

Lindsay



**INSTITUTE FOR FIELD RESEARCH EXPEDITIONS  
VOLUNTEER ABROAD PROGRAM**

**Evaluation Form**

Name:

Date and Country of Volunteer Program:

Please rate the following as 1--poor, 2--good, 3--very good or 4-- excellent:

USA Staff	4
Airport pick up	4
Food	4
Accommodation	4
Host Family	4
Volunteer Project	1
Field staff	4

Please summarize your about volunteer experience (please attach extra sheet if necessary) with IFRE.

First and foremost, my volunteer experience is not the fault of the IFRE director in Atenas. However compared to the experiences of other volunteers my experience was not at all fulfilling nor what I expected. Prior to coming to Atenas I chose to teach English in the schools, as I am a teacher in the USA and thought this would be a good experience. It was in Costa Rica for 6 weeks, I have 2 more days left at the school where I was placed, and I have yet to meet the English teacher I have reviewed some vocabulary with the students from their English notebooks but most recently I have been teaching math in Spanish (division/multiplication). The general classroom teacher doesn't speak English and therefore when the English teacher is absent as she has been for 6 1/2 weeks the kids just skip English class. Often the teacher would just tell me not come. On these days I volunteered with some of the other at the local pharmacy. I felt like I accomplished more and enjoyed more of my random visits to the pharmacy than ever in the school. As I said when I signed this was not the director's fault as the school continuously asks for volunteers. There were 2 weeks during my time in Costa Rica →

Do you recommend IFRE program for others (please circle)  (i) Yes  (ii) No

Can we pass your e-mail to interested potential volunteers?? If yes, e-mail:

Yes ... miss Andrews@gmail.com  
 OR Lindsay.Andrews@cms.k12.nc.us

When I did teach English, when the students were on their 2 week vacation I taught English classes to children in the community. This was a positive experience and I wish I could have continued teaching lessons through "su espacio" to individuals or small groups.)

\*The absolute best part of this experience was my host family!! They were wonderful!! For me, most host family made this experience what it was!

→ possibly in the future it would be a good idea to send the director to the schools and other placements (or their assistant) to review the placements and ensure that the volunteers are being used efficiently. This may help to determine where volunteers should and should not be placed. One of my goals for my experience in Costa Rica was to feel like I made a difference and helped the students.... unfortunately I don't think I can say I entirely accomplished this goal.