

Infosheet

Volunteering Project 2018 in Romania

Project Title: Activ8 Competences

Where: Panciu, Vrancea, Romania

Project Start Date: 01-08-2018

Project End Date: 31-07-2018

Participants: 11 volunteers

Hosting organization

Asociatia Lumea lui Pinocchio is a non-profit organization founded in 2001 in Panciu, Romania, with the main objective of encouraging social integration and a sustainable local development, with a special attention to children and minors.

The organization's activities are targeted to children belonging to the most disadvantaged brackets of the local population, especially the ones belonging to the Roma minority. As. Lumea Lui Pinocchio focuses on creating dialogue and psychological development among the young ones, encouraging formal and non-formal education in order to develop creativity and personal expression, promoting social voluntary service and reducing the social causes which generate poverty, social exclusion, illiteracy, scholastic drop-out, juvenile delinquency and unemployment.

Context

Asociatia Lumea Lui Pinocchio is located in Panciu, in the district of Vrancea in Romania. Panciu is a city of about 8000 inhabitants and it is located in a rural area characterized by very few facilities and youth aggregation places.

At the edge of the town live two Roma communities that suffer very low standards of living. In particular, these communities are often subjects to lack of facilities and public services, difficult living condition, discrimination by public institutions and the population of Panciu, high illiteracy, alcoholism, domestic violence, early school leaving, unemployment, early marriages and general poor access to information.

Centre Pinocchio

LLP manages the **Daily Socio-educational Centre Pinocchio**, whose regular activities are targeted to 50 children belonging to the most disadvantaged brackets of the local population, in particular to the Roma minority. The centre is open from Monday to Friday, from 8.30am to 17.30am. The educational activities regard: alphabetization, afterschool, education to hygiene, respect for the environment, non formal education (workshops on recycling; music, theatre, painting, clownerie, jonglerie, games, etc.). The Educational Daily Centre "Pinocchio" has been founded in order to work on social integration starting from an early age.

The Centre also provides a **canteen service**, offering daily a breakfast (this one in front of the local school), a hot lunch and a snack to all children attending the centre.

The Centre Pinocchio has been recently **accredited as social services provider**. Such a status has been granted given its commitment and experience in:

- building positive relations with the families of the Roma children attending the Daily Educational centre Pinocchio;
- school mediation activities in order to foster dialogue and mutual understanding between children parents and teachers;
- individual and group counselling activities for children at risk;
- prevention of scholastic dropout and juvenile delinquency.

LLP is also strongly committed to promote volunteering in the Vrancea County. Since 2003 the association is **accredited for the hosting, sending and coordination of EVS** and has a multi-year experience in managing European projects. The work with youth – both local and international – and in the field of voluntarism is at the core of the daily life of Lumea lui Pinocchio.

Activities of the volunteers

- Preparation and realization of educational activities for children (after-school, literacy, non-formal education, workshops on recycling, games...), promoting games and interactive activities;
- Activities related to special events (Christmas theatre play, Carnival masks, games with Easter eggs, summer camps, birthdays);
- Participation to dissemination workshops in local schools;
- Collaboration with project team for the realization of local public events of sensitization and dissemination with associated partners;
- If desired, participation in activities related to the promotion of healthy nutrition, personal care and hygiene;
- If interested in social media, the volunteers can combine socio-educational activities with dissemination activities.

Weekly timetable: 35 hours a week- 5 days of service with free weekends

Accommodation & Food

The volunteers will be lodged at an apartment specifically dedicated to their hosting. The apartment is very close to the Centre Pinocchio. The apartment is equipped with all necessary facilities/stuff for the volunteers' daily life.

Volunteers will be provided with weekly food allowance for their grocery shopping.

Volunteers will be responsible for meals preparation (if they want, for lunch they can also stay at the canteen of the Centre Pinocchio together with local staff and children) and also for the regular cleaning of the house.

Modality of participation for the volunteers

Requirements:

- Age between 18 and 30 years old
- Residence in the country of their sending organisation (Italy, Greece, Germany, Hungary, Czech Republic, Spain)
- Registration in the European Solidarity Corps Portal
- Not having already taken part in an Erasmus+ volunteering activity or a EVS for more than 2 months
- High motivation to work with disadvantage children, youth and families
- Basic knowledge of English
- Previous experiences (work/voluntarism) in the socio-educational field

Benefits:

- Travel costs are covered on the basis of the EU distance calculator. Travel tickets are usually purchased by the volunteers and then reimbursed by the hosting organization; in case of volunteers with fewer opportunities, project partners agree to make travel reservation for them. In Panciu, LLP organizes their picking up and accompanies them to the apartment and to the Centre Pinocchio
- Accommodation
- Pocket money (60 €/month) & money for food (aprox. 100 €/month)
- Insurance
- Safety and Protection
- Mentoring for the personal support of volunteers before and after the departure, especially for what concerns linguistic support and the volunteers' integration in local community
- Preparatory meetings

Modality of application

Documents needed: CV + Letter of motivation to be sent to the sending organization.

Selection

The volunteers will be selected based on:

- Evaluation of applicant documents (CV + Letter of motivation).
- Individual interview: the hosting organization will organize interviews with eligible candidates. The interviews will be made in person by the sending organization and through Skype with 2 LLP selection responsible.

