

!!!VOLUNTEERS WANTED!!!

Sezione Laziale della UILDM Onlus from **Rome, Italy** is looking for **six volunteers** for an EVS placement in our umbrella EVS project “**Moving Together**”. The placement is for **12 months** and will start in **October 1st, 2018** and end in **September 30th, 2019**.

Please read **ALL** the information here below very carefully before you make the application and if you decide that you can collaborate with us, send us the required documents (the list is provided on the last page of this document) to mida@uildmlazio.org no later than **April 5th, 2018**.

GOOD LUCK!!



Who are we?

Sezione Laziale della U.I.L.D.M. Onlus

UILDM is present in Italy with over 70 branches, which are coordinated by the main offices set in Padua. It is a no-profit organisation whose aims are to foster the social inclusion of people with disabilities and to promote research, prevention and assistance in the field of neuromuscular diseases.

The Sezione Laziale della UILDM Onlus was founded in Rome in 1967. It is the branch with the highest amount of members in the national network, providing social and rehabilitation services to over a thousand users who have neuromuscular diseases in the Lazio region. An important percentage of the staff of the organisation is also people with disabilities.

The organisation has always been active in providing social and rehabilitation services to people with neuromuscular diseases, in developing specific assistance which is provided to people with disabilities for free and in promoting a cultural change that takes into consideration the needs of people with disabilities. Besides medical and scientific services, the Sezione Laziale della UILDM is engaged in raising public awareness concerning a culture of disability, in improving quality of life and promoting equal opportunities for all.

The organisation has a Health Area which offers services of rehabilitation and a Social Area (ASIS).

A.S.I.S. (Social Integration Service Area) is the field of UILDM offering support services, guidance and counseling to support Independent Living. The philosophy of our work is to help our target in becoming active protagonists by promoting processes of autonomy and independence. In our services, particular attention is paid to young people aged between 15 and 30 years old as this is the age group going through the self-development process towards autonomy and social integration.

Sezione Laziale della UILDM Onlus has been actively participating in former Youth, Youth in Action programmes and currently Erasmus+ Programme of the European Commission as a sending and hosting EVS organisation.

What is “Moving Together” Project About?

Moving Together is an umbrella project that is composed of 3 sub-projects. This means that all 6 volunteers will work in the same association on disability and diversity but their tasks will vary among each other and during the year.

The first month of the project will be dedicated to general and specific training of EVS volunteers, including a 40 hours intensive language course in a Language School, an on-arrival training organised by Italian National Agency and specialized trainings by UILDM on its specific areas of work.

Between the second and fourth months of the project, the volunteers will be working in close contact with people with physical disabilities of all ages, offering them individual activities in their houses to support their social integration and autonomy, this way also getting better acquainted with the target group of the organisation. Objectives of each of those activities will be defined together with the social workers of the association based on each person’s individual needs. *With a young kid, the objective might be accompanying him to school or playground; with a teenager can be to go out and walk around Rome together; with an elderly person, it could be doing grocery shopping together etc.*

During these months all volunteers will also be employed in the activities of the Communications Department of the organisation which means writing articles on EVS, managing social media accounts of the organisation, preparing and delivering web radio programmes on volunteering and creating disability related audio-visual material (podcasts, videos, photos etc).

After the fourth month of the project, the work of volunteers will diversify as they will be working in three sub-projects together with Italian Civil Service volunteers of UILDM.

For the sub-projects we are looking for:

2 volunteers who will work in Points of View sub-project

1 volunteer who will work in Finestra Aperta sub-project

3 volunteers who will work in Integration sub-project

You can find specific info on sub-projects in the following pages.

Between the fourth and twelfth months of the project, all volunteers will continue their regular collaboration with Communications Department of the organisation.

Important: When making your application please indicate which sub-project you are particularly interested in. If you are interested in more than one sub-project then please make a list of priority.

Points of View sub-project:

"Points of View" is an educational project that UILDM has been implementing in Rome among middle and high school students, with the help of our Italian volunteers. The project uses two tools facilitated by volunteers: an interactive exhibition and group meetings. These tools help young people reflect on their prejudices and stereotypes and promote empathy, by acknowledging differences and diversity.

The interactive exhibition

The exhibition is shown in schools and the viewing is facilitated by volunteers. To visit the exhibition, the visitor sits on a wheelchair, moving on architectural barriers together with one of the volunteers as his/her guide. The volunteer, by asking the right questions, helps the visitor to understand various types of images (on disability) in the exhibition. This way, the visitor experiences being in someone else's shoes, experiencing trust, listening and observing life stories to change their own perspective.

Group meetings

After seeing the exhibition the students participate in two group meetings facilitated by volunteers. In these meetings, we use role playing, simulations, storytelling activities, group exercises, using the group as a tool and as an example of the dynamics that underlie our behaviors in relationships, trying to stimulate a positive approach towards others and promote conflict resolution.

What will your tasks be during the project?

- Management of contacts and relationships with schools and other organizations under UILDM's supervision;
- Revising and developing new ideas for the exhibition on disability and diversity;
- Transportation, setting up and dismantling of sets and materials of the exhibition;
- Implementing, supporting, facilitating and mentoring of students during the visit of the exhibition;
- Organising and implementing group meetings;
- Supporting teachers for planning and implementation of tutoring, mentoring, cooperative learning processes;
- Preparation of training materials for training sessions;
- Preparation and distribution of promotional material for the project.

IMPORTANT: For this sub-project we are looking for volunteers who ALREADY speak some Italian.

Integration sub-project:

The theme of the project is disability and diversity in general. Each volunteer will be coupled up with people with physical disabilities and will be visiting the houses of people with disabilities and perform “integration” projects. Objectives of each integration project will be defined together with the social workers of the association based on each person’s individual needs. With a young kid, the objective might be accompanying him/her to school or playground; with a teenager can be to go out and walk around Rome together; with an elderly person, it could be doing grocery shopping together etc. The overall idea of these integration projects is:

- to support social inclusion of people with disabilities and offer them different opportunities to socialize;
- to raise awareness of the volunteers on the social, cultural and physical conditions regarding people with disabilities;
- to provide a space of cultural interaction among people from different backgrounds (not only different countries, but also different socio-economic situations, different age groups, different ability groups etc.) so that both the volunteers and the locals (mainly those with disabilities) might benefit from the experience.

Each volunteer will have different cases during the week and will be monitored by a team of professionals including social workers, educators and psychologists working on the same case.

What will your tasks be during the project?

- Implementing integration activities in the houses of people with physical disabilities;
- Participating in periodic meetings with the integration team to evaluate each case;
- Writing short follow-up reports for the cases;
- Organising and implementing group meetings to promote Erasmus+ and EVS.

Finestra Aperta sub-project:

The theme of the project is disability and diversity. You will be assisting and working together with our association's Finestra Aperta magazine and FinestrAperta web radio staff. The staff is composed of people with and without disabilities. Finestra Aperta is a quarterly magazine that is distributed to our clients and other associations for free; FinestrAperta web radio is online on www.finestraperta.it

Besides this main area of work, volunteer will be offering support to different departments of the association based on their interests and skills including:

- Fundraising department: during the year we will organise different fundraising activities for the association and the volunteer will be asked to help in organisation, implementation and evaluation of those activities;
- Social animation department and Youth Group: the association has an informal Youth Group composed of people with mixed abilities. The volunteer will be asked to organize different activities, weekend trips etc. in order to communicate the values and opportunities offered by the Erasmus+ project to their peers.

What will your tasks be during the project?

- Assisting office work of the magazine and the radio;
- Participating in meetings of the editorial staff;
- Writing articles for the magazine and the web page;
- Helping in digital aspects of magazine and website;
- Organising radio programmes (Un Anno di Volontà) together with the team;
- Participating in fundraising events of the organisation.

When and Where?

The project will start in October 1st, 2018 and will last for 12 months. You will be volunteering in our offices in Rome.

You will be living in a volunteer house that you will share with other volunteers like yourself. You will be sharing your room with one or two other volunteers. There are three rooms, two bathrooms, one kitchen and a terrace in the house.

You will be receiving a yearly transport card that you can use in all kinds of local transport in Rome. You will also be given 240 € per month to cover your monthly food costs. Additionally you will receive 115 € of monthly allowance in the beginning of each month as pocket money. Before your project, you will be granted access to online linguistic support tool to learn Italian. An Italian language course of 40 hours will also be provided (if you do not have a good level of Italian before the project) in your first two weeks in Rome.

Do you have the right profile?

We are looking for six volunteers who:

- value social inclusion, diversity and protection of rights of everyone;
- are willing to work with people from different cultural experiences and backgrounds;
- are motivated to VOLUNTEER for people with disabilities and understand that this is not a touristic experience in the city center of Rome, but a whole year of full-time volunteering experience;
- are flexible and responsible;
- preferably can already speak some Italian or they would be fast to learn Italian during the first months of the project.

*The project is open for applications of young people with fewer opportunities.

Things you should take into consideration:

UILDM has been working with many young people and we strongly believe in the power of working with and for young people however UILDM is NOT a youth organisation. UILDM is a big organisation working with people with disabilities and our main area of work is offering healthcare and social services to people with disabilities. All of our activities have to aim at social integration and at promotion of rights and dignity of people with disabilities. We are open to your suggestions that are in line with our mission and objectives and we will encourage you to develop your own projects in UILDM. However, if your motivations are very far from ours and if you are not interested in working in close contact with disability, then this is not be the right organisation for you and we advise you to check other organisations that work in the areas of your interest. Please do not make your application ONLY based on the city or the country.

To follow what our current volunteers are doing in UILDM, you can follow us on FB or Tumblr at:

<https://www.facebook.com/UildmLazioMIDA/>

<https://svediroma.tumblr.com/>

If you are interested in participating in this project please send all the following documents to mida@uildmlazio.org **no later than April 5th, 2018 12:00 AM:**

- **CV (in English or in Italian);**
- **Motivation letter (in English or in Italian);**
- **The application form in attachment (in English or in Italian; application forms of other organisations will NOT be accepted, applications without an application form will NOT be accepted);**
- **Other documents (presentations, videos, photos etc.) that you think might be relevant.**

If you speak some Italian, we highly encourage you to send these documents in ITALIAN (rather than in English) even though your Italian might not be perfect. We value your effort and your capacity to communicate even with limited Italian, rather than perfectly written English applications.