### **BRIDGING CULTURES**

From Mountains to Desert















#### Context/Background

#### Rahat is a city that faced many challenges -

the inhabitants are Bedouins, a marginalized community both language and culture wise. Many of local youth have never left the Negev region, making and their interaction with volunteers is often their first exposure to people from other societies and a vital part of teaching tolerance and to embrace diversity.

#### **About ANDN**

A New Dawn in the Negev is a Bedouin-Jewish community development organization based in Rahat, Israel that provides programming for Bedouin youth-atrisk. It was established to empower Bedouin youth, offering English, Hebrew, IT and music classes, and providing opportunities to meet people and cultures outside of their own communities. The organization is very diverse, with Arab and Jewish Israelis on the Board, Christian, Jewish and Muslim volunteers, and international volunteers from the UK, America, France, Czech Republic, Germany and Canada.



### Impact of the project

### Local

- The young people get extra support to improve their English speaking skills; ANDN gets extra support to raise the quality of their activities in general, and they can learn about Hungary and the Hungarian culture.
- Their international horizon will be widened, the young people will be more motivated and will have more confidence to participate in international activities abroad themselves.
- The whole community will meet the volunteers and will become more open-minded and open to other cultures and people.

## **National**

- The Bedouin community will be more known and accepted by the mainstream society;
- The project will be a good example of community building with the support of ESC volunteers that other marginalized communities in Israel and in Europe can follow;
- The ESC programme and the EU will be seen as a positive actor;
  - Hungary will be seen in a positive light in Israel.

## **International**

- The ESC programme and the EU will be mentioned in a positive context; the ESC will be promoted internationally both by ANDN and Egyesek.
- This project will serve as a starting point for other ESC hosting and sending projects that will strengthen the ties between the EU and Israel.

#### **Project Dates**



# Application period January 2021



#### Activity dates

10 months: between March 2021 and December 2021

#### Volunteer Profile

motivated and committed young people who are open-minded enough to get to know a culture and way of living which might be very different from theirs. We are looking for people who are willing to respect the local population, together with it's way of living and habits. As most of the activities involve education in formal or non-formal ways, we are looking for people who are interested in education, in the age group of children and teens, are excited to learn about human relationships and cooperation.

No previous teaching or educating experience is needed for the project.

#### **Activities**

English Language Program, and educational activities

By partnering with local schools, ANDN assists both teachers and students in identifying educational disparity and developing creative solutions to address any issues found. They also organize summercamps where volunteers teach English.



#### International activities

ANDN facilitates visits for outside groups to come see what life is like in the Negev. They also organize international youth exchanges where local youth can meet other children of the same age and vice versa. They seek to help young Bedouins develop important intercultural skills, which are required to be active contributing members of the global community.



#### Cultural activities

In an effort to make Bedouin culture accessible to both a new generation of youth as well as to the outside world, ANDN documents and shares traditional cultural practices that, for generations, have represented the essence of Bedouin life.

#### Project's cycle

# Application & Selection

Volunteers are applying through the provided application form until January 31st.
After which the selection process begins.

Volunteers are returning home and going through the evaluation process of their project.

Home coming &
Evaluation

Pre-departure preparation & Volunteer's Agreement

After the selection of the volunteers we send the Volunteer's Agreement to the partner and the volunteers. During a pre-departure

During a pre-departure preparation volunteers are going to read and agree on the terms.

After both parties have signed the Volunteer's Agreement, the Volunteer is traveling to the Project's location.

Activity

#### **Practicals**

The project is part of the European Solidarity Corps programme

#### Things provided:



Support and preparation from the Egyesek Youth Association in Hungary



travel reimbursement



pocket money and food allowance



accommodation in Rahat



local travel





# Have some questions? Contact us!



Tamás Mahner



outgoing@egyesek.hu