

## Request for a volunteer Montessori teacher (s) for the Ol Jogi Primary School in Laikipia, Kenya

### **Ol Jogi Wildlife Conservancy Primary School**

The Ol Jogi Primary School is looking for one or two volunteer teacher (s) that are qualified in the Montessori pedagogy. The purpose is to help our school apply the Montessori pedagogy on a day to day basis as well as help our teachers adapt their curriculum to incorporate the Montessori approach.

The Ol Jogi Primary School is located within the Ol Jogi Wildlife Conservancy, which is situated in the Laikipia County of Kenya, at the foot of Mount Kenya. The main focus of Ol Jogi Wildlife Conservancy is the protection and conservation of 60 000 acres of wild nature, hosting a wide variety of animals, and more specifically black and white rhinos.

Ol Jogi is one of the few wildlife conservancies in East Africa that allows its staff and their immediate families to live on site, creating a population of nearly 1000 people coming from various tribes and religions. In addition to providing housing – including water and power, Ol Jogi provides them with a primary school, which covers two years of kindergarten and 8 years of primary education.

Orphans or children related to our staff with special family needs are also beneficiaries at our school and are accepted on a case-by-case basis. Today, our school hosts over 240 children, and provides them with meals twice daily. We have also started a boarding facility for our Class 8 children, as they need to prepare intensely for their end of year examinations, the results of which will determine in which secondary school they can enroll. These boarders (15 boys, and 15 girls) are therefore hosted and fed throughout their entire year. In addition, every year, Ol Jogi provides the best two girls and the best two boys with scholarships for their entire secondary education.

Because we believe in the critical importance of education in general, and in the urgency of conservation education in particular, Ol Jogi also runs various educational programs within its premises as well as in surrounding communities. At the Ol Jogi Wildlife Rescue Centre, we welcome over 10,000 school children a year from all over the country, who come to learn about the unique wildlife and fragile ecosystem of this part of the world. Ol Jogi is also committed to uplifting the living standards of our neighbouring communities and provides several scholarships every year to help their children access higher education.

Since 2020, Ol Jogi Primary School has benefited from the support of its partner school, the Montessori Learning Center based in Nairobi, through distance learning sessions as well as in situ training. The enthusiasm and interest from our teachers for this new pedagogy encourages us to now seek potential volunteers who would wish to come and live at our conservancy, and help us apply the Montessori pedagogy on a daily basis.

## **What we offer :**

A unique opportunity to live on a wildlife conservancy, and the opportunity to become part of a community that is dedicated to conservation. You will be able to experience first-hand the incredible wildlife around you, and acquire an in-depth understanding of the complexities and challenges which arise when trying to preserve this unique biodiversity.

In addition, you will be welcomed and integrated within our community, and discover the rich cultural diversity of Kenya. Through your work, you will directly impact the lives of 240 students, as well as their teachers and families. You will be able to influence an entire school who is keen to rethink its educational approach.

Moreover, we would welcome support to develop our conservation education program. We are convinced that the current program could benefit greatly from the Montessori pedagogy and as such we are keen to broaden and deepen it in that direction.

Benefits are:

- Free housing will be offered (fully furnished with beddings etc) and transport to and from Nairobi will be provided upon arrival (Ol Jogi is 4 hours by car from Nairobi).
- Free transport is provided to our staff on a daily basis to Nanyuki the closest city to us (45 minutes drive) for errands and personal requirements.
- Free meals at the school three times a day.

To date, there has not been a single case of Covid on Ol Jogi and numbers remain low for the area in general. Please note that no medical coverage will be provided so the volunteer must come with a personal international medical coverage arrangement. Ol Jogi has its own dispensary, which provides basic free medical care.

More information we can be found on [www.oljogi.org](http://www.oljogi.org), as well as videos on our community engagement featuring our school: <https://youtu.be/YfqrzDvMiuM> and on our conservation work [https://youtu.be/24\\_iU1xQVcw](https://youtu.be/24_iU1xQVcw)

To find out more about how you can be part of this exceptional opportunity contact us at: [twigaoj@gmail.com](mailto:twigaoj@gmail.com)