



Have you returned from development work/volunteering overseas?

Feeling a bit out on a limb?

Comhlámh has a great idea for a wonderful weekend break for you!

Come spend the weekend sharing experiences and stories with other returned development workers & volunteers benefit from networking opportunities, think about how to apply your skills developed overseas, and readjust to the culture shock of being home again.

And of course, make new friends and have a bit of craic!

- When:** Saturday 26th & Sunday 27th March 2011
- Where:** Dublin – Marino Conference Centre (residential, single rooms)
- Cost:** Just €50 euro! Accommodation and all meals included - No charge for VSO returnees
- Who:** For anyone who has worked *or* volunteered overseas for 3 month's or more in a development/humanitarian aid or human rights capacity.

The weekend is facilitated by Comhlámh staff and returned development workers;
Participatory group format (individual, small and large group sessions);
Social gathering on Sat night optional.

Book Now!

Places restricted to 16 so the sooner you book the better!

www.comhlamh.org or contact deirdre@comhlamh.org 086-3367683

What do past participants have to say....?

"Comhlámh's weekend really helped me find my feet on return from my overseas placement"

"Excellent, thanks, it was brilliant"

"Enjoyed it all! Go raibh mile maith agat...one grateful heart!"



Thursday, 03 February 2011

Dear Returned Development Worker/Volunteer,

Re: “Coming Home Weekend”, 26th & 27th March 2011

As the Irish Association of Development Workers, established in 1975, our mission is to challenge our society on the root causes of global poverty and inequality and empower people to demand equity in global relations. We are passionate about supporting people like you who come back from working/volunteering in developing countries and warmly invite you to Comhlámh’s next “Coming Home Weekend”.

The “Coming Home Weekend” will take place on the weekend of Saturday 26th to Sunday 27th March 2011 inclusive, in Dublin. The weekend is a fantastic opportunity for you to meet with other returned development workers and volunteers, to hear each other's experiences, share tips for settling back, plan how to put to good use in Ireland the experiences you gained overseas and have some fun! The weekend is facilitated by fellow returned development workers and professionals.

Venue: **Dublin, Marino Conference Centre**

Date: **26-27th March 2011 (Saturday 10am to Sunday 5pm)**

The cost of the weekend is €50 to people who have been overseas in a development capacity for longer than three months; accommodation and meals are provided. If you wish to attend, please complete the **Booking Form** attached and return it as soon as possible, we will then contact you with further information in due course. Returnees with VSO Ireland (Voluntary Service Overseas) are exempt from the above fee as their organisation has provided Comhlámh with a grant for this purpose.

As a returned development worker or volunteer, you are also entitled to a years’ free membership of Comhlámh so do ask for a free membership form if you haven’t already received one. A comprehensive range of services and events are open to you once you activate your membership. Counselling, careers information, personal debriefings and information about social insurance and pensions are only some of the supports you might like to avail of at any time during your first year home. Please get in touch should you wish to discuss any aspect of your return or for further information on our support services.

You may also like to take a look at our website www.comhlamh.org for information on a range of events, courses, campaigns and upcoming activities in which you can take part.

Finally, I hope we will be in touch again in the near future be it at the March “Coming Home Weekend” or at some of Comhlámh’s other events!

Yours Sincerely,

Deirdre Kettlewell

Project Officer – Support Services to Development Workers

086-3367683 (Wednesday to Friday 9-5pm)



Comhlámh “Coming Home Weekend” Booking Form

Sat & Sun inclusive, 26th & 27th March, 2011

Dublin

Please return completed booking forms to Deirdre@comhlamh.org no later than **11 March 2011**

(Late applications will be considered dependent on availability)

Name	
Mailing address	
Email address	
Mobile phone	
Home phone	
Gender (M/F)	
Accommodation required Sat night (Please indicate Yes or No)	
Any Dietary requirements (Vegetarian, allergies etc...)	
Any Special Needs (Accessibility, vision, hearing)	
Where (the country) did you worked overseas?	
Name of sending organisation you went with? (Please indicate Independent if you organised it yourself)	
Date you went on your assignment(s) (exact dates please)	dd/mm/yy
Date you returned from your assignment(s) exact dates (exact dates please)	dd/mm/yy
Your role overseas	
What are your expectations for the “Coming Home Weekend”?	

Payment Policy for Comhlámh's "Coming Home Weekends"

There is a set fee for the "Coming Home weekend" which is €50. This includes accommodation and all meals for the weekend. Travel expenses are at the participants own expense. There are no discounts offered if accommodation or meals are not availed of.

Please be advised that the following payment options are available to you:

- Laser Card
- Credit card
- Cheque
- Postal Order

Credit and laser card payments can be made via phone to Comhlámh - 01-4783490

Postal Orders and cheques to be made out to "Comhlámh" please and posted to the address below (*Please include a note to say this is payment for the "Coming Home Weekend"*):

Accounts
Comhlámh
2nd Floor, Ballast House
Aston Quay
Dublin 2

We require a **3 day cancellation** notification if you are unable to attend. If you cancel your booking sooner than 3 days before the event the fee is non refundable.

If Comhlámh has to cancel the CHW for any reason, we will refund participants in full.

Returnees with VSO Ireland (Voluntary Service Overseas) are exempt from the above fee as their organisation has provided Comhlámh with a grant for this purpose.

Thank you!