



Project TEN

International Community Development
By The Jewish Agency For Israel

MEXICO



ABOUT

Project TEN is an international development program that operates volunteer centers in developing areas. We bring together young Jewish adults from all over the world, to a program that combines volunteer work with local communities and service-learning in the fields of international development, culture, identity, and Jewish activism.

TEN CADENA CENTER MEXICO

The Project TEN-Cadena Center in Oaxaca, Mexico opened in 2013. The center operates in the town of Pluma Hidalgo and in local communities located in the mountainous region that embraces the town of Pluma. We partner with Cadena and Keren Hayesod.

BOOKS & THINGS EDUCATIONAL CENTER

Volunteers run the Books & Things Educational Center throughout the day. The center provides enrichment hours in the field of informal education to the children of the city of Pluma and its surroundings. The activities in the center are varied and revolve around the fields of art, group games, thinking games and more. At the educational center, an emphasis is placed on learning, which is adapted to the various abilities of the children and youth as well as on learning that promotes developing personal skills and abilities, which the children will require in the future.

LOCAL COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

In the mountainous region around Pluma village, the volunteers work in the Conafe schools. This is a network of local community schools run by the government and a teaching staff that was educated in the community. The volunteers introduce TEN's educational activity model to the participants (parents and their children). TEN Directors and Coordinators accompany Conafe's teaching staff and make basic English language learning, principles and practices accessible for the enrichment of the young teaching staff.

Volunteers, directors and coordinators also work at the high school in the city of Pluma Hidalgo in order to make information accessible, up-to-date and relevant to promote healthy living for youth, parents and teachers. The program was built by education and health professionals.

WHO WE ARE

Young people in their twenties from Israel and the Diaspora volunteer at the TEN Mexico Center. Volunteers engage in informal educational activities on a daily basis in order to enrich the local children's learning experience.

WHAT WE DO

At the center in Mexico we work with schools and in the local community. The volunteers start the day at the educational center with the children of the local community and once a week we go to remote communities to work with them as well in the afternoon. At Pluma Hidalgo High School we work with young people focusing on health education and practicing English. We run a wonderful women group with the mothers of Pluma Hidalgo.



Working with children, youth and teaching staff in Oaxaca, Mexico

VOLUNTEERS EDUCATIONAL CURRICULUM

Volunteers undergo training before and after arrival at the Center. The training is designed to prepare participants for group life, the volunteering experience, and it enables a connection to the wider global context in which Project TEN operates. The delegation opens with a week of orientation of in-depth familiarity with the Center. During this week, the volunteers meet the local staff, get to deeply know the work, visit volunteering locations and are exposed to the local culture and lifestyle.

During the three months of volunteering, there are regular weekly meetings led by the Center's Directors and Coordinators and in collaboration with local professionals. The meetings cover various topics such as international development, education and community, Shabbat and holiday activities, Spanish lessons and group time. The purpose of the meetings is to process the volunteering and group life experiences, to provide tools for the professional implementation of Project TEN's educational and ethical model, to expose the volunteers to the culture and lifestyle of the community in which they live alongside their own identity as Jews, as Israelis and citizens of the world.

*Every second weekend, participants are free to go and travel around the country. The program welcomes religious and secular participants. All activities on Saturdays and Jewish holidays are suitable for traditional observers. However, every participant is free to keep the Shabbat as they see fit.



ACCOMMODATIONS:

The volunteer house is located in the center of the village. The Directors, coordinators and volunteers share a communal home and the volunteers share communal rooms (4-6 per room). Each room is equipped with a toilet and shower with hot water. The house has a laundry room, a living room and a fully equipped vegetarian kitchen. Volunteers can spend time in the yard or on the roof of the house overlooking the beautiful valley.

COST: \$1,350

Includes: Accommodation, three nutritious vegetarian meals a day, clean water, professional staff in the field, basic Wi-Fi and security.

Not Included: Flights, health insurance, vaccines, visas and free weekends.

VOLUNTEER 2020

- January Cohort
- May Cohort
- September Cohort

For more details on dates and other centers check out our website!

