

HOSTELLING INTERNATIONAL USA ANNOUNCES GREAT HOSTEL GIVE BACK

Hostel Organization Offers Free Stays in Exchange for Volunteer Work

Silver Spring, MD – October X, 2022 - Hostelling International USA (<u>HI USA</u>), the largest hostel network in the US, has announced its annual **Great Hostel Give Back Program**, which provides complimentary stays at many of its hostels in exchange for volunteering for local organizations. Those interested can now apply to participate for stays in January and February.

Seven of HI USA's hostels: <u>HI Boston</u>, <u>HI Chicago</u>, <u>HI Los Angeles Santa Monica</u>, <u>HI New York City</u>, <u>HI San Francisco Downtown</u>, <u>HI San Francisco Fisherman's Wharf</u> and <u>HI San Diego Downtown</u> will participate in Great Hostel Give Back. Groups who are selected will receive up to four nights of complimentary accommodations while they volunteer for local organizations. During their stay, they can partake in all hostel activities such as free hosted events, tours and social activities. Each hostel has a kitchen that groups can use during their stay at no charge.

Details of the program include:

- Open to groups of 6-30 people
- For stays in January and February 2023 only
- One free overnight for every two hours of volunteer service in the local community
- Up to four nights of complimentary stay for the group at the selected hostel

"We are thrilled to again host Great Hostel Give Back this year and continue to support local charities," said Russ Hedge, CEO of HI USA. "This is a great way for groups to volunteer and be rewarded for their service through a stay at one of our hostels. It also allows more people to experience a hostel and understand the unique opportunities to engage with other travelers from all over the world."

According to a member of the CA Americorps Disaster Team, which participated in a past Great Hostel Give Back, "Our team got a chance to interact with other groups and travelers from all of the world. It was also great to stay in the location of our service project – it really connected our members to the work they did."

Groups applying can either select the charity of their choice or be matched with a local charity through Volunteer Match.

Those interested in applying for Great Hostel Give Back can visit: https://www.hiusa.org/volunteer/great-hostel-give-back

For more information about HI USA or to make a reservation at one of its hostels or vacation rental units, visit www.hiusa.org or @hiusa.

About HI USA

Hostelling International USA (HI USA) is a nonprofit, member organization founded on an enduring belief in the power of travel to foster a deeper understanding of people, places, and the world. HI USA promotes a dynamic community of global citizens who have the wisdom and humanity to actively make the world a better place. As the nation's leading hostel brand, HI USA hosted more than 1 million overnight stays in 2019, with guests from more than 100 countries. For over 80 years, HI USA has provided a network of affordable hostels in converted mansions, reinvented lighthouses, and historic urban buildings across the country. Visit www.hiusa.org for more information. HI USA is part of Hostelling International (HI), a collection of hostels in nearly 90 countries, whose roots stretch back to the beginning of the hostelling movement more than 100 years ago. The HI brand is a seal of approval recognized around the world.

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