

**BVS/BRETHREN SERVICE
PROJECT FORM**

Name of project/organization: *Kilcranny House*

Address: *21 Cranagh Road, Coleraine BT51 3NN, Northern Ireland*

Phone: 028/ 70 321 816

Fax: 028/ 70 354 233

E-Mail or Web Site Address: info@kilcrannyhouse.org

BVser's job title: Residential Volunteer

BVser's immediate supervisor: Joan Hunter, Volunteer Co-ordinator

Job description:

List specific duties the volunteer would be required to do. If duties are flexible according to the skills and interests of the volunteer, please state this.

- Housekeeping
- Animal care
- Hosting visiting groups
- Catering
- Organic gardening
- Shopping
- Indoor & outdoor maintenance
- Staff support
- Working with diverse groups (depending on individual skills & interests)

List minimum requirements re: education, skills, abilities, experience, physical requirements, etc.

- Enjoy working as part of a team
- Enjoy diverse groups of people
- Interest in the ethos of non-violence
- Enjoyment of outside work and of organic gardening
- Indoor & outdoor maintenance
- Appreciation of farm animals
- Ability to use initiative
- Flexible and patient
- Independent and resourceful
- Physically fit
- Willingness to learn new skills
- Hard working
- Awareness of the importance of effective communication.

Description of project/organization:

Please include overall purpose or goals of your organization, description of programs, brief history, size of your organization, brief description of your location/area, and anything else you think would be helpful and would attract prospective volunteers.

Kilcranny House is a resource centre for community relations work in Northern Ireland. The centre is situated near the beautiful North Antrim coast, close to the town of Coleraine. (pop. 20,000 approx) The aim of Kilcranny is to heal the divisions which exist between people and between people and the earth. We try to achieve this aim by providing programmes based around the key concepts of “building good relations” and promoting environmental awareness.

Physically, Kilcranny consists of a large farmhouse, accommodation block, storage barn, organic gardens, and community allotment scheme. We also have a small number of farm animals.

Kilcranny hosts diverse groups from a wide range of backgrounds. Sometimes youth groups visit at weekends and occasionally groups can stay for up to two weeks in the summer. Other groups such as the primary schools and a range of community groups make day visits.

On occasion, Kilcranny staff work with the visiting groups, running workshops, facilitating group discussions, working in the garden or showing them the animals. Often groups are self-programming and the input required from staff is around the practical issues of preparation and catering.

Kilcranny continues to grow. As well as our residential volunteers on site we now have five staff: A Project Co-ordinator, a Schools/Community Liaison Worker, an Ethnic Minority Support Worker, an Administrator, and a Volunteer Co-ordinator. A small number of local volunteers also help out. Staff work very much as a team and most of the daily decisions are made by consensus. Major decisions and long-term goals are set with the help of the Management Committee. Steering Committees have recently been set up to guide and support the project workers (including a Volunteer steering Committee). At this stage in time we do not have a post dedicated to environmental issues.

Volunteering has been an integral part of Kilcranny for the past twenty years. The residential volunteers have always given our work a fresh perspective and an international flavour. Volunteering at Kilcranny House enables volunteers to use their initiative and put some of their own ideas into practice. It is an enjoyable and worthwhile experience, mutually beneficial to the volunteer and to our project.

Housing for volunteer:

- in community*
- in independent apartment*
- on project site*
- with family*
- other*
- Must the volunteer seek his/her own housing?*

Description of housing:

Kilcranny House is an old farmhouse sited in a beautiful rural location. The residential volunteers have their own room and all the facilities of the house. Food is also provided. We have a car, primarily for the use of our volunteers.

Other comments:

Hours of work: Monday – Friday 9:30 AM to 4:30 PM. There is also some weekend and occasional evening work but time off is given for this.

Because volunteers work outside and with animals they are required to have a tetanus injection. Police vetting needs to be done in the volunteers’ hometown prior to coming. This is for the protection of children and vulnerable adults.