

Hello from WorldTeach!

WorldTeach is a non-profit, non-governmental organization founded by a group of Harvard students in 1986 in response to the need for educational assistance in developing countries. Since its inception, WorldTeach has placed thousands of volunteer educators in communities throughout Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe, Latin America, and the Pacific.

Today, we have programs in American Samoa, Brazil, China, Ecuador, India, the Marshall Islands, Morocco, Namibia, and South Africa. Here's a link to our website if you'd like to learn more about our programming: www.worldteach.org

Each of these programs have their own unique features, and we are contacting your organization to discuss one program in particular that we hope to continue with a possible partnership. In the Marshall Islands, in partnership with the Public School System and their Special Education Department, we operate **Deaf WorldTeach**, a specialized program that focuses on teaching deaf children and youth while also introducing sign language to families, professionals and the communities of Ebeye and Majuro.

We have successfully worked in the Marshall Islands for the past fifteen years while partnered and funded by the Public School System. The majority of each annual cohort of thirty volunteers teach English in the Marshall Islands throughout the eleven month school year. Volunteers are provided international airfare, housing, a living stipend, health insurance, training, visas, and in-country support through staff on the ground.

Five volunteers from each year's cohort are part of Deaf WorldTeach. These volunteers are placed in the Majuro Deaf Education Center and Ebeye Deaf Education Center, the only deaf public schools in the country which draw deaf students from throughout the atolls of the Marshall Islands. These volunteers teach K-12 in American and Marshallese sign language, and hold additional classes for families and communities. Here's a blog post from Lauren Hostovsky, a Deaf WorldTeach volunteer in 2017: [Breaking Stereotypes](#).

While there is concrete infrastructure, available funding, and a pressing need, WorldTeach currently lacks the capacity to recruit and support qualified volunteers who are fluent in ASL and are passionate about teaching. In 2017-18 WorldTeach will help staff the two deaf schools with four volunteers returning for their second year with us, but following the upcoming school year, the future of the program, and in turn the two deaf schools, is in jeopardy. We hope a new partnership will allow us to continue to support deaf education in the Marshall Islands.

If you are interested in working with WorldTeach in the Marshall Islands, please reach out to the current Program Director, Bret McSpadden, at bmcspadden@worldteach.org for further information. We hope to hear from you soon. Have a great day.

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Bret McSpadden
Program Director | Technology Director | Health & Safety Liaison

Bangladesh | Marshall Islands | Namibia
Brazil | Ecuador | India | Morocco | South Africa

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