

Jennifer Abercrombie Foster, International Volunteer Coordinator: 785.367.4488 |

405.816.2987

#### **REGIONAL OFFICES**

Northwest: 425.646.3935 Southwest: 480.967.9449 Midwest: 312.386.7499 Upper Midwest: 651.482.1703 Mid-Atlantic/Northeast: 617.206.4940 Southeast: 888.201.8880

# **Family Resources for NPH International Volunteers**

Thank you for supporting your son or daughter or friend as they volunteer for a year at NPH! We know that volunteers need the support of their family and/or community. Please keep this information easily accessible while your son/daughter/friend is at NPH.

### Things to do

- Have the volunteer transfer power of attorney to you so that you can make decisions on his/her behalf.
- Set up access to your volunteer's credit card and bank accounts.
- Make sure your volunteer is registered with the U.S. State Department's STEP program. STEP helps the U.S. government know where U.S. citizens are, and can notify and assist them in case of emergency. If you travel to an NPH home, you also should sign up for the STEP program.
- Make sure that you have a valid passport so that you can travel out of the country in case of emergency.

# Suggestions

- Do not expect that your volunteer will be able to call you the minute that he/she arrives at NPH. It can take a couple of days to access a phone. Most volunteers do buy phones while they are at NPH, and until they do so they may be able to borrow someone else's phone to check in with you.
- Sign up for and learn to use skype.
- Go visit! Your volunteer will be eager to show you his/her life and work at NPH. You will be impressed- by the facilities at NPH, your volunteer's language skills and job, as well as the kids and the leadership of NPH.

### **Emergencies**

Most of our volunteers serve for a year or more without incident, but it's wise to be prepared. In cases of emergency (political, natural disasters, health crisis) we rely on the expertise and good decision making of the NPH Leadership. The NPH National Directors have experience in managing emergencies and keeping our children, staff and volunteers safe. It can be difficult at times to gauge the risk from so far away and through media outlets that may sensationalize. If there is an emergency, please try to stay calm and resist the urge to book your volunteer on the next flight out.

If there is an emergency:

- 1. Track the news at www.nph.org.
- Contact Jennifer Abercrombie Foster our International Volunteer Coordinator at jafoster@nphusa.org or 785.367.4488. If it's an odd time, you can contact her on her cell: 405.816.2987.
- 3. You may also contact your local NPH USA office if you cannot reach Jennifer.

# **Support from NPH USA**

We have a network of offices throughout the U.S. Our organization raises funds for NPH through events, child sponsorship, grants, endowments and bequests. We value our international volunteers as an important part of the NPH family, and are eager to support you as a parent or support person of an international volunteer. Please let us know if you need anything before, during or after your child/friend is a volunteer with NPH.