



**Community in Action**

**PO Box 96690-80110, Likoni, Kenya**  
**volunteer@hatualikoni.org**

## *Hatua Likoni Volunteer Information*

### *Hatua Likoni*

Hatua Likoni is a community NGO working to reduce unemployment and poverty in Likoni, Kenya. Through scholarships, mentoring and career guidance, Hatua helps Likoni's top students gain the skills, credentials and networks they need to contribute to and benefit from Kenya's growing economy.

### *Our Work*

- **Hatua Scholarship Fund** offers secondary, college and university scholarships to gifted students who lack other means to pursue education.
- **Weekly mentoring sessions** focused on personal decision making, civic engagement and career guidance prepare our students for life after school.
- **Likoni's Community Library** is a well-resourced study space for Likoni youth and a forum for community training, serving over 180 students daily.
- Hatua supports local community initiatives such as the **Likoni Community Football League** and the **Likoni Youth Agenda**.

### *Volunteer Roles*

One of the best things about volunteering with Hatua Likoni is the variety of work you can do. Hatua matches volunteers with organizations working within each volunteer's field of interest.

Those interested in providing mentoring and career guidance for youth, library services, teaching writing or computer skills, or those who want to gain experience in communications, M&E or project management can volunteer directly with Hatua Likoni.

Those interested in teaching primary school, assisting at an orphanage, doing public health outreach, or coaching football can work with one of a number of organizations doing good work on behalf of children and youth in Likoni.

The list below is a general overview of roles that are often available, but these are ever

changing. We'll work with you to determine which role will best utilize your skills and where you'll be happiest.

If you have particular professional skills, let us know so we can put your skills to their best use. That could mean you have experience teaching, with computers, in medical practice or as a photographer - all skills are needed and welcomed!

### **Volunteer roles include:**

- **Organizational Development**

For volunteers who want to know the real deal about how to make community development happen, particularly those interested in a career in the non-profit sector, join Hatua's team! This work is in field and in office and gives the best behind the scenes introduction to the world of community development. Volunteers are paired with a Hatua staff member to assist with scholarship administration, program monitoring and evaluation, proposal writing, and more. Those volunteers ready to take on a challenge can be given a project of their own to lead.

- **Mentoring and Career Guidance**

Every Sunday afternoon Hatua's scholarship students meet for mentoring sessions focused on personal decision making, career guidance and civic engagement. We strive to bring in professionals to give our students exposure to a variety of careers and to talk on a range of issues. If you are a professional in your field and would like to lead a mentoring session, we would love to hear from you! Please email Winnie, our Mentoring Coordinator, at [winnie@hatualikoni.org](mailto:winnie@hatualikoni.org).

- **Library Services**

Hatua operates Likoni's Community Library. Those with experience in this area are encouraged to come and help us continue to improve the services we provide to our community and help implement special programs, like story book hours for children on weekends and writing contests for primary and secondary school students.

- **Coaching Football (Soccer)**

Football (soccer) enthusiasts can help to coach teams that participate in the Likoni Community Football League. Practices and games mainly take place in the afternoons and on weekends. Those who wish to volunteer with the league are encouraged to also work with another organization, such as a school or orphanage, during the day times.

- **Teaching at a Primary School**

Community schools in Likoni provide low cost education but are often understaffed. You can help provide more attention to each student by being an assistant teacher for English, Math or your subject of expertise. Sporty volunteers can have great fun leading PE, and those inclined towards drawing can plan arts and crafts projects.

- **Assisting at an Orphanage**

Volunteers interested in helping to care for children can work at an orphanage. During the day when children are at school the work includes washing cloths by hand and other manual home maintenance tasks that teaches you a lot about what real life is like in Likoni. After school the children need help with their homework, and on weekends or school holidays they may need to be taken to the beach to go swimming, play football or other fun activities.

- **Public Health Outreach**

Those interested in public health can work with a youth outreach organization doing health education in schools or conducting HIV testing clinics.

## ***Orientation***

Orientation is an opportunity to learn about your new environment, how to get around, how to communicate using basic Kiswahili, what things cost, how to be culturally appropriate in Kenya, and how people in Likoni live their lives.

Volunteers are encouraged to arrive on a Friday if possible. Upon arrival you are picked up from Mombasa's airport and spend the rest of the day resting at our volunteer house at Pungu Villa. Saturday is a cultural orientation during which volunteers learn about the history, diversity and culture of Mombasa. Sunday is the start of a 4 day home stay during which volunteers learn more about life in Likoni by living with a family in our community.

Monday morning is the start of language lessons with Mombasa's best Swahili teacher, followed by an introduction to Hatua's programs and a tour of Likoni. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are spent in language lessons during the morning and on Mombasa city excursions during the afternoons, excursions may include a trip to Mombasa's largest market and to Fort Jesus, Mombasa's oldest landmark.

Those who are interested can start a 2 night, three day safari to Tsavo National Park on Friday, arriving back to Likoni on Sunday. Safari is not included in the orientation package but we are happy to help you plan a safari upon your request. Those not going on safari can spend the weekend at Pungu Villa and enjoying weekend activities in Mombasa, or other great coastal locations such as Diani Beach and Wasini Island. Volunteer placements start on Monday morning.

Hatua's orientation fee, inclusive of transport from the airport, your first week's accommodation, breakfast and dinner at Pungu Villa and your home stay, cultural orientation, language lessons and city tours is \$385.

## ***Accommodation***

Hatua Likoni volunteers can stay either at our volunteer house, situated on Shelly beach, or in a home stay with a Likoni family.

Our volunteer house is a three-bedroom cottage overlooking the Indian Ocean. It is fully furnished with electricity, running water, 24/7 security, cleaning services, breakfast and dinner. We can sleep up to 6 people (if there are two couples). Given the space, cost and range of services available, this option is ideal for those who seek peace and relaxation during their down time in Kenya.

Breakfast and dinner are prepared by your house matron and are included in our accommodation fee. Your meals will be a mix of both traditional Kenyan dishes and western cooking and will include rice, chapatti, pasta, meat, fish, beans, vegetables and fruit. Vegetarians can be catered for.

Home stays are an enriching and gratifying intercultural experience for volunteers. Breakfast and dinner are provided by the host family. This option is attractive for people who prefer to share their living space with others, and for those who wish to fully engage themselves in the daily routines, challenges and triumphs that Likoni families experience. Those with dietary restrictions should talk with Hatua's volunteer coordinator before selecting this option as sometimes it's difficult for families to adjust their cooking to meet specific needs.

Accommodation fee, including breakfast and dinner, is \$190 per week for each week following orientation.

## *Things to do in and around Mombasa*

Likoni and the surrounding area offer a wealth of things to do during your time off. In and around Mombasa you will find a plethora of bars, restaurants and cultural highlights.

Other attractions include:

- **Safari**

While in Kenya you may well want to experience the renowned wildlife by treating yourself to a safari – by booking it when you are here you can grab yourself a fantastic deal. A two day safari which includes a visit to Tsavo East, a Maasai village, Tsavo West, two nights' accommodation and all food/travel would cost you approximately \$360.

- **Fort Jesus**

Fort Jesus is one of the biggest tourist attractions in Mombasa and its place in history makes it well worth visiting. The fort was originally built in 1593 by the Portuguese in a bid to maintain control over the coastal Swahilis but failed to do so. Through centuries of bloody battles the fort changed hands no fewer than nine times, eventually falling to the British in 1875 and used as a jail.

Nowadays you will find the fort has been opened to the public with passages cut through coral, battlements and ruins to explore.

- **Markets**

Mombasa has some wonderful markets to visit; including the fabric market off Digo Road

and a jewelry market off Moi Avenue (both in Mombasa city centre). There are also a number of good souvenir stores in Old Town Mombasa, which is a must-visit for its cultural and historical heritage.

You can buy material in the fabric market and have it made into custom designed clothing. At the jewelry market you will find an overwhelming range of beautiful handmade necklaces, bracelets, earrings, carvings and dishware for incredibly cheap prices.

Be prepared to barter in the markets - vendors will often start by asking at least double and often triple their true selling price! That said, remember that vendors do have a living to make, so have fun haggling but do pay what you think is a fair price.

- **Beaches galore!**

The coast of Kenya is home to some of the world's most beautiful beaches so if you fancy venturing out to sample what's on offer you will be spoilt for choice. South of Mombasa, about 20km from Likoni, you will find Tiwi beach; a beautiful quiet stretch of coast which is remarkably undeveloped. It is a great spot for swimming and perfect for some peace and quiet. Alternatively, if it's socializing and fun you want then head to Diani beach. Diani boasts kilometers of calm white sand beach with a buzzing atmosphere, Mediterranean vibe, and plenty of activities to keep you busy.

North of Mombasa you can take yourself to Pirates beach where you'll find all the locals hanging out. Here you can relax on the beautiful white sand or if you're up for something a bit more adventurous take a camel ride along the shore. However, do be careful of pickpockets on Pirates beach. Other beaches worth visiting include Bamburi, where you'll find a host of nightclubs and restaurants, or Nyali, another local favorite.

Meanwhile, don't forget Likoni's own Shelly Beach, located steps from Hatua's volunteer accommodation and available to you every day for an ocean side run and refreshing dip.

- **And lots more!**

The above list includes just a few of the daytrips you can choose from but the variety here really is endless. Among other possibilities, you could visit:

**Haller Park** - A small animal park where you can see Giraffes and Hippo

**Mamba Village** - Kenya's largest crocodile farm, also offers horse riding

**Shimba Hills** - A beautiful nature reserve south of Mombasa

**Mwalaguanje Elephant South** - A sanctuary for more than 150 elephants

**Wasini Island** – Boat trip, dolphin watching and snorkeling about 2 hours south of Likoni

## *Previous volunteers' thoughts on Hatua Likoni*

'I came to Hatua Likoni in May 2009 and I loved it so much I gave up my job to come back for longer! The people at the project are absolutely amazing; everyone is so welcoming and you feel right at home before you know it. Among other jobs I taught English and Arts at Madaraka school where the children were fantastic.

Volunteers here should expect to work hard but are guaranteed to get out twice what they put in!’

*Sara Smith - UK*

‘Volunteering at Hatua Likoni really opened my eyes. I was given the opportunity to work with some amazing people who were very friendly and incredibly welcoming. I really felt I could get involved in different tasks, like teaching or helping out in the office on organizing projects. The children were amazing and great fun to spend time with. I will never forget my experience here and really hope to return someday!’

*Amy Jones - UK*

## ***What we are looking for in a volunteer***

Here at Hatua Likoni we welcome those who want to help us build our community, regardless of age, ethnicity or past international work experience. We do ask that you do a bit of self-exploration and consider whether you will be comfortable in a new and challenging environment.

Key skills which help volunteers make the most of their time with us are:

- A desire to learn about new cultures
- A strong work ethic
- Creativity
- Flexibility/patience
- A sense of humor!

## ***Volunteer Program Costs***

### **Orientation - \$385**

Hatua’s orientation fee is inclusive of transport from the airport, one week of accommodation, breakfast and dinner at Pungu Villa and your home stay, cultural orientation, language lessons and city tours.

### **Accommodation - \$190/week per person**

*Volunteer House* – Located on quiet Indian Ocean-front property, Pungu Villa serves as Hatua Likoni’s private volunteer house. Pungu Villa’s location caters to those who seek peace and relaxation during their down time in Kenya. Accommodation, breakfast, dinner and housekeeping are included.

*Home Stay* –This option is attractive for people who prefer to share their living space with others, and for those who wish to fully engage themselves in the daily routines, challenges and triumphs that Likoni families experience. Accommodation, breakfast and dinner are provided by the host family.

## Program Contribution - \$50/week

Each week volunteers contribute \$50 to the organization where they are serving. This amount is managed by the volunteer in consultation with the program staff to implement a project the volunteer believes meets a need within the organization. For example, a volunteer serving for 3 weeks will have \$150 to dedicate towards improving the quality of work done in their placement organizations, projects can include creating a vegetable garden at a primary school or buying mattresses for children at an orphanage. Those who wish to coach football (soccer) in the afternoons in addition to assisting another project during the day are asked to donate an additional \$25 per week to the Likoni Community Football League.

Hatua Likoni's rates are quite competitive compared to other volunteer programs, and our accommodation at Pungu Villa is great strides ahead of other programs' accommodation. In addition, rather than being a for-profit company, 100% of income earned by Hatua through volunteer accommodation is re-invested in Hatua Likoni's charitable work on behalf of youth in Likoni.

## *Airfare, Visa & Spending Money*

Volunteers are responsible for their airfare, visa (\$50), transport in Kenya (excluding airport transfer, which we provide), lunch, and leisure expenses.

We recommend that you budget at least \$100 a week in extra spending money to cover your daily transport to and from work, lunch, bottled water and any other sundries you wish to purchase. You will need to bring a little more if you wish to go on Safari or do other day trips on the weekend.

More information is available in our Volunteer Handbook which we will send when we receive your application, or can send sooner on request.

If you have any questions or require further details, please contact our staff.

## *Contact details*

Volunteer Coordinator:  
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