

Camphill, a Global Village

Did you know that there are more than 100 Camphill communities around the globe? From the original founding community in Aberdeen, Scotland, the Camphill Movement has spread across five continents: Europe, Asia, Africa, and North and South America. While communities differ in size and form, they all carry the Camphill impulse — to honor the dignity in people of all abilities.

In this edition of the Camphill Clarion, we are pleased to introduce you to some of these communities. As you travel around the world with us — from communities in Ireland and Lithuania, to Vietnam

Following are a sampling of Camphill communities from different regions around the globe. For a full list of communities, use the QR code to the right or visit the Camphill Foundation website at www.camphillfoundation.org/international-communities.

and India, to our newest communities in Rwanda and Colombia — each destination will look familiar! There are farms and schools, day programs and villages, artistic endeavors, meaningful work, lasting relationships, and care for the earth.

And like our communities here in North America, our international friends are shining the Camphill light into the world. Your support makes it all possible. Thank you for helping us to grow, strengthen, and safeguard the Camphill way of life here at home and around the world.



Scotland - where it all began decades ago!

Camphill School Aberdeen was founded in 1939 in Aberdeen, **Scotland**. A small but dedicated group of Austrian refugees lived and worked without electricity or heating on a hill outside Aberdeen. Some of them were Jewish, escaping the horrors of war in Europe. But they all shared a specific purpose — to live with, care for, and educate children with additional support needs at a time when such children were excluded from society. Over the years, Camphill acquired more land in Aberdeen and across the UK, which started a global expansion. The Camphill worldwide movement, which now has more than 100 independent Camphill centers in 30 countries, all began in Aberdeen.

Camphill Community Callan is made up of three houses and some supported flats in the small town of Callan, **Ireland**. Callan started as a residential support to a multi-disciplinary art center in town. The community is spread out in the town, which gives them the opportunity to interact with local people and businesses. Community members share the tasks of working on the land and in the houses, but life also involves interaction with other communities and outside organizations on a daily basis.

Scan the QR code or visit www.camphill.ie to see all of the Camphill communities in Ireland.





In 2016, a group of enterprising parents and specialists in **Lithuania** gathered and began to form a community of people with and without intellectual disabilities. In the spring of 2018, the “House of Social Therapy” was established. At present, the community, now called **AKVILA**, is home to 24 friends, 13 coworkers, two volunteers, and three therapists who share life and work together.



In 1999 Vilnis and Inga Neimaņi finished intensive studies and training in Norway and moved back to **Latvia** with their two children to found a new Camphill village in Rožkalni. With the help of friends and volunteers, they transformed a simple country house into a dynamic village for people with special needs. Very soon, friends from Norway came to build a second residential house for the village.

The word ‘community’ is a noun. However, communities by their very nature are more like verbs.



South Africa has one of the oldest communities!

Founded in 1952 by May Redman, a passionate mother, **Camphill School Hermanus** is both a day and a residential special needs school in Hermanus, **South Africa**. The School accommodates children from the ages of 5 to 19, progressing from kindergarten to the vocational phase.



Scan the QR code to read the School’s 70th Anniversary booklet about this inspiring community and its founding.

The Ubumwe Community Center (UCC) in Rwanda assists more than 650 people with disabilities every year. Along with basic education, the center provides skills training and health services to vulnerable youth and adults with disabilities. Two years ago, UCC expanded their outreach to establish a new Camphill-inspired agricultural community that currently has two residential homes for young people with disabilities who are learning farming and trade skills such as tailoring.

Scan the QR code to watch a short video of a silent day at the Ubumwe Community Center when students use only sign language to communicate.





The *Respirar Comunidad* Foundation was founded in **Argentina** in 2019 with the aim of creating a community of adults with disabilities based on the values of the global Camphill movement. *El Cauce* is their first residential community project, a 74-acre wooded property which is conceived to be a residential “village” that will house up to 120 people, about half of whom have disabilities.

Scan the QR code to watch Respirar Comunidad’s inspiring community video!



We have two communities in Latin America!

In 2009, Eurasia Foundation created the *Peaceful Bamboo Village (Tinh Truc Gia, or TTG)*, in Hue, **Vietnam**, a vocational training center and residential community for young adults with disabilities. In 2012, Tinh Truc Gia joined the international Camphill network. More than 30 adults and about 10 adolescents now live, work, and learn in TTG. An inclusive Waldorf kindergarten welcomes 16 children, and 15-20 highly trained coworkers reside at the center.



Located on the outskirts of Bogotá, **Colombia**, *Camphill Agualinda* is home to people over the age of 18 with different abilities and needs. Created in May 2013, it opened its doors to families and residents on July 1 of the same year, and serves 8 people residentially.

Scan the QR code to watch a video of this special community!



In 1987, a woman named Ursula Chowdhury learned that her friend Kumar Mal had joined a Camphill community in the US. From him she got to know about the work of Camphill. A few years later, Kumar and three other Camphill leaders visited Bangalore during a trip to India, and began to discuss building a Camphill community there. In 1999, the first coworkers came together and the first house was constructed to create what is now *Friends of Camphill India* in Bangalore, **India**.

Scan the QR code to watch a video about the Friends of Camphill India community!



There are three thriving communities in Asia



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PO Box 820, Uwchland, PA 19480
215-720-1465 / camphillfoundation.org

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