EGYÜTT HATÓ

KÖZÖSSÉGÉPÍTŐ EGYESÜLET

12-MONTH EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE PROJECT

PIECE OF MY HEART

6 international volunteers in Gyöngyös, Hungary, from July 2019

Erasmus+

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WHO ARE WE?

Description of the host organisation

Association Co-Efficient (Együttható Egyesület) was founded by social professionals and enthusiastic young volunteers in 2010 to promote non-formal learning, innovative community services and a new way of thinking in youth and social work. We have a youth office in Budapest and an afterschool „Impactpoint" (HatásPont Tanoda) in Gyöngyös, 80 km from Budapest. The afterschool was founded in 2014 and offers afternoon activities for around 30 students with a disadvantaged background. **This is where this EVS project will take place.**

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WHY GYÖNGYÖS?

Gyöngyös is a small town in North-East of Hungary, situated at the foot of the Mátra mountains. It has a population of around 30 000 inhabitants. Some of them live in segregated areas where the maintenance of public areas and services (piped water, playgrounds, other infrastructure) is limited.

Our afterschool in the centre of the town is an oasis for local children and young people. It is an inclusive environment: children of different ethnic origins, young people with learning difficulties and disabilities are involved in the activties together.

The participation of 6 international volunteers in the work of the afterschool and other initiatives in Gyöngyös can have a considerable impact on the children, their families and the local community, not to mention the development of the volunteers' skills.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

Piece of My Heart, a long-term EVS project in Gyöngyös, Hungary
duration: June 2019-June 2020
participants: 6 volunteers aged 18-30

The aims of the project are:

- to develop social, communication and foreign language skills of the students in the afteschool and our volunteers
- to increase the involvement of the afterschool in the life of the local community
- creating a diverse programme in the afterschool from young people to young people
- to improve social responsibility and the sense of solidarity of the volunteers by involving them into youth work activities with disadvantaged young people.

Volunteers will have a chance to develop the following skills:

- **Diplomacy and conflict management**: as children often lack effective conflict management skills, volunteers will engage in conflict resolution in the afterschool
- **Organizing skills**: every volunteer can start their own personal project or workshop with the children or involving the local community
- **Adaptability and intercultural knowledge**: volunteers will collaborate with the professional staff of the afterschool and each other. They will learn to adapt to different cultures and communication styles.

These skills and attitudes are relevant on the labour market, especially in the fields of education and youth work.

TASKS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE VOLUNTEERS

- In-house training in the beginning of the volunteering period
- On-arrival and mid-term trainings with other international volunteers in Hungary, organized by the Hungarian Erasmus+ National Agency
- Weekly community development mornings at other local organisations in Gyöngyös
- Tutoring children in the afterschool
- Organization of intercultural events in Gyöngyös
- Initiating a personal project/workshop series, related to the interests and background of the volunteer (e.g. dance, theatre, sport, cooking, languages..), with the support of the mentor who is experienced in non-formal education methods
- Hungarian lessons
- Weekly evaluation and coaching session and writing a personal online learning journal
- Mentoring in group sessions for support in volunteers' everyday work

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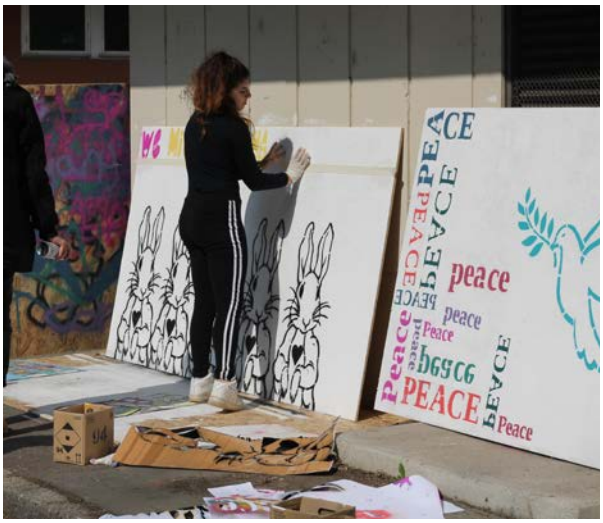
HOW DOES THE AFTERSCHOOL WORK?



- Around 30 students, each with a personal development plan
- Opening hours 15:00-19:00, in summer 9:00-17:00
- Five staff members: a social worker, assistants, mentors
- Community building events with parents (e.g. Challenge day, Christmas, field trips)
- Individual tutoring and group workshops, led by the volunteers!

VOLUNTEERS' SAMPLE TIMETABLE

DAY	BEFORE NOON (10-13:00)	AFTERNOON (14-19:00)
M	Preparation for activities in the afterschool	Tutoring children, planned workshops/activities in the afterschool
T	Community development work at other local organisations	**FREE**
W	Preparation for activities in the afterschool	Tutoring children, planned workshops/activities in the afterschool
T	Hungarian language class	**FREE**
F	Meeting with EVS Coordinator	Afterschool team meeting, MENTORING
S	**FREE**	
S	**FREE**	

PROFILE OF THE PARTICIPANTS

- Age: 18-30 (at your arrival in Hungary)
- Legally residing in an Erasmus+ programme country. If you are not sure, check here: https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/about/who-can-take-part_en
- Good command of English
- Interested in youth/social work or education
- Value and demonstrate creativity, open-mindedness, curiosity
- Special skills/interest. The volunteers can benefit from their personal skills, e.g. playing an instrument, language, some sport, and introduce it into the workshops at the afterschool

If you have already taken part in an Erasmus+ volunteering activity, exceeding the length of 2 months, you are not eligible to participate in this project.

Volunteers with a disadvantaged background

We particularly welcome applications from people who identify with ethnic minorities, disadvantaged economic classes or LGBTQ+ communities, also people of colour and people with disabilities. Of course we would still like you to apply even if you don't identify with any of these.

PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS

What can we offer?

ACCOMMODATION

Volunteers will be sharing a fully furnished house in Gyöngyös. The rent and utilities (incl internet) will be covered by the programme.

FOOD

Every month, volunteers are provided supermarket vouchers so they can plan their meals themselves. Besides the food vouchers, volunteers will also receive monthly pocket money.

INSURANCE

Our organisation is providing health insurance for volunteers for the entire duration of the voluntary service.

TRAVELLING TO HUNGARY

Travelling to Hungary is covered according to the Erasmus+ rules: 180€ for return tickets per person.

LANGUAGE COURSE

The volunteers' weekly Hungarian language class will be arranged and covered by us.

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HOW TO APPLY

IMPORTANT!

This is an approved and funded European Voluntary Service (EVS) project.

Although EVS is replaced with the European Solidarity Corps (ESC) programme, this project was applied earlier, in the frame of EVS.

If you would like to apply or need more information, contact us evs@egyutthato.eu or call +36-1-797-2659.

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www.egyutthato.eu