



Focus On CHINA

Community Service Program

Want to volunteer at a Chinese non-profit and help improve Chinese society? Want to stay with a Chinese family and learn about daily life? Would you like to learn or better your Chinese?

Was your answer yes? If so, please take a look at the Community Service Program (CSP) offerings available in China for interested participants between 18-29 years of age.

In the past 20 years, China has undergone remarkable economic change and advancement. In light of the change, China has a very special role to play in the world today as the most populous and one of fastest growing nations. It has a special responsibility to develop volunteerism and promote environmental and humanitarian causes.

AFS has partnered with The **Jane Goodall Institute –Roots & Shoots Shanghai** to promote the AFS CSP program in China. Below are a few of the CSP programs available in Shanghai, China. In addition, there is another project placement for very dedicated and mature participants in the remote Tibetan Plateaus of Sichuan Province, China. Please see the separate project information sheet for more details on the project. We request all participants to write answers to motivation questions for China.

If you are interested in learning more or sending interested participants on these programs, please contact AFS Program Coordinator, **Julie Zhang at Julie.zhang@afs.org**

Program Highlights

- 1) For participants 18-29 years of age, summer and winter departures available
- 2) 5-6 months in duration with local home-stay. The 6th month can be used as a travel month or participants can choose to continue with the project and homestay.
- 3) 40 hours of Chinese language training
- 4) Designation of a Chinese mentor and first friends to help with daily life and cultural adjustments

Program Placements Available:

The Jane Goodall Institute – Roots & Shoots Shanghai 1 - 2 placements available in total. Visit: www.jgi-shanghai.org

The Jane Goodall Institute – Roots & Shoots Shanghai is a global environmental and humanitarian program for young people. Started in 1991 in Tanzania, Roots & Shoots (R&S) is a global environmental and humanitarian program for youth started by Dr. Jane Goodall, the world's most famous primatologist and UN Messenger of Peace. Roots & Shoots emphasizes intercultural interaction and promotes care and concern for the environment, animals, and other people through community service projects and educational activities.

What will the CSP participants do?

The CSP participant at R&S will help its small staff with a variety of projects including paper recycling program, R&S school clubs and after school programs, and the organic garden. The CSP participant will also do research and help maintain office databases. They will also help and edit the quarterly R&S newsletter magazine. Basically, the CSP participant will be given a great deal of responsibility and a variety of projects. Roots & Shoots requests that participants already have conversational Chinese language ability prior to arrival.



Organic Farming



Roots & Shoots after school clubs

New Vision Foundation for Disabled People – 1-2 participants in total each. Visit: www.sohu-ku.com

New Vision Foundation for the Disabled People (NVDP) is a grassroots, nonprofit organization that focuses primarily on helping the physically disabled become independent. They also work with the local community to develop greater understanding and compassion for the disabled.

What will the CSP participant do?

NVDP is a close-knit and small work environment in a two-room office. The CSP participant will work in a variety of different projects: teach English to the physically disabled, lead and teach workshops for physically disabled children on foreign culture and crafts. NVDP will also need the participant to help with office work along with organize activities for the physically disabled. The CSP participant will also help with the NVDP website and other areas of publicity, including writing articles for the news media and grant proposals. They are very open to any ideas that the CSP participant may have for new programs or projects to help promote their mission goals for the physically disabled.

Shanghai Zoo's Gorilla Exhibit – 1 participant in total

Shanghai Zoo will receive 3 gorillas from the Rotterdam Zoo in the Netherlands. They hired Stephen Protz, an American architect and former AFSer, to help design the exhibit. The Zoo hopes to make a state of the art exhibit that is interactive for both the animals and Zoo visitors. Stephen has helped with previous Zoo redesigns including the orangutan exhibit and the chimpanzee exhibit.

What will the CSP participant do?

The CSP participant will spend part of his/her time at the Zoo helping with the design project. He/she will spend the other part of time at Stephen's design office to research effective exhibit designs in other zoos. The CSP participant will not be responsible for the actual construction of the exhibit but a knowledge of design or previous experience with zoos is very helpful.



**CereCARE Wellness Centre Shanghai – 1-2 participants in total.
Visit: www.cerecare.net**

CereCARE Wellness Centre Shanghai is a residential facility offering world-first combination of acupressure, physiotherapy, and education to young children suffering from cerebral palsy. Its mission is to help children with cerebral palsy, a group of motor problems and physical disorders related to brain injury, live productive and independent lives. There are currently 30 students and 40 full-time teachers at this facility.

What will the CSP participant do?

The CSP participant will spend their time following one class of children, about 5-7 children, and will assist the teachers with children's physical therapy exercises. Due to the motor and muscular difficulties, the children often have trouble doing simple tasks such as walking in a straight line or going up and down the stairs. The CSP participant will spend much of their time helping the children with these exercises and encourage and motivate them. The CSP participant may also lead English classes for some older children or help with small games or activities. The goal of CereCARE is to allow the children to 'graduate' from the Centre and lead independent lives.

Ruth Walter Chungba Primary School – Tibetan Plateaus, Sichuan Province, China - 2-3 participants in total.

This project is located in the Tibetan Plateaus of Sichuan Province (2 hours by plane and another 2 days drive from Shanghai). This is a project for a very independent, mature and culturally sensitive participant. The participant will be teaching Tibetan children English in a very remote but beautiful area of China.