



Volunteer Vacancy: Workshops Facilitator

Opening Date: 01/08/2024

Location: Athens, Greece

Volunteer Status: Part-time (mostly afternoon/evening shifts)

Starting Date: 09/09/2024 (Rolling)

Duration: Minimum 3 weeks

About Better Days

Better Days was founded in January 2016 in response to the influx of refugees in Lesvos, Greece. Our first project was the Olive Grove, an unofficial camp adjacent to Moria camp that supported the needs of thousands of people passing through Lesvos. During its first six months of operation, Better Days and its partners provided aid (medical, food, shelter, and non-food items) to approximately 70,000 people. Since the 'Olive Grove' project, Better Days has implemented more than ten projects providing services, including legal aid, recreational activities, non-formal education, and counselling support.

Today, we focus on providing an integrated approach to education through educational and psychosocial support services for displaced young people to enhance their opportunities for personal development, academic growth, and independence. Our new Gekko educational centre in Athens, which we launched June 2023, offers access to quality personalized education for displaced young adults (15-24 years old) in a safe, trauma-informed, and dignified learning space.

Chronology of projects:

- The Olive Grove, 2015-2016: Moria Camp emergency response, sheltering, food & NFI distribution, medical aid.
- Community Support Program, 2015-Ongoing: Financial support for students.
- Elpida Home, 2016-2017: Recreational programming for adults and minors, info point, food and NFI distribution.
- Medical & Legal Intervention Project, Moria Camp, Lesvos, 2016-2017: Medical aid and legal info for vulnerable asylum-seeking adults.
- Gekko Kids, Lesvos 2017-2022: Non-formal educational programs.
- EcoHub, Lesvos, 2017-2020: Sustainable ecological garden with vocational training and ecological literacy for children and adults.
- TAPUAT, Lesvos 2017-2019: Non-formal educational programming, activities for minors, child protection, trauma support.
- Gekko X, Lesvos 2019-2020: STEAM curriculum, exhibitions, blended learning,



- e-learning.
- Central Triage Pharmacy, Moria Camp, Lesvos 2020: Medicine provision, Covid-19 response.
- Socrates, Lesvos 2019-2020: Sports and development, SEL pedagogy, football sessions, trauma support.
- Gekko, Athens 2023-Ongoing: Non-formal educational programs.

About Gekko

Gekko was conceived by Better Days on Lesvos in May 2017 to challenge existing models of education in emergencies by integrating high-quality education with mental health and psychosocial support services in a dignified, trauma-aware environment. Gekko operations in Lesvos reached optimal capacity in 2019-20 with 915 registered students and 452 psychosocial support sessions. Due to interconnected factors, including COVID-19, the fire that destroyed Moria camp, and the implementation of closed, securitized camps on the islands, we expanded our projects to mainland Greece.

Displaced young people in Athens are in need of services that lie at the heart of Gekko: trauma-aware psychosocial support integrated with high-quality, individualised education. Thus, Gekko in Athens was born. Our summer pilot program (50 students) launched in July 2023 and the full-scale project (120 students) in fall 2023. Gekko offers a safe learning environment for 15-24 year-olds who are experiencing displacement, and serves as a space where they can offload their troubles and fight for their dreams. We aim to reduce the barriers students face and pave the path to quality education and accreditation.

Working with Better Days

Better Days is a small and dynamic organisation looking to collaborate with people who are passionate about humanitarian work, understand its risks and complexities, and are interested in investing in their role long-term. We are a quality-driven organisation determined to provide grassroots, holistic and effective solutions to support the integration and de-victimization of displaced communities in Europe, focusing on refugee education and empowerment of youth.

Our colleagues come from all over the world, and our official communication language is English. The successful candidate will undergo two induction periods, one for general volunteering, and another for technical knowledge. The volunteer will receive continuous supervision and support throughout their time with Better Days.

Role Description

The workshop facilitator will organize and conduct extracurricular workshops on various themes that complement Gekko's educational offerings. These workshops may be short, theme-specific sessions or extended series over a longer period, depending on their scope, expected outcomes, and the facilitator's availability. Workshop facilitators play a vital role in guiding and supporting participants through the learning process, fostering a positive and collaborative environment, and helping them achieve their learning objectives. This role requires someone knowledgeable and experienced in the subject matter, resourceful and organized, and adaptable with a can-do attitude.

Main Responsibilities

- Design and develop workshop proposals, lesson plans, and materials tailored to the participants' objectives and needs.
- Facilitate workshops, group activities, exercises, and discussions in an engaging and interactive manner to encourage active participation and learning.
- Provide clear instructions and guidance to participants throughout the workshop.
- Monitor participant progress and engagement throughout the workshop.
- Collect feedback and evaluations from participants to assess the workshop's effectiveness.
- Analyze feedback to identify areas for improvement and make recommendations for future workshops.

Requirements

- Expertise on the subject matter of the workshop.
- Ability to use Docs, Sheets, Drive, Canva (preferred).
- Fluency in English essential. Knowledge of French, Farsi or Arabic desirable.
- Passionate about working with displaced children and youth.
- A focus on results and quality, strong teamwork and collaboration skills, and flexibility are essential.
- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work effectively with a diverse student population.
- Commitment to the mission and values of Better Days.

How to Apply

To apply, send an email to volunteer@betterdays.ngo and include the following:

- CV and a motivation letter in English. Candidates who attach their CVs in any other language will not be considered.
- Availability dates.
- Let us know if you would like to be considered for other volunteer opportunities.



Due to excessive workload, only successful candidates who meet the minimum criteria will be contacted.

Application closing date: Until the positions are filled.

Better Days retains applicants' information and submitted documentation for 6 months. After this period, all data is deleted. For further information on how we handle personal data, please refer to Better Days Privacy Policy, available at our website, or contact compliance@betterdays.ngo for further inquiries or requests.