the PE teacher, check in with him now and then if everything is going well. Under the water tank close to the principal's office you'll find the storage for the skate materials. You will receive a key to this storage so you can start up your classes (although the school's janitor often already opened it to start his day, you might find him sleeping in it now and then too). After your classes are done you store all the materials back in the storage and lock it. Skateboarding only happens under your supervision!



# El Cerrito

Up in the hills on the outskirts of Huanchaco, you find an area not visible from Huanchaco itself. This area is called Cerrito de la Virgen and most of its inhabitants come from ENSO phenomenon (El Niño Southern Oscillation), a natural climatic occurrence that caused excessive rainfalls in 1997/1998 and resulted in US\$ 3.5 billion economic losses in Peru. The Peruvian government didn't have the capacity to cope with the resulting housing crisis that left millions of Peruvian families homeless. In La Libertad region, authorities located some of the ENSO victims on the very arid land of Cerrito de la Virgen. These people had no choice and were made no promises by the government; there was not even electricity or water available for the new inhabitants. They were simply placed there and had to start making their lives again. As a consequence, the needs of the children, including their education were put aside while their parents were more worried about surviving.



## The Skatepark

La Rampa is a skatepark/community centre that was built in 2015 and renovated in 2016 by volunteers that later formed Concrete Jungle Foundation. The children living in Cerrito did not have access to a particularly stimulating environment, or much to amuse themselves with and as a result they tended towards misbehaving and acting up. With some land donated from the local surf school, volunteers built La Rampa to offer a fun and stimulating environment for the children to play in. After having served the local community for 5 years, the original La Rampa had to close down after the land lease ended in June 2020. CJF will rebuild La Rampa in a new location across the street in October 2020.

## Partner

La Rampa has been built and run by Otra Cosa Network, an NGO based in Huanchaco. Otra Cosa Network runs five projects, which are all part of the Huanchaco Education and Learning Programme (HELP). HELP is dedicated to advancing the education possibilities and resources for those living in lower-income communities in Huanchaco and the surrounding areas.

Otra Cosa Network built a classroom in La Rampa that allows them to implement programming in music, environmental education, the arts, and just about anything you can think of. This space serves as a hotbed for volunteer ideas, where everyone brings their own skills and passions to contribute something unique to the project. La Rampa is open Monday – Friday (15:00-18:00), with an educational activity for the children organised by Otra Cosa Network from 16:00 - 17:00.



### Project rules

We have 2 rules at our work in Trujillo:

- 1 Only volunteers of the projects and registered participants can enter the skateparks (other persons can only enter with the approval of the local parties) as they are located on private property.
- 2 Skateboarding at the skatepark only happens with parent permission and under supervision

The reasons for these rules come from previous experiences. At the start of our work it was open for the local skateboarders to visit during the weekends under supervision of the Project Manager. However, the local skateboarders started to come by themselves and showed some inappropriate behaviour towards the school's staff and in front of the students, hence the first rule.

Since the school's students come from families with little resources, the second rule is in place. 1 time a student of the school tried skating without parent permission and without the supervision of the skatepark volunteers and injured himself. It can be hard for the families in these areas to pay their bills, let alone unexpected medical bills on top of that.



These rules are not only in place to comply with our partners, but also to prevent that the project has a negative image in the community. Please abide by these rules to assure good relationships with the local community (the worst thing would be that the community rejects the project because they see it as a negative influence).

**Note: please don't bring your own food or drinks (except water) to the skateparks out of respect for the students (some have very limited access to food). We always bring water and fruits for our service users to the sessions**

**Note: don't smoke in or around the school, don't set the wrong example for the students.**

## 03 / How do we work?

The Edu-Skate Programme is CJF's skateboarding-based youth programme, that we implement at all our projects. The programme uses skateboarding as a tool to develop the three central pillars of psychological well-being: competence, relatedness and autonomy. The programme consists of a curriculum of 11 life-skill lessons complimented by community activities like open sessions, workshops, contests and excursions. Through developing life-skills inherent to skateboarding (such as perseverance, respect, resilience, a supportive attitude and creativity), our beneficiaries learn to apply these self-improvements to their broader life situations.

Please read the Edu-Skate Manual carefully for more information on the programme and how it works, our Child Protection Policy to see how we work with children and our Media Policy for our rules regarding the use of photos/videos of the project.

**C**ompetence  
**R**elatedness  
**A**utonomy



As an international volunteer you can apply for 2 positions in our programme.

## Edu-skater



**Minimum commitment:** 1 month

An Edu-skater organises the lessons following the Edu-Skate structure. Their focus is on the life-skill of the lesson and they engage the students accordingly.



- 1 Preparing the sessions: diving into the life-skill, make a lesson plan, have a clear image of how you want to organise the session and work on the life-skill.
- 2 Informing the (local) teachers of how the session will be organised today, make sure they know what to do.
- 3 Organise the session introduction.
- 4 Make sure the teachers work with the kids on the life-skill, help them out where necessary, support the kids that have real difficulty with the life-skill/trick.
- 5 Ensure a safe learning environment: all kids get attention and support, kids aren't forced into things: good vibes for all.
- 6 Following the lesson structure: make sure the lesson plan is implemented. Keep track of time, let the teachers know when it's time to gather.
- 7 Organise the reflection talk.
- 8 Keep an eye on all students during free skate time & stimulate them if necessary.
- 9 Finish the session in a circle: what did you like most about today?
- 10 Fill in the session evaluation (accountability).
- 11 Besides Edu-Skate sessions, you help out with organising extra activities like open sessions, contests, workshops or excursions if you're available.

## Project Manager



**Minimum commitment:** 6 month

This is the highest function within a project: the Project Manager coordinates and leads the Edu-Skate programme and the teacher team within their project location in communication with the Programmes Director.



**Responsibilities:**

- 1 Managing the schedule of the sessions and of the teachers.
- 2 Managing communication with partners on the ground and with CJF.
- 3 Attending the sessions and assuring Edu-Skate is executed as intended.
- 4 Managing the project team.
  - Recruitment of local volunteers.
  - Training of local and international volunteers.
  - Guidance of volunteer experience.
- 5 Supervising the organisation of community activities and media.
- 6 Managing the project budget.
- 7 Organising a monthly team activity + evaluation/planning meeting.







### Goal:

Making sure the Edu-Skate structure is implemented, all the children are enjoying themselves and achieve the lesson goal (based on the life-skill of the lesson).



### Benefits:

Besides gaining experience in teaching, Edu-Skaters develop skills in management, leadership and working in a qualitative manner on youth development. Because of the trust their role creates, the bond they develop with the students is often very valuable.



### Goal:

Assure and report on the impact of the project.



### Benefits:

The Project Manager gains advanced experience in management, coordination and communication.

## 04 / Volunteer structure

To sustain our work in Trujillo, the following volunteer fees are required:



*You pay this fee within the first week you arrive, and every following month on the same day*

The fee covers the following:

### 1 Housing

You will be living in the Concrete Jungle Foundation HQ, an apartment in Huanchaco above a vegetarian restaurant. The apartment houses a maximum of 3 volunteers and is within a stone's throw from the beach: great sunsets from the balcony! All commodities like restaurants, laundry, bars etc. are within walking distance and the bus to Trujillo stops right in front of your door. Huanchaco is great for surfing, which is a nice bonus if you'd like to give it a try.

### 2 Local coordination

Our local team is in charge of your coordination. The Project Manager is in charge of organising the sessions and training you for your work, the local team of skaters will show you around the area so you know where to find good places to eat, how to use the public transportation and where you can find good skate spots. They developed the following guide to introduce you to life in Huanchaco and Trujillo.

# 05 / Peru

Visiting a new place is often very exciting. Peru is a beautiful country worth exploring. It has a different culture than you might be used to: please keep this in mind and adapt to your new circumstances. You might find for example that Peruvians are not as punctual as people are in your home country, and you will likely live with less luxury than you are used to. On the other hand people are often relaxed and open for a talk, and you'll find that living is cheap (you can find a good lunch with an entry, a drink and main dish at 'menu' places for under 10 soles (\$3)). You can comfortably live on \$250 per month with room for extra activities like going out.

Tip: always have small change on you! Street vendors, small shops and restaurants often don't have change for big bills.

Through our work you will also encounter the difficulties this developing country faces. In the following you will find some tips on safety in Peru.



## Safety

Safety warning: robberies and other criminal activity are not uncommon in the poorer neighborhoods of Trujillo. Fortunately none of our previous volunteers have had any such encounters by following these rules:



— Don't wander around the areas where we work more than absolutely necessary (you don't want to be mistaken for a lost tourist)

Don't show any valuable items in the street (or even better: don't take these up here. All you'll need is a few coins for the bus and a bottle of water. Anything else is extra risk)

Don't stay at our project locations after the sun goes down

Only take licenced taxis



## Emergency contact

May you ever get into an emergency situation, you can reach out to David (from the NGO Espaanglich).

His phone number is: **+51 948 221 167**

*Please save this number in your phone.*



## Hospital

May you ever get in the situation that you need to visit a hospital: not all hospitals in Trujillo have high quality hygiene standards. We always refer our volunteers to:

Clinica San Pablo (Av. Húsares de Junín 690 Urb. La Merced, Trujillo 13008, Peru)



**Come plant the positive seeds of skateboarding with us in Peru!**