

**BVS/BRETHREN SERVICE  
PROJECT FORM**

Name of project/organization: *Quaker Cottage Family Centre*

Address: 295A Ballygomartin Road, Belfast BT13 3QX, Northern Ireland

Phone: (from the USA) 011-44-28-90 714 500

E-Mail or Web Site Address: [quakercottage@btinternet.com](mailto:quakercottage@btinternet.com)

BVSer's job title: childcare worker

BVSer's immediate supervisor: Sharon Crainey

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.)*

Volunteers work with children in the under five age group five mornings a week and with 5-14 year old children three afternoons a week. They are fully part of our whole staff team and will be involved in every aspect of planning, implementing, and evaluating the childcare programme. Staff and volunteers also take turns preparing meals for the families who use our centre. They will also be required to clean and maintain our buildings and to drive a mini-bus.

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

- Volunteers should have as much experience as possible of working/living with children 0-14 years old. Training in this area would be advantageous.
- Volunteers need to be sympathetic with both sides involved in the conflict in Northern Ireland.
- A clean driving license and experience of driving a mini-bus or willingness to learn is essential.
- Volunteers need to be reasonably mobile and have good communication skills.
- A willingness to serve others is essential.

**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.*

Quaker Cottage is a cross-community family support centre located high up Black Mountain overlooking North and West Belfast. We work with some of the most disadvantaged families from local communities and with those most affected by our "Troubles." Volunteers would meet the needs of babies and young children while their mothers are involved in a group work program. They would also have the opportunity to work with, and form close relationships with, older children from these families. Activities involve fun, games, play, arts and crafts, but also looking at issues such as personal development or cultural diversity. Our groups are small with a high level of staff which affords many opportunities to form close supportive relationships with the children. Quaker Cottage is a very special project that is looking for people willing to give of themselves and learn from others.

**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:* A modern cottage/bungalow with your own room, a shared living room and a large kitchen/dining area. It is purpose-built and is exclusively for the use of volunteers - located adjacent to the day-centre.

*Other comments:* Applicants should feel free to write, email, or phone the project with any questions about the work. Initially they should contact Grant McCullough.

