

My First Work Camp Experience: Crossroads Africa Nigeria 1960



Excerpt 14: My First Work Camp Experience with Crossroads Africa – Nigeria 1960

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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In the summer of 1960, I had the opportunity to participate in a Crossroads Africa work camp in Nigeria. I was 19 years old and had just finished my first year of college. I was looking for an adventure and a chance to make a difference in the world.

Crossroads Africa is a non-profit organization that sends young people from around the world to work on community development projects in Africa. The organization was founded in 1958 by a group of American students who wanted to promote understanding between the United States and Africa.

My work camp was located in the village of Ogbomosho, in western Nigeria. The village was home to about 20,000 people and was the site of a

large mission hospital. The work camp was organized by the hospital and was staffed by a group of American and Nigerian volunteers.

Our work camp project was to build a new maternity ward for the hospital. The ward was to be built out of mud bricks and would have four beds. We worked long hours in the hot sun, but we were all determined to finish the project before the end of the summer.

In addition to our work on the maternity ward, we also had the opportunity to learn about Nigerian culture and history. We visited local schools and markets, and we talked to people from all walks of life. I was impressed by the warmth and hospitality of the Nigerian people.

My experience at work camp was life-changing. I learned a great deal about myself and about the world. I made lifelong friends and I saw firsthand the challenges and rewards of working in development. I am grateful for the opportunity to have participated in Crossroads Africa and I encourage others to consider volunteering with the organization.

Here are some of the things I learned during my time at work camp:

- **The importance of hard work.** The maternity ward that we built was a much-needed addition to the hospital. It was a rewarding experience to know that we had made a difference in the lives of the people of Ogbomosho.
- **The power of teamwork.** We worked together as a team to build the maternity ward. We learned to trust each other and to rely on each other. I am proud of what we accomplished together.

- **The importance of cultural exchange.** I had the opportunity to learn about Nigerian culture and history. I met people from all walks of life and I learned about their hopes and dreams. I am grateful for the opportunity to have had this experience.
- **The importance of giving back.** I am grateful for the opportunity to have volunteered with Crossroads Africa. I believe that it is important to give back to the community and to make a difference in the world.

I encourage you to consider volunteering with Crossroads Africa.

Crossroads Africa is a great organization that is making a difference in the world. I am grateful for the opportunity to have volunteered with the organization and I encourage others to consider ng the same.

To learn more about Crossroads Africa, please visit their website at www.crossroadsafrica.org.



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