

Below are examples of organizations where past program participants have been placed by International Studies Abroad (ISA). Placements and organizations are subject to change based on organizational needs and availability. The listings below are not guaranteed to be available. Students are matched with a local organization based on their skills and the organizations needs.

While effort will be made to accommodate students' preferences, specific placements are not guaranteed. Students are encouraged to be open-minded and approach the program with a willingness to learn and grow, both professionally and personally.

GALWAY – Family & Youth Development

Support Center for Individuals with Special Needs

The mission of the organization is to support the families of children with special needs and long term illness who spend extended periods of time in medical facilities. The aim is to enhance the well-being of the family unit through fun and recreational activities including music, art, and play therapy as well as guardian(s) support mechanisms. Additionally, the center provides space and activities for siblings of special needs children to come together and share their experiences in a safe, fun, and educational setting. ** NOTE: Limited availability during Summer

Senior Development and Advocacy Services Center

This non-profit organization provides a range of services to seniors. The organization is eager to have college students contribute their time and effort to teach computer skills to seniors in classroom settings or one-on-ones throughout the week. There is also the opportunity to run all-day workshops on how to use video calling services (such as Skype) and social media.

Summer Youth Camps

For our Summer Youth Camp programs in Galway, students collaborate with one or more host organizations and focus upon structured projects. While working at the Summer Youth Camps, service-learning participants gain hands-on skills and serve a community-based need by helping facilitate activities ranging from art, drama, music, dance, and more.

Family Support Center

This organization offers a wide range of services to children and teenagers in disadvantaged areas in the city of Galway. They help to promote and encourage self-improvement and general well-being. They run a homework club throughout the school term, which offers children practical assistance with homework, and aims to inspire young people to develop their self-confidence and see the value in education. The center also runs an activity group which aims to promote social inclusion through arts and crafts, sports, drama, and cooking projects, which aids young people in developing their social skills and gaining confidence in their abilities. Activities undertaken by the club include: youth exchanges, day trips, mid-term and summer camps, yoga and meditation, cooking classes, grinds (tutoring), as well as workshops on building healthy relationship and improving I.T skills.

Special Needs Partnership

Assist with a non-profit organization that works to provide support for individuals and families affected by a diagnosis of Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Set up by a concerned parent group in 2011 to address a need for service provision, information, advocacy, and support for families living with ASD, the Special Needs Partnership has since been providing social clubs, respite camps, skills building workshops, and family fun days and activities for individuals on the spectrum, siblings, and whole families. Participants may support and supervise children of various ages diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder with and without additional needs (e.g Intellectual Disability) in a range of clubs and activities. These might include Lego Club, Movie Production Club, and Play Groups, as well as after school activities, special holiday clubs, and weekend social clubs. Potential opportunities to help supervise additional special interest clubs may arise.

LIMERICK – Family & Youth Development

Youth Service Center

This Youth Service Center provides youth with work, education, training & employability projects. They support a number of diverse youth work projects including international youth work. The organization enhances the civic, educational, personal, and social development of young people with programs focusing on a broad range of topics from leaderships

skills, animal welfare, and web safety to creative arts, music, and sports. A participant in this role may be involved with group study sessions, arts, teaching, and a limited amount of administrative work.

Youth Foundation and Play Center

This national foundation helps make dreams come true for terminally-ill children and provides an all-inclusive and accessible play center for children of all needs and abilities. Participants in this role may have opportunities to serve both in the foundation's office and in the play center. Possible responsibilities may include fundraising support, research, database entry, play center maintenance, and helping supervise play areas. ** NOTE: This organization requires a commitment of up to 30 hours per week and work on weekends.

Center for Special Needs

This center is a non-profit organization that provides socially inclusive activities for people with autism and their families. Their services include autism camps, special needs sibling groups, and movement groups for individuals and their families. They also work closely with local businesses increase the businesses' autism/sensory friendliness. Participants in this role may have opportunities to work directly with the community and on administrative and organizational tasks and activities.

Source: ISA