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CALL FOR EVS VOLUNTEERS FROM PORTUGAL IN MACEDONIA

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Organisation: Roma Youth Centre
Location: Kumanovo, Macedonia
Deadline: 28/02/2015
Start: 15/03/2015
End: 20/12/2015

Desincoop and Roma Youth Centre announce an open call for 2 volunteers from Portugal to participate in EVS (European Voluntary Service) project under the EU Erasmus + program, in Kumanovo, Macedonia. The project activities will take place in Kumanovo, Macedonia.

Kumanovo is a city in the Republic of Macedonia and is the seat of Kumanovo Municipality. It is a city with about 105,000 people located in the northern part of Eastern Macedonia. Located in the middle of a long valley 35 km to the northeast of Skopje, Kumanovo is one of Macedonia's larger cities.

Short description of the project

This long-term EVS project aims to strengthen the international scope of the work of Roma Youth Centre (RYC) as well as providing a complex and sustainable learning opportunity for Roma and non-Roma youth in Portugal and Macedonia by involving 2 Portuguese volunteers in the activities of RYC. The issue of Roma inclusion as the core of the work of RYC has a strongly European dimension and is directly connected to the promotion of the core European values of cultural diversity, social solidarity, human rights and combating racism. By involving Portuguese volunteers in the work with youngsters with fewer opportunities in Macedonia we aim to contribute to raising awareness of the mentioned values among young Europeans and at the same time bring the European experience and perspective to



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the local level. Both Portuguese and local volunteers will benefit from this inter-cultural experience and together develop their self-esteem and ability of self-empowerment by experiencing active citizenship through their common engagement.

Tasks

In first 2 months volunteers are getting to know the NGO, the team and the local communities from Kumanovo, getting familiar with the place where they will stay and volunteers will have a chance during their preparation period to take part in a Macedonian language. In the next months will be dedicated to apply the activities prepared for the youth centre, as well as the activities necessary for promoting volunteering and non-formal education among young people from Kumanovo.

It will be also daily meetings with the mentor, the person in charge of the volunteer's welfare and to whom they can share their feelings and problems regarding the whole program or just how they feel.

The scope of the activities will be in the fields of art and culture, language courses, providing PC literacy, sports, theater, media and other ideas suggested by the volunteers. Also the working program will ensure elements where the volunteers depend on the personal preferences, knowledge and previous experience can realize themselves by developing and implementing activities proposed by them.

Activities in the schools are:

- Developing workshops with Roma and Non Roma students from elementary schools. Main topics of the workshops will be: sport activities, art club, theatre, music club, juggling, conflict resolution, self-development and self-esteem. There are possibilities for the volunteer to make his/her own topic for the workshops.

Activities in the office are:

- Assisting and be part in one of the working groups within the association that implement the local annually program, such as: NFE, creative workshops, debate club, outdoor and sport activities, performances, volunteer actions etc
- Assisting the work of RYC's office (writing projects and reports, coordinating the members, planning activities, developing programs, fundraising etc)
- Organizing promotional events for the organization and keep updated the social networks of the association.



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Activities in the Youth Club:

- Organizing workshops with the local youth on different topics, such as: NFE, art workshops, music, debate club, language courses, karaoke nights, music club, international evenings, and movie nights.

Main tasks of the volunteer in relation of these activities are:

- Preparing the topic for the workshop;
- Preparing the games, activities for the workshop;
- Conducting the workshop together with a volunteer from the organization;
- Making evaluation of the workshop and developing new techniques for working;

Profile of the volunteer:

- At least basic English knowledge, able to communicate with the staffs and the other volunteers;
- Minimum knowledge about working with computers, internet;
- Able to work in a team and to live with other volunteers;
- To work at least 30 hours a week and to respect the working program of the hosting organization,
- To be available for the whole period of the project (10 months);
- To be open minded and sociable.

The program is fully covered, providing room, board, health insurance, monthly ticket for local transport, language course and monthly pocket money.

Criteria

The selection process will be done on the basis of written applications (application form, and CV). Criteria for this volunteer position are: interested and experienced in many different youth activities and topics such as: NFE, art workshops, music, debate club, language courses, karaoke nights, music club, international evenings, and movie nights.

Openness to learn the Macedonian language, reliability, respect of traditional folk music and dances, motivation to work with children, social/volunteer activities in home country. Volunteers should be willing to work with children and youth from Roma community.



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Experiences with creative skills are additional advantages, but no conditions. One of our requirements is that we generally ask the volunteers to have a fair level of English, so that they will be able to communicate more easily with the people in the placement, nevertheless Macedonian language lessons will be provided as part of the project.

Procedure

Please send completed application form and CV to info_romayouthcentre@yahoo.com and luisadesincoop@gmail.com by 28th of February 2015. Two volunteer will be selected according to their suitability to the project. This may be in terms of motivation, skills, competencies and relevant past experiences. If you have any other self-introducing document please do not hesitate to enclose it to your application. Selection will take place until 6th of February 2015.