

ADANA CHILDREN CENTER
ORPHANAGE, FOSTER CARE, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MISSIONARY POSITIONS

FEBRUARY 2008

Blessing the Children International has the following positions for missionaries in the Adana Children Center, located in Debre Zeyit, Ethiopia. Multiple positions may be filled by one person, as we develop the ministry outreaches in this new project opened in January 2008.

Please consider how the God might use you, as you read through the following list. Ask the Lord to impress on your heart, what role He may have for you to play. This is a work in progress, which we will update as the ministry develops in Debre Zeyit.

ENGLISH TEACHER

3 NEEDED

Children have an English class in school, but very few learn much more than colors and numbers. They are not learning how to actually communicate in conversational English. We need English Teachers to teach special English classes three times per week. We offer three class levels. Since each sponsored child is enrolled in different parts of the city, we hold the three classes at three separate locations; for a total of nine classes per week. A missionary may teach all three levels at one location, or may teach one level at all three locations, depending on the direction of the Project Director, Pastor Tadesse.

Lesson Plans – English teachers are required to prepare their own lesson plans and to monitor and document their pupils' progress in their classes. ESL (English as a Second Language) materials are an excellent resource for getting guidance and developing lesson plans. Many materials are available for games, activities, hand outs, vocabulary, tests, cards, etc. Videos and songs are great teaching tools as supplemental materials. It's a good idea for those interesting in teaching English to visit their local bookstore and search the internet for ESL materials and ideas in the months before their trip.

Class Sessions – are generally 1 to 1½ hours, three times a week. Classes are held at each local church for the sponsored children who attend that church. Ethiopian adults from the church are available to assist in the classroom as the teacher may desire.

Items to consider bringing to Ethiopia for ministry, if you're interested in this position:

Art Supplies

- Craft supplies
- *Glue Sticks, Elmer's Glue
- *Markers, crayons, color pencils
- Color Paper, craft paper
- Paint, brushes & Finger Paints
- Scissors, hole punches
- Wire pipe cleaners, popsicle sticks
- Glitter

Entertainment

- DVD & VHS Movies (child appropriate)
- DVD & VHS Children's Programs
- *DVD & VHS Educational Programs
- CD & Audio Cassette Music
- CD & Audio Cassette Stories
- *Children's Books

Fun & Games

- Board Games involving English
- Hands on Games involving English
- Memory Games involving English
- Flash Cards with words or picture
- Plastic animal

Qualifications – Must like working with children. Teaching experience is helpful, but more important is having a passion to work with children and be willingness to prepare and teach a subject you are already an expert at... speaking English. Levels 1 & 2 principally learn vocabulary and conversational English. Level 3 does require teaching grammar, punctuation and sentence structure. Level three English Teachers must be familiar with and able to teach proper grammar. No teaching degree or special education is required.

TUTOR (FOR ONE-ON-ONE TUTORING)

3 NEEDED

Personal tutors for children in the public school system are critical to their success. With 70 children per class in the public school, the quality of education is very poor. When no private school is available for a sponsored child, their only option is to attend the public school system. These children are assigned a personal tutor who will meet with them each week, one on one, to review what they are learning in school.

For missionaries who may not be comfortable getting up in front of a classroom of children, these personal sessions may be a better solution.

Lesson Plans – There are no lesson plans to prepare. Each child may need help in a different subject in their own grade. The tutor will determine the frequency of visits, from one to three times per week for each child, based on the amount of help the pupil needs.

Tutoring Sessions – are held at the local churches where the child attends, or at the ministry's office. Two hours are blocked out for each session, though a session's actual length may vary in length from ½ an hour to 2 hours depending on how much help the student needs. Each tutor is assigned three sessions per day, four days a week, for a total of 12 sessions per week. Additional sessions may be added at the discretion of the tutor. A tutor typically works with seven to ten students.

Qualifications – Must enjoy working with children and be a good communicator. Teaching experience is helpful, but not required.

DIRECTOR OF TEAMS

1 NEEDED

The Director of Teams is responsible for the overall coordination and management of all teams, missionaries and visitors to the Adana Children Center. Over the course of a year, Blessing the Children International has several teams, missionaries, and individual visitors coming to the project.

It is our responsibility to organize and help each member to fully utilize the gifting God has given them in ministry when they come. They are a gift to this ministry and to the people of Ethiopia.

Some of the more significant responsibilities of the Director of Teams are as follows.

- Coordinate and insure visitors are picked up and returned to the airport.
- Coordinate team and missionary housing, according to what they have paid for in their trip cost (BCI's guest house, other guest house or a local hotel). This also includes making reservations, negotiating pricing with hotels and guest houses, and insuring that accommodations are comfortable for our guests.
- Coordinate meals, a cooking schedule and ensure all food supplies are available and in stock.
- Coordinate team and missionary activities, working with each person to ensure they have an avenue to minister.
- Purchase and insure project supplies are on-hand and available for work teams.
- Create and manage a work schedule for missionaries, to perform their roles as best serving the children and the ministry.
- Be a liaison between teams/missionaries and the director of the project, Pastor Tadesse.

A good Director of Teams is instrumental to have effective and efficient teams and missionaries. People need direction; and those that don't, need coordination to work in harmony with the entire project. This is the principle role of the Director of Teams.

Qualifications – This person must be well organized and able to help others be organized. They must have strong interpersonal communication skills since they are constantly dealing with people, both in groups and as individuals. They must be able and willing to delegate and follow up with inspection. They must also be able to deal with issues and resolve conflicts.

SOCIAL WORKER ASSISTANT

2 NEEDED

Local Ethiopian Social Workers are assigned to each child as they enter the program in Ethiopia. We need missionaries who can assist these workers in the following duties.

- Counseling – in sessions with children or families who may be having difficulty adjusting.
- Identify and evaluate children for participation in the sponsorship program.
- Attend a monthly “Social Workers Meeting”, where issues are discussed and the program is improved.
- Visit children’s homes, conducting Home Evaluations with the social worker and help fill out the English form.
- Maintain files in the BCI office for each sponsored child in the program, documenting home visits and evaluations.
- Follow up with each child’s school and teachers regarding how well they are doing in school and where they need help.
- Conduct special Activity Days, one Saturday a month for each church where children are participating.

All of the above duties are conducted with or in cooperation with the local Social Worker from the individually participating churches.

Social Worker Assistants work hands on with children and their care-givers (parents & foster families). They must visit the homes of the children and help assess and evaluate situations with the national Social Worker, bringing a first-world perspective and representing the ministry. This position requires an equal amount of office work and field time, unlike an Office Assistant who works mostly in an office.

Qualifications – Must be willing to go to and work in impoverished situations, with families who need assistance. Office and filing experience is helpful, but not required, but must be able to use a computer and email. There are no educational requirements for this position.

HEALTH & WELLNESS WORKER

1 NEEDED

The principle role of the Health & Wellness Worker is to monitor the health and wellness of children enrolled in the sponsorship program. They ensure children have their annual checkup and also follow up on those in need of continued medical care.

Many of the medical situations that arise may be resolved with an over-the-counter medication available to the Health & Wellness Worker. The majority of things brought to the attention of the ministry are minor and the kind of thing a mother in America would treat for her own child... things the Health & Wellness Worker would treat. If a doctor’s visit is needed, this person accompanies the child and documents the treatment and progress in the child’s medical file at the BCI office. It is also the responsibility of the Health & Wellness Worker to update and maintain all of the children’s medical files.

Qualifications – Any medical training would be helpful in administering first aid and treating minor cuts and scratches, but no medical training is required. The principle role is to ensure that medical care is provided and to keep records, so filing or office experience would also be helpful, though not required.

VOCATIONAL SKILLS INSTRUCTOR

1 NEEDED

The soil is fertile and for the farmers in Ethiopia using modern techniques like irrigation, fertilization, crop rotation, etc. there is a great harvest and opportunity for small families to earn a living. We assist poor families to form associations through which the government will give them land. But the ministry needs a missionary volunteer to teach and train families how to successfully manage their land, whether in agriculture, horticulture or another small enterprise business that can be operated by the family.

Qualifications – Experience in any vocational skill that can be reproduced in Ethiopia.