



PERU

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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. There, our team of local and international volunteers teach CJF's Edu-Skate Programme to work on the participants' personal development and community development through skateboarding.

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



02/ Where do we work?

AREA DESCRIPTION

El Cerrito de la Virgen

Up 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 the 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 inhabitants - and still the community is struggling to receive connection to water supply. They were simply placed there and had to start making their lives. As a consequence, the needs of the children, including education and public infrastructure for their leisure time were put aside while their parents have to struggle to get by every month. And of course, in times of COVID-19 these poor socioeconomic conditions are more visible than ever.

SKATEPARK DESCRIPTION

La Rampa

The skatepark and youth center named 'La Rampa' started as a project in 2010 when the youth living in Cerrito de la Virgen did not have access to a particularly stimulating environment or recreational spaces. Otra Cosa Network, our partner NGO, saw a lot of potential in this area and created the HELP Youth Project. La Rampa is up in the hills on the outskirts of Huanchaco town, in an area not visible from Huanchaco itself. It started out very basic as just a plot of land with a half pipe ramp in it, but over time it has transformed and developed into a social development project for the youth of this community. Before the COVID-19 crisis hit, we offered a complete after school program and a safe space where kids come to have fun and enjoy our Edu-skate lessons, English classes, environmental awareness program, arts and crafts activities as well as tutoring and homework help. The land lease for this skatepark expired June 2020, so in February 2020 La Rampa will be rebuilt nearby with a new education and recreation center with a larger ramp, equipped classrooms, an eco-latrine and a community garden.



CJF PERU - CREW

Your most important companions: From early 2020 on CJF works with a local team on the ground in Huanchaco and Trujillo. Alongside the international programme director, Emilio, Arissa, Jhikson, Jesus and Alfonso will be your local guides throughout all the time you spend at the project. Whether it is about the introduction to the programme at the skatepark, the work with the local community, exploring Trujillo and nearby cities, free time activities, the best spots to skate/surf, purchases or any other tasks that you might need advice or support with, this amazing crew will be there for you.



YOU

PARTNER

Otra Cosa Network

The initial La Rampa has been built and run by Otra Cosa Network, the Huanchaco based NGO we partner with. Otra Cosa usually 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.

At the new project location, just around the corner of La Rampa, Otra Cosa built two classrooms that allows them to implement programming in music, environmental education, arts and tutoring. The place should serve as a hotbed for volunteer ideas, where everyone brings their own skills and passions to contribute something unique to the project.

COVID-19

Situation in Peru

We very closely follow the development of COVID-19 in Peru and in Trujillo. Just like many other countries in South America, Peru is currently facing a very challenging time and governmental regulations and restrictions are evaluated on a weekly basis. However, Peru in 2020 established a “plan of reactivation of activities” which is currently entering its fourth and last phase. (status as of December 2020) So we feel very confident to finish the new skatepark by March 2021 and reinitiate our programme in “El Cerrito”.

Make sure to inform yourself about the latest news at your national embassy: find the list of embassies [here](#). And, of course, feel free to contact us for any further questions regarding the current status of our programme.



03/ How do we work?

VISION

Concrete Jungle Foundation (CJF) is an international non-profit organisation that uses skateboarding as a tool to stimulate positive personal and community development for underprivileged youth around the world.

1.

Personal Development

Soft Skills.

We work on soft skills through our Edu-Skate Programme, which aims at transferring the life-skills you learn in skateboarding, like perseverance, respect, courage and a supportive attitude, to life in general. The programme is based on the Self-Determination Theory and aims at satisfying the 3 basic psychological needs of humans, which are defined as competence (being good at what you do), relatedness (a sense of belonging and feeling connected to your social environment) and autonomy (making your own choices). We believe that skateboarding is a perfect platform to satisfy all these needs, and therefore can contribute to someone's psychological well-being and life-quality. We focus on growing as a person through doing what you love.

Hard Skills.

The Planting Seeds programme provides paid apprenticeship placements and jobs for local youth at Concrete Jungle Foundation's project locations. Aimed at adolescents aged 16+, the programme focuses on providing hard skills in areas such as skatepark construction, filming/photography and editing, teaching, management, event planning, entrepreneurship and more.



2.

Community Development

Soft Skills.

We believe a skatepark can be a powerful place that brings people together and stimulates positive socialisation. One of the biggest aims of the skateparks we build, is ensuring they are accessible, positive and safe spaces that nurture an engaged community to grow around it.

Hard Skills.

Every month we organise a Community Activity, to bring the community together and work on projects that need to be done around the park. These activities are aimed at stimulating a sense of ownership for the skatepark community, as well as providing opportunities to gain experience in the skills involved in these activities like carpentry, gardening and event management. Depending on volunteers and initiatives, we also organise workshops for the youth during the weekends and smaller community support jobs with similar aims.



04/ Volunteering in Peru

Our ongoing activities in Perú also rely on the dedication and support of both local skaters as well as international volunteers. **You are keen to get involved on the ground?**

CJF's biggest aim is local sustainability: all our work is centered around providing the support, skills and resources to the communities that we work with, so they will be able to run the projects themselves.

As international volunteer, you play an important role in this mission: with each volunteer bringing in new ideas, skills and perspectives, the project grows! It grows in experience regarding the management of the skatepark and it grows in diversity of approaches of how to develop the project further. Locally driven and globally influenced.

So this volunteering opportunity comes with responsibilities and a focus on development of the project as well as yourself, but no worries: there will be time enough to enjoy skateboarding-filled days and the beauty of the northern coast of Peru!



VOLUNTEER STRUCTURE

Project Volunteer

We believe people thrive when they are well supported and can make their own choices in the areas they are passionate about. Besides providing you with on-the-ground and remote support, we want to make sure there is sufficient space for your own choices in our volunteering structure.

As Project Volunteer at La Rampa, you have 4 choices to make:

1.

Your Main Position (time commitment: minimum 15 hours per week)

- Edu-Skater
- Film Maker (experience required)

2.

Your Support Project (time commitment: 10 hours per week)

- Assistant Skateboard Teacher
- Amateur Film Maker
- Environmental Sustainability
- Graphic Design/ Artwork
- Weekend Activities

3.

Your own project (time commitment: up to you)

This is your opportunity to contribute to the skatepark in “El Cerrito” in your own unique way. We require every volunteer to execute their own project to benefit the skatepark during their volunteering time: this can be a training, a workshop, an event - whatever you want, it’s completely up to you! If you already have an idea please include it in your application, if not: you can take 2 weeks at the project to figure out what kind of project you’d like to take on.

4.

Your volunteering time commitment

By providing this autonomy, we expect the following from our volunteers:

- You apply with relevant skill sets
- You are self-motivated, proactive in your work-ethics and take responsibility for the tasks you take on
- You report to your supervisor about your work and ask for feedback before implementing new ideas

General criteria for volunteering:

- You are at least 18 years of age
- We require you to provide us with a criminal background check since you'll be working with (vulnerable) children
- Travel insurance for the time period you will be volunteering in Peru

Main Positions

Choose the workfield you're most interested in: you will spend most of your time at LA Rampa focussing your attention and efforts on this aspect of the project.

Edu-Skater:

Has skateboarding helped you develop skills that helped you grow as a person? Hyped to teach local youth and spread the love further? Then this position is for you. As an Edu-Skater you organise skate classes with a focus on life-skills like perseverance, respect and creativity as part of the Edu-Skate programme. Classes run on weekdays for ~ 2 hours with groups of up to 20 students. Your responsibilities involve lesson planning, teaching and evaluating with the local teacher team.

Film Maker:

Are you well experienced in filming skateboarding and making skate videos? Are you interested in taking on a video project in Peru? Look no further, this position is for you! We expect a professional end product at the end of your volunteering time capturing the project. Besides your video project, you'll be sharing your knowledge and skills in filming skateboarding and editing video with our local team.

Support Projects

Here you choose a project you would like to support besides your main responsibility at the project. The following projects always need support:

Assistant Skateboard Teacher:

The Edu-Skaters are in charge of organizing the skate classes, but we can always use some extra assistance with executing the classes. As an assistant teacher you will immerse yourself in the Edu-Skate Programme and support students that have some more difficulty learning.

Amateur Film Maker:

Are you excited about filming skateboarding and making skate videos? Are you interested in taking on a video project in Peru? You're not expected to deliver a professional end-product, but just your documentation and perspective of your time at the project.



Environmental Sustainability:

We wouldn't be Concrete Jungle Foundation without greenery at the park. The skatepark will have green space and a separate community garden. These spaces need maintenance, so if you have green fingers, we can definitely use them! This project also includes working on the recycling capacity of the skatepark.

Graphic Design/Artwork:

Although there are plenty of talented designers and artists involved in our community, we don't have someone to coordinate and manage all this potential. If you are excited about artwork around the skatepark and graphic design work for information posters, this is the side project for you!

Weekend Activities:

You got funny activities for kids in mind but they probably won't fit in the weekly schedule? You'd like to organize games, small championships, introduce new sports activities or do special training with the kids? Then use this opportunity to plan your very own weekend activities at the skatepark! Of course you will have enough time and support to plan and prepare it well.

Your Own Project

This is your opportunity to contribute to the whole project in your very own way. We require every volunteer to execute their own project to benefit the skatepark during their volunteering time: this can be building furniture for the Youth Centre, a workshop, an event: whatever you want, it's completely up to you! If you already have an idea please include it in your application, if not: you can take 2 weeks at the project to figure out what kind of project you'd like to take on.

Project Manager (time commitment: around 35 hours per week)

Buckle up, cause this is a challenging position: as Project Manager you will be managing the entire skatepark project and all its components. You will be the go to contact person with questions and serve as a link between the activities on the ground and the Concrete Jungle Foundation. You will be managing and coordinating:

- Staff in their respective positions
- Sustaining current projects and programmes, monitoring data and reporting
- Development of new projects
- Skatepark finances and payroll staff
- International volunteers

TIME COMMITMENT & VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTION

We want to make sure that our volunteers are safe and supported during their volunteering time at the project. We make sure that you have comfortable accommodation and are supported both on the ground as well as by our international team remotely.

To accommodate you and to sustain our work at the skatepark, we ask the following volunteer contributions:

Project Volunteers (minimum commitment: 1 month)

- 1st month: \$375 USD
- 2nd month: \$325 USD
- 3rd month onward: \$300 USD

Project Manager (minimum commitment: 6 months)

You pay your own rent (around \$250 USD per month), we don't ask any additional fees.



Your contribution covers the following:

Housing.

Volunteers will have their own apartment together with our local skatepark manager in Huanchaco. Everything is in reach by foot whether it's shops, the market, surf rentals, the beach or even our project location in "El Cerrito" (about 15 minutes). You can find a lot of restaurants in the area (you can get dinner for around USD \$4-6), and nice and fresh food (fish!) at the market. Taxis/buses to Trujillo stop by every 10-15 minutes on the easily accessible main road.

Coordination and support.

Our international team will walk you through the application process, and make sure you are prepared and informed before you head off to Peru. Most volunteers organise a fundraiser in their local scene before they leave to offset some of their contribution fee, if you're interested in this, we can support you here as well. When you're on the ground, there will always be a Project Manager to introduce you to the project and your work, and to support you throughout your volunteering time.

Donation to the skatepark in "El Cerrito".

Our project in Peru is a charity project. There are costs to keep it running and therefore we rely on donations to keep this project running. A part of your contribution will go directly into the Skatepark Budget to cover the daily expenses of the park.

05/ Peru



TRAVELLING

Visiting a new place is always exciting and Peru is one great country to experience the joy of travelling. We can't even list the diverse travel opportunities offered on the Pacific coast, the Andean highlands or the Amazon rainforest in Peru - but please, check out the hundreds of pages out there in the world wide web and for sure you'll find your favourite destinations!

However, travelling and especially working for a longer period as a volunteer also requires you to adapt to your new surroundings. Outside of tourist areas you'll quickly find yourself in a socially, culturally and economically different setting which is not only exciting, but also challenging. So make sure to take your time to get to know your new area(s), the people living there, the different way of living as well as the problems that communities face.



SAFETY

As for security please also keep in mind the safety precautions below as robberies and other criminal activities are not uncommon in the poorer neighborhoods, especially in the city of Trujillo. Fortunately none of our previous volunteers have had any such encounters by following these rules:

- Follow the instructions of our local staff that knows the area very well.
- 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 valuable items in the street. All you'll need is a few coins for the bus and a bottle of water. Anything else is extra risk.
- Only take licenced taxis.

LIFE IN HUANCHACO



But after all and in the first place, prepare yourself for a nice stay in sweet Huanchaco. Everything you need is right there: A marketplace with fresh and cheap vegetables and fruits, fresh fish and the best mangos you could imagine. There are several restaurants with tasty and cheap menus (also vegetarian) and in the evening there are always small “puestitos” (street food stands) offering traditional Peruvian dishes - don’t miss the “papa rellena”! (Tip: always have small change on you! Street vendors, small shops and restaurants often don’t have change for big bills.) And on the weekends, go enjoy one of many bars in Huanchaco listening to live music and having a nice drink with the renowned “pisco”.

For all that you can comfortably live on 300\$ with room for extra activities like surfing. For all surfers-enthusiast and those who want to become: Huanchaco is a hotspot for surfers in the Northern Coast of Peru and its sandy beach offers small waves to train and bigger ones to prove your skills on the board. Make sure to give it a try once, but in any case, enjoy the beautiful beach!



CONTACTS

Emergency contact.

May you ever get into an emergency situation, you can always reach out to Arissa Moreno from our local staff.

Her phone number is: **+51 920 354 223**. 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)



NEXT STEPS

If you are excited and have determined you want to volunteer at La Rampa, these are the following steps:

1. Fill out the application form for the position you're interested in
2. Call with CJF's Programmes Director to get to know each other and explore possibilities
3. You got accepted! You apply for your criminal background check and determine your volunteering projects and dates.
4. After we received your criminal background check you book your flights and arrange your travel insurance. We will provide you with the relevant information and preparation for your volunteering experience and you have a call with the Project Manager on the ground.
5. (optional) You organise a fundraiser in your local skate scene to collect skate gear and to raise funds for the project and/or your volunteering experience.
6. You fly to Peru and get your adventure started!