

ABOUT ACT

Association Communities for Youth is a NGO acting in City of Bailesti South West Oltenia region of Romania. ACT mission is to develop, implement and support youth development programs built around the concepts of lifelong learning, mobility and associativity. ACT works to empower young people to participate actively in society to improve their own lives. The aim of this empowerment is to establish a wide-based community movement which encourages the positive involvement of young people in solving issues which affect them, treating them as resources, not as problems.

- [Our EVS Database Entry](#)

- [Our Facebook Page](#)

Open Call for the Action Changes Things - ACT - *group EVS* *project*

Through this **Open Call** the organization Association Communities for Youth - **ACT** is looking for **Volunteers** for the **ACT** project

Type of project: Mobility for youth – **European Voluntary Service**

Venue: City of Craiova, **Dolj county**, South West part of **Romania**

EVS Stage Duration: **15-January-2019 – 14-July-2019**

How many volunteers: **8 volunteers** in total coming from Italy, Spain and Turkey.

Profile of the Volunteer we seek:

- Aged between **18 to 30 years**
- The volunteers who apply for this project need to **like and be willing to work with youth** for 6 months.
- **active, open-minded, creative, innovative, responsible and motivated volunteers**
- The volunteers of this project should, above all else, show willingness to **learn** and see their **EVS experience** as a **learning process**.
- **Basic level of English** (being able to make herself/himself understood by the others – able to communicate).

This is a long read, here is the shortest possible version:

You will be a volunteer and work with youth for 6 months in Craiova, Romania.

All expenses are covered by us and you will learn a lot and have lots of fun.

What will I DO in the YOU project?

The activity is set to take place in : "Sf. Mina" Special School - a school with about 100 children aged 7 to 14 years, children with moderate to severe; The "Beethoven" Special High is a special vocational high school for over 200 mentally and physically disabled students; 2 mass education high school: The Henry Coanda Theoretical high school and CN Nicolae Titulescu.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

Provide opportunities for social and personal grow of volunteers and target group along with organizational and community sustainable development and strengthened international partnership by bringing added value to existing activities and development of new ones.

The project is structured in 3 main phases:

The implementation phase of the project will be structured in 3 main phases or activities:

Phase1: In the first which will take place in the first 2 months of the project in which ACT organize and prepare the project implementation team, coordinate the pre-departure training; identify and select the volunteers;prepare&training mentors;settle details with local partners

Phase 2. Non-formal education and social inclusion programme.

Will start with a 2 week long Capacity Building programme. Week 1 is focused on project understanding (objectives,roles,responsibilities,activities, rules to be followed)non formal education training(animation module), discovering Craiova (paces to shop, cultural landmarks,public transportation).Week 2 will be dedicated to thematic trainings (Social Inclusion, social work, challenges in working with the beneficiaries, best practice examples, needs analysis) and workplace induction(visiting and understanding the institutions and their missions and activities, getting to know the staff, roundtable discussions, discussing with the target group, needs analysis aplication), and developing operational planning(operationalizing the long term objectives, milestones, scheduling, etc.)

The programmes to be implemented will be:

1. Promoting Interculturality programme: will contain non-formal activities and games such as cultural presentations, workshops on traditional arts&crafts, traditional dances and music. The programme will help stimulate creativity, knowledge about other cultures and mutual understanding , increase tolerance etc.

2. Languages and multilingualism programme: workshops under the form of language clubs in the intuitions and schools that use non-formal methods to help the participant learn or strengthen their ability to speak other languages .

3. Expanding self expression and creativity programme:– will consist of non-formal creativity workshops (painting, clay modeling, singing, handicrafts), theatre, creative play games, problem solving games. This also will be used to build self-esteem and self-confidence in the target group.

4 Building, social integration capacity and autonomy programme; - specialised workshops that aim to provide better social inclusion skills for the disabled children such as integrating into new groups, increase their sociability, help them be more autonomous and self-aware, help them communicate their feeling and inner thoughts etc.

5. Social Inclusion Awareness campaign 1 activity/month/mass education institution. The activity will consist of institution wide events that aim to bring the issues of social inclusion into the public spotlight while getting the students interested in joining activities in special education institutions. This activity is aimed to reach at least 300 students.

Working in the high school will also meet the objective of forming a local action group with students from these 2 high schools that will interact and continue doing activities with the beneficiaries in the social institutions after the project has ended. In this activity we will also be organizing large scale outreach events that aim to increase awareness on the needs of the socially assisted and increase tolerance.

All of the programme and activities will take place within the institutions after the normal school schedule has finished or before it starts(in the morning for students studying in the afternoon and in the afternoon for those who study in the morning).

Phase 3. Evaluation and follow-up phase will take place in the last month of the project and will be aimed at evaluating the project objectives achievement and the impact.

The above mentioned activities are the general overview but **each volunteer has the opportunity to propose, implement and carry on new types of activities bases on previous experiences, personal preferences, skills and abilities and well as have direct control over the methods used to implement the activities.**

What will I learn in the YOU project?

Our methodology of learning by doing or experiential learning places the volunteer at the center of his/her learning process and encourage commitment to it. Each volunteer will have a personalized development plan that targets personal skills as well as professional skills, a mentor to help guide the volunteer and a counterpart to guide him in working with the target group in the working institutions.

In the project we will be employing a Learning by doing methodology based on a 4 cyclical stages model:

1. Concrete Experience – going out and engaging with the activity

2. Reflection on that experience on a personal basis – self-reflection and guided reflection assisted by the mentor which aims at derivation of general rules describing the experience, or the application of previous experiences and knowledge to it
3. Abstract Conceptualisation – supported by the participatory planning model and dynamic role distribution practiced the management team. In this stage the management helps the volunteer in the of ways of modifying the next occurrence of the experience
4. Active Experimentation – turning the abstract into concrete activities and restarting the cycle at no.1

All throughout the learning process and the project **you will be assisted by the ACT team** and a **personal mentor** in managing what, when and how you learn all these skills.

At the end you will receive a **Youthpass certificate** which is a **European Instrument for recognition and certification of skills** acquired in EVS

Practical Arrangements & Financial aspects

Travel: ACT will purchase **flight tickets** while the Sending Organisation will to make sure that the volunteer is well informed, has all documents and gets safely on board.

Local transport: will be **covered by ACT**, upon arrival they will receive info on how to use public transport, a map of the transit lines etc.

Accommodation: ACT will host the volunteers **in rented apartments** in the **city of Craiova**. Each accommodation will assure **good living conditions** (private beds, equipped kitchen and bathroom, heating system, running cold/ hot water, Wi-Fi).

Working programme: working hours are flexible and adapted to the schedule of the target institutions and is usually **3-4 hours/day in with the youngsters and 1-2 hours/day for preparing the activities**.

Each volunteer is entitled to receiving **2 free days/week** (typically weekends but in case that an activity requires work on the weekend the volunteer will be free in the next days) and a total of **12 days of vacation in the project** that you can use as you want.

Language support: The volunteers receive Romanian language lessons **2 sessions per week for the first 4 months and 1 session per week** for the rest of the project.

Communication: each volunteer will receive a **Romanian SIM cards** for mobile phones which will be recharged monthly

Financial aspects: International travel, local transport, accommodation and utility fees, monthly communication costs, costs related to activities **are covered directly by ACT.**

Monthly food allowance: 120 euro/month

Pocket money: 90 euro/month

What support will be available during your EVS?

The **mentor** will be responsible for **the general personal support of the volunteer**. They are in charge of **solving practical problems** arising being the "first line of support" available. They will be the **volunteer's go-to person for any personal problems** as well as being responsible for **guiding the volunteer** through the **learning process**. The mentor will be there to help you identify **learning needs** and **opportunities**, help you **plan** your learning process and help in the **self-evaluation**.

The **counterparts** (staff from the schools – **teachers/professionals**)-that will be **supporting the volunteers in the actual implementation process of the activities**. They will provide the volunteers with professional support in delivering their activities.

Additional support will be offered by ACT in the form **Preparation, Adaptation and Training programme** which is a programme designed to transmit all the necessary skill and abilities for the project focusing on skills and abilities building programme, providing them with methods, tools and materials that will support and facilitate their activities in the project.

Have we caught your attention? Here`s how to apply!

1. Prepare a CV(preferably using the europass model [here](#)) and a **motivation letter**
2. Contact one of our **partner sending organisation** from your corresponding country:
 - **Associazione Eurobox – Italy – eurobox.segreteria@gmail.com**
 - **Associazione Culturale Link – Italy - link@linkyouth.org**
 - **Asociación Mundus - Un Mundo a tus Pies – Spain – alberto.unmundoatuspies@gmail.com**
 - **Karaman Youth Club Association – Turkey - karamanyouth@gmail.com**
3. We will have a **Skype interview** with you
4. We announce if you have been selected and we prepare the paperwork

If you are interested and want more information you can also [CONTACT US AT](#)

Email: iovu.marius.act@gmail.com

Phone: 0040 769 433 989