


# UVIWE Child & Youth Services

2026



 Gqeberha (Port Elizabeth), Eastern Cape, South Africa

 Community Upliftment

 Skills Development

 Child Care





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# I. Who is Uviwe Child & Youth Services ?

Uviwe, meaning 'you are heard' in the isiXhosa language, Child & Youth Services is a registered child protection organisation in the vibrant city of Gqeberha (formerly known as Port Elizabeth).

The organisation is registered as a Non Profit Organization with number 003-620 NPO and partners with local communities, schools and daycare centers in especially the Northern Areas of Gqeberha to offer and implement integrated education and social support programmes. Their programmes focus on vulnerable children & youth from the areas of Schauderville and Gelvandale.

The aim is to provide children during different development phases with love, food (nutrition), safety (protection) and stimulation (education support) to reach their full potential. Their programs equip teens with the necessary skills for their life's journey ahead and enable them to be economically aware and active citizens.

Over the past 100 years, what began as specialist organisation PE Childline, and to protect the rights of abused children has grown into a sustainable social agency in the city. Uviwe uses a holistic view respecting that those closest to the problem know best to create the solution and therefore use the strengths of each family to facilitate change. At the core of all decisions made, Uviwe has the child's best interest at heart.

Uviwe believes that we need to listen and hear the untold or silent stories of many "at risk" children and youth in our communities. They believe in putting young futures first!





## 2. What do they do?

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UVIWE focuses on building a better future by unlocking the potential of all children they work with. They believe that “at risk” youth can be active participants in shaping their own future positively.

Their focus is on education support (Early Childhood Centres, also called daycare centres) and afterschool programmes, keeping children safe by teaching them positive and protective behaviours, building resilient families through their Positive Parenting and Independent Living Programmes, strengthening community based child protection systems and stimulate economic development and awareness with their Youth Skills Programme.

Their programmes are designed to include the voice of young people, and child inclusion and participation is very important, as well as learning from evidence-based research in offering better and effective programmes.

Their programmes are built on strong education, life skills and development as the pillars. Uviwe believes that teaching children Protective Behaviours are essential to grow confidence and prevent child abuse, which is mostly due to the socio-economic challenges of the underprivileged and poorer communities it works with. Their programmes teach children to protect themselves better and learn how to deal better with the challenges around them.

Uviwe Child & Youth Services offers activities and support programmes for various age groups and activities start from as early as providing access to early childhood development (toddlers), providing primary school education support (children) and skills development for unemployed youth (teens). Positive Parenting programmes are also included to increase parent involvement in their children’s development and creating a more nurturing home environment for children. Their activities include holistic programme design, focusing on

LOVE – SAFETY – STIMULATION.

Volunteers will be actively involved in various programmes such as:

- **Early Childhood Development Center (ECDC)** which is a daycare center for children in the ages of 3-6yrs. Volunteers will be working together with the staff to assist with the daily activities, games, lunch time and educational activities.
- assisting social workers with their 4 day **Positive Parenting Training**. During a period of 6-8 weeks, 6-9 parents (depending on the need) are guided on how to be better parents. Volunteers assist with registrations, taking pictures and documenting the meetings, implementing the training and helping to improve where possible.
- assisting at the daily **Afterschool Program** from 2pm-4pm where 40-50 children from grade 4 - 7 (ages 10-13yrs) get something to eat and assistance with their homework. When homework is completed it is time to play and enjoy the various fun activities. Volunteers can read to the children and offer other fun and educational activities to add value to our team. Fridays are fun days so no



homework but only activities such as sports, watching a movie or playing games.

- **Holiday Program** which during school holidays offers the children a daily program which keeps them from hanging around in the streets with all the dangers there are in the community where many young people end up doing crime and/or abusing drugs and alcohol.

## 3. Supporting other programs

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In addition to volunteering at Uviwe Child & Youth Services, volunteers have the wonderful opportunity to make a broader impact by supporting two other meaningful community projects in Gqeberha.

### **Lovemore Park Primary School**

Lovemore Park Primary is a local school where volunteers can make a real difference in the lives of young learners. Volunteers assist teachers inside the classroom with tutoring and educational support, helping children who need extra attention to keep up with their schoolwork. Beyond the classroom, volunteers also get involved in sports and physical activities, encouraging children to stay active, build teamwork skills and simply have fun. This is a fantastic way to connect with the local community and experience the South African school environment first-hand.

### **Mosaic Community Project**

Mosaic Community Project is a vibrant community initiative where volunteers support the preschool programme. Working alongside the dedicated staff, volunteers help create a warm, nurturing and stimulating environment for the youngest members of the community. This is a wonderful opportunity to contribute to the early development of young children and to experience the joy and energy that comes with working with little ones.

### **Zanethemba**

Zanethemba is a safe and loving shelter dedicated to caring for abandoned and orphaned babies in Gqeberha. The organisation provides a nurturing environment where every baby receives the love, warmth and daily care they need during one of the most vulnerable stages of life. At the heart of everything Zanethemba does is a simple but powerful belief that every child, regardless of their circumstances, deserves to feel safe and cherished. Volunteers have the privilege of supporting the dedicated staff in this vital work, assisting with the daily care and feeding of the babies in their charge.



## 4. How can I help?

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### Join us

Become a part of our team and volunteer to join hands to run sustainable programs and improve the lives of children and youth in need!.

### Fundraising & Donations

Keep in mind that you have already made a donation to the project but if you feel motivated to raise further funds before visiting, we are happy to help with any information you may need. To wisely and effectively spend such donations we suggest first to spend some time here and then plan your donation to ensure maximum impact. If you are keen to bring certain materials before traveling to South Africa please connect with us so we can let you know which items are most needed.

### Working hours

Your times of actively being at the program are normally from Mondays to Thursdays from 8.30am to approximately 4pm and Fridays from 8.30am to 3pm.

### Supervision:

You will be supervised at Uviwe by the various people in charge of the different programmes and you will be able to see and experience different locations when joining the training programmes around the city.

Outside of your time volunteering our live-in Go With Khaya Volunteer Coordinators will look after you and pick you up upon arrival, make sure you are settled in, show you around the city, drive you to and from the project, make sure the shopping is done and organize fun outings for the weekends.





# 5. How to become a volunteer

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## Step 1

Submit your application.

## Step 2

Our booking office will give you more info on supporting documents needed and help you to confirm your stay.

## Step 3

Check out our special discounts and offers & book your flights and/or travel arrangements.

## Step 4

Finalise your payments.

## Step 5

Get ready and prepare for your departure date!





## 6. Location!

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### **Gqeberha, Eastern Cape, South Africa**

The Eastern Cape and the surroundings of Gqeberha show a large variety of natural beauty, and this makes it a great place to see and experience many aspects of South Africa.

The city is known as the Friendly City with a beautiful beachfront for swimming and surfing, shopping malls to enjoy, bars and restaurants and a very relaxed atmosphere.

The location of Gqeberha makes it the perfect city to explore many different highlights of South Africa.

To the East you will find the Wild coast (former Transkei and Ciskei) which is pristine and undeveloped with many beautiful seaside places to visit such as Coffee Bay, Mdumbi or Port St Johns. Only an hour away you can find Addo National Elephant Park and other safari parks to see the Big 5 as well as great coastal villages such as Port Alfred and Kenton-on-Sea.

To the North you will find the great Karoo; a semi desert area with wide open spaces, large nature areas and long open roads with historical places such as Graaff Reinet, the Baviaanskloof Wilderness and much more to explore.

To the West towards Cape Town and the Garden Route, you will be amazed by Tsitsikamma National Park, beautiful holiday villages such as Plettenberg Bay, Knysna and Nature's Valley & world-famous surf mecca; Jeffreys Bay.

The location of Gqeberha gives you plenty to see and visit while you are here, and we believe even provides you more diversity than staying in Cape Town for example. You could always add a visit to The Mother City before or after visiting us in the Eastern Cape.

### **South Africa**

Especially for a country like South Africa, researching some of the history (before you travel) will explain cultural differences you might see and will add a whole new dimension to your experience. If you understand the history of a country, you will understand not only the country better but also the people, their culture, and customs.





## 7. Is South Africa safe?

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Despite general ideas of South Africa being very unsafe, it is important to know that South Africa is known to many as very friendly and welcoming and it very much depends on where you stay and visit. Please remember that in big cities you should make sure you remain aware and behave accordingly to avoid complicated situations. As 70% of people live in poverty and few are extremely rich, the differences in life and hope for a better future creates crime, lack of education, substance abuse, domestic violence and many more problems.

Your safety is very important, and as your host we will look after you to the best of our ability but we do expect you to do your bit and stick to our safety instructions. Common sense is your best friend when it comes to safety, but here are a few guidelines:

- Do not walk alone or at night in quiet areas, rather use an Uber.
- Walk in a group where possible and stay on roads where you are in sight of other people.
- Do not walk around showing off visible valuables.
- Do not carry a backpack on your stomach; it shows you have valuables and are a tourist.
- Be confident and know where you are going.





## 8. How much does it cost?

### Included in fees:

- Information and assistance before departure
- Airport pick up upon arrival and drop off at the end of your stay (Monday - Friday)
- Stay in an exclusive beautiful Volunteer House with shared rooms and many facilities (wifi, washing machine, swimming pool, large lounge, dining room, garden)
- 3 Family style meals per day
- Daily transport to-and-from the project
- Weekly offer of outings and fun activities (some for an extra cost)

### Excluded from your fees:

- Private expenses such as snacks, cool drinks, alcohol, personal food preferences
- Additional costs for weekend outings
- Flight tickets
- Insurance
- Laundry powder for personal washing

<b>DURATION:</b>	<b>EURO</b>	<b>USD</b>	<b>GBP</b>
1 Week	€ 360	\$425	£315
2 Weeks	€ 630	\$740	£550
3 Weeks	€ 895	\$1,050	£780
4 Weeks	€ 1,145	\$1,345	£1,000
5 Weeks	€ 1,405	\$1,650	£1,230
6 Weeks	€ 1,665	\$1,955	£1,460
Per Week Extra	€ 240	\$280	£210
Donation per week	€ 30	\$35	£25

### Accommodation

The exclusive Volunteer House in Port Elizabeth is a gorgeous home with lots of space. If you like to relax in the big garden, at the swimming pool or in the comfy lounge; this home has space for everyone to feel at home and enjoy the time outside of volunteering activities with other international volunteers from all over the world. .

The home is a beautiful old house renovated and decorated with modern touches. A large swimming pool for summer and a fireplace for winter, what more do you need?

The property is well secured with electric fencing, a security company backup and superbly located within walking distance of the beach for a swim or surf, different restaurants & other shops.

If you would like a private room as a single traveller or as a couple, please let us know and we will advise you on availability and potential surcharges.



## Meals

All meals are included and we work on a set menu per week, lovingly prepared by our cook with your assistance, so don't be shy, help out in the kitchen and you might learn to cook some new dishes. All dinners are cooked, however on weekends when our cook is off from work, volunteers can warm pre-made meals or make a simple dinner with ingredients provided (hamburgers are a favorite) so some participation is required.

Breakfast: choices of bread, fruit, yoghurt, cereals and/or eggs.

Lunch: make your own sandwiches with cheese, marmalade, cold meat or other spreads to take with you to the project.

Dinners: a variety of hearty homely cooked meals such as pastas, stirfry, soups, stews, pies and other dishes.

There is free instant coffee, tea and safe drinking water available at any time. We also cater for vegetarians & vegans but please inform us before arriving to prepare accordingly.





## 9. When can I start?

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Arrival at accommodation can be any day of the week, but new volunteers usually arrive on **Mondays** and start at the project on Tuesdays.

Participation is in full weeks only (7 nights per week). If you need to arrive a few nights early or stay a few extra nights, please let us know and we can advise you on availability and cost.

The calendar at the end of this document will give you an idea of when school breaks/holidays are, so you can plan your travels accordingly.

## 10. What is expected of me?

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It is important that volunteers of this project understand the importance of the following:

- Police Clearance Certificate issued from your country of residence
- To be enthusiastic and independent enough to work without continuous supervision
- To show respect towards the people and culture of the local community and to remember you can't try to change everything in a period of just a few weeks.
- To show flexibility towards responsibilities, tasks and activities, things change and we need volunteers to be flexible to the local reality.
- To be willing to take initiative and come up with ideas.

Volunteering at this project is an unique opportunity which can also be challenging at times, that is all part of the experience. You will learn about the circumstances in which 70% of South Africans live today, and experience their culture and traditions. You will be faced with poverty and other social problems.. For this reason, it is of absolute importance that volunteers are flexible and positive individuals who can adapt with the ever changing needs and the very different reality of life in South Africa compared to most Western countries.

## 11. Things to consider

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### Visa

All travellers with a European, UK or US passport will get a free visa upon arrival in South Africa. For any other nationalities please check the South African embassy website to check if you get a free visa upon arrival. Please note that Go with Khaya can not be held responsible for clients being denied entry, should they not be in the possession of the relevant visa.



All travellers must be in possession of a valid onward/return air ticket.

### **Passport**

South Africa insists on people having 2-free pages available when you enter. Please ensure that your passport is valid for at least six months after your date of departure from Africa. You are personally responsible for ensuring that passports, visas, vaccination certificates and other travel documents are in order and for all costs relating thereto.

### **Vaccinations**

Port Elizabeth (Gqeberha) is a malaria free area. For other vaccines we recommend that you contact your local physician or travel clinic for information and advice. We do not advise any rabies shots as this is not applicable to the Eastern Cape.

### **Insurance**

Accidents can happen to anyone. Make sure to get comprehensive travel and medical insurance.

### **Alcohol**

We allow alcohol to be enjoyed at the accommodation but only for those of 18 years and older. Learners under the age of 18 are not allowed to drink alcohol as per South African law.

### **Disclaimer**

Go with Khaya commits itself to always offer accurate and correct information, but please keep in mind that information can change, and all projects can be subject to change regarding their programs and/or accommodation arrangements.





## 12. Let's stay connected

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We'd love to stay connected! Please follow & subscribe to our social media platforms below.



[Instagram](#)



[YouTube](#)



[Facebook](#)



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