



Peepal Tree Foundation

Volunteer Self-Reflection and Contemplation


It is important that volunteers self reflect or contemplate before joining up and commit to volunteering with Peepal Tree Foundation. Following are a few questions that we would like you to ponder upon before you make up your mind. This will help you to gain clarity with your own thought process and be aligned with an outline of requirements of the programs that PTF offers at present.

Both the programs of PTF (The Circulating Library and the Women Empowerment Program) are volunteer based and your commitment to volunteering is key to a strong and sustainable program.

We look forward to welcoming you in our foundation and ensuring that you have a purposeful and pleasant association with the PTF family!

1. Why do you want to work with PTF?

*Are you looking for a social project to pour your energies into?
Are you looking beyond financial gains with the association?
What is really your motivation and does it align with the objectives of PTF?*



PTF is an initiative that is community based and has a clear objective to provide free and greater access to educational opportunities to children and financial opportunities to women who may not have them. The idea is to partner directly with the community with the intention of providing equal opportunities. Since PTF is a non profit charitable trust, all proceeds are directed back to the beneficiaries and the projects serving them. Even though PTF may not be able to financially reimburse your time and effort, it intends to cover your expenses that you may incur, dependent on the funds available at that time.

2. Can you make time?

Since both programs of PTF are location based and are a regular program that run every week, it is imperative that you are realistic about how much time to you can give.

How many hours a week can you give?

How often do you travel?

Can you manage your home, work and social life with volunteering?

PTF is sensitive to your needs and it is our sincere endeavour to offer the project location most convenient to you in terms of distance, approach and community rapport, assigning you schedules that are compatible with your individual timetable. Even though we are flexible and in case of arising unavoidable emergencies, adjustments can be made placing another volunteer to cover up, however it is expected that you stick to your commitments.

3. Are you comfortable interacting with children and/or women from all backgrounds in the community?

Our flagship program is The Circulating Library where an hour long story telling sessions are conducted for young children, culminating with distributing library books. Dealing and handling children calls for patience, kindness and discipline. You should be comfortable and be able to enjoy their company. It is not essential that you have children to understand these values. Similarly you can choose to volunteer with the women program where you will be interacting with women inside their homes, training and guiding them on the products they are making and handling transactions.

4. Can you partner with or take direction from people of different backgrounds?

PTF invites and welcomes all, regardless of any distinction. It is evolving as an organisation where we all learn to work in teams and collaborate. We are working for the cause, not the individual. The cause is above all kinds of personal agendas.

Are you ready to learn from and take instructions from people from backgrounds different from your own?

Are you willing to perform all kinds of tasks?

Are you willing to head out into the community, meet local residents and forge relationships with our members on a regular basis?

5. Can you work in environments that might be physically uncomfortable?

Holding storytelling sessions for children and interacting with the women in the community in the various project locations can be physically uncomfortable eg. it can be hot & humid in summer, cold in winter and may not always be upto your comfort level; the location in the community where the sessions are held may not be easeful and may require you to make adjustments. Eg: There may not be a suitable chair to sit on.

*Are you open to volunteering in these environments?
Can the joy you might derive from your voluntary service override these issues?*

In case there is any discomfort and you might still desire to associate with us, PTF will make best efforts to extend responsibilities that suit your needs and skills.

6. Are you open to receiving training?

All that PTF is looking for is a will and desire to serve and volunteer. In case your current skills and strengths do not fulfil our requirements to conduct individual sessions with TCL and the WEP, formal and/ or informal training is available and you will be hand held with the sessions till you attain full confidence and comfort conducting the sessions in a particular project location or community. However it is prudent to be aware that challenges may arise at any given time and we are committed to assistance in resolving any issues.

Are you open to revive/revise and learn new skills that you might require through the training program that PTF will offer?