

KIDS CLUB

At Casa Chirilagua our mission is **developing relationships with families to see the Chirilagua neighborhood transformed by Christ**. This mission lies at the heart of Kids Club. By investing time in children's social, emotional, and academic development, we equip a generation of leaders to transform their communities.

OUR PROGRAM GOAL:

To provide spiritual and academic support to Casa Chirilagua youth.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Kids Club?

Kids Club offers forty students daily after-school homework and reading support, weekly Bible lessons, art projects, and movement activities, plus monthly field trips to offer students new experiences. Most of all, Kids Club serves as a safe space where our students grow and experience God's love for them through interactions with staff, volunteers, and fellow students.

When and where does Kids Club take place?

Kids Club takes place every Monday through Friday from 3:30-5:00pm on days that Mount Vernon Community School is in session, from September to June. We meet in Alexandria, at Beverley Hills Community United Methodist Church.

Who are Kids Club students?

Kids Club students are children in elementary school (1st-5th grade), who live in the Chirilagua (Arlandria) neighborhood. Most children come from immigrant families of Central American descent.

Who are Kids Club Volunteers?

Kids Club volunteers are mature middle school students, high school students, and adults who can commit to volunteering at Kids Club once a week.

Do I need to speak Spanish in order to volunteer?

Speaking Spanish is not a requirement. The majority of our students speak both English and Spanish. Program staff can help you communicate with students and families who struggle with English if the need arises.

What does a volunteer do at Kids Club?

Volunteers help students with homework and reading, and they help make the program fun! Our kids thrive on the one-on-one attention volunteers provide. Volunteers often participate in games and art projects with students, helping to foster teamwork and creativity.

What if I don't like reading or don't understand their homework?

Don't worry about your reading or math skills. We offer assistance to kids at a variety of levels, and the most important support a volunteer offers is their attention and encouragement. If you feel truly stumped on an assignment, program staff are always available to help.

Is faith a required component of volunteering?

Casa Chirilagua is a faith-based organization and we openly teach biblical principles at Kids Club. However, claiming the Christian faith is not a prerequisite for volunteering. As a Kids Club volunteer, your main role is to provide one-on-one assistance to our kids as they participate in activities.

What's the benefit of volunteering?

Volunteers build relationships with our students and help them in their social, emotional and academic development. Our students love volunteers, and often express appreciation and affection for those who have helped them.

How do I become a volunteer?

Contact Elizabeth Moraff, Kids Club Director, to get started. Your first step will be to identify the day of the week you'd like to volunteer then request the volunteer application. The Director will inform you of our application process and upcoming Kids Club training sessions.

What trainings and support are available?

Before volunteering at Kids Club, all volunteers receive an introductory training specific to Kids Club. In this training, volunteers learn Kids Club values, routines, behavior techniques, and support available. Additional training sessions will be scheduled throughout the year as necessary to better equip volunteers.