

VOLUNTEERING TEAM IN HIGH PRIORITY AREA ALTAMURA, ITALY - 5th FEBRUARY - 8 MARCH 2023

The project

In Italy, as well as in the rest of Europe and throughout the world, the outbreak of a new virus and the spread of the pandemic have put the health of many citizens at risk, causing millions of deaths and also throwing also the most advanced health care systems into crisis. COVID-19 has changed our habits and highlighted the fragility of mankind, with more devastating effects on those categories already affected by other forms of fragility. This new condition has limited travel, changed the relationship we have with our bodies and conditioned our every daily gesture, with still unclear consequences on emotional balance and mental health. In particular, young people have suffered because of been denied sociality in an important phase of their growing process. However, young people have reacted positively, expressing solidarity with the weakest groups and demonstrating a capacity for resilience that has found expression in many gestures of solidarity. From this point of view, the **HCG** project **intends to create new structured and targeted opportunities, to continue to express the solidarity of young people towards the most fragile categories.**

At the same time, the project intends to offer, through the implementation of solidarity actions, an opportunity for personal growth, strengthening of civic skills and consolidation of the sense of active citizenship in the volunteers involved. The project intends to contribute to the strengthening of a new and more solid awareness of the importance of the issue of health and well-being in the entire population, thus contributing to a widespread and shared knowledge of the issues connected to individual and collective well-being, both physical how mental. In this sense, the title of the project wants to emphasize the theme of common goods, including health among those issues whose responsibility belongs to individuals and communities and cannot be delegated only to institutions. The project therefore contributes to the achievement of these objectives through a plurality of actions ranging from the creation of **information campaigns** aimed at increasing the sensitivity of the population towards health and well-being issues, to targeted interventions to support some fragile categories in need of help. In this path, the themes of solidarity will be closely related to the theme of brotherhood between peoples and intercultural exchange which will be made possible by the presence of European volunteers within the groups.

Activities

Through volunteering activities, young people will come into contact with the most fragile communities and social groups, strengthening their sense of solidarity and acquiring skills useful for transforming an ideal value into concrete actions.

Volunteers will be able to apply the new skills acquired to contribute, with the support of the organizations to which they belong and with other actors of civil society, to fuel lasting and non-occasional actions, identifying in volunteering a lifestyle and a concrete way to practice active citizenship. The communities, especially the target groups, will feel less alone and will benefit from the stimuli of the young participants in the actions, reducing the sense of frustration and fragility and reinforcing the sense of trust in others.

The whole project includes 4 types of activities to be implemented during 2 years in Italy, Greece and Romania:

- Information
- Elderly
- Kids
- People with disabilities

This call is about volunteering in **Italy** for a period of 32 days (2 travel days included), from the **5th of February to the 8th of March**

The main activity of this mobility will be the creation of an **information** campaign about **health** and **wellbeing** in Europe after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The **information campaigns** will have a very broad objective and, by addressing a vast public, will help to increase the level of knowledge with respect to health issues, conveying at the same time values of solidarity and intercultural dialogue. Activities include:

- meeting stakeholders and organizations dealing with fragile categories;
- making interviews and researches on the topic in order to produce and distribute a newspaper and recording and promoting podcast.

The main communication language will be English but also other languages can be used during the project.

Participants' profile

The project envisages the participation of 10 young people aged 18 to 30 who have an interest in developing activities in the information sector aimed at citizens in order to raise their level of knowledge and awareness with respect to health and well-being issues (connected to the post-Covid and in general).

HCG encourages the participation of **young people with fewer opportunities**. By "young people with fewer opportunities" we mean all those young people who for various reasons do not have the opportunity to participate in long-term projects. This includes young people with precarious family situations, who have interrupted or abandoned their studies, who live in rural and remote areas or in urban suburbs, with disabilities or who experience situations of social or economic hardship.

Selection

Interested young people should apply through their supporting organizations and through the platform no later than **15 January 2023**. The results of the selections will be communicated by **18** January. Applications are open to all young Europeans.

They will need to have a support organization in their country. Priority will be given to young people whose applications will be sent through the partner organizations in Greece and Romania. However, during the selection process, we will ensure the cultural variety of the group.

Participants should:

- be open to cooperate in an international environment, respecting diversity of opinions;
- be able to work in English and other European languages;
- be interested to work in the journalistic field (both written and spoken);
- be interested in the topic of health as a common good in Europe.

In order to apply it is necessary to send a **cv** and a **motivation** letter. In case of young people with less opportunities, a letter from the supporting organization explaining the specific situation of the young person is needed.

Practical info

Housing

Participants will share a big flat in the city of Altamura. The volunteers will be housed in a large apartment fully equipped, close to the railway station and not far from the city centre.

Food

Participants will receive an amount of 6 euro per day for 30 days of activity. They will be responsible for preparation of meals.

Money

Participants will receive a pocket money of 6 euro per day for 32 days (travel days included).

Travel

Participants will get reimbursement according to the distance calculator:

- from 100 to 499 km from the departure point to Altamura: € 180 / green travel = € 210
- from 500 to 1999 km from the departure point to Altamura: € 275 / green travel = € 320
- from 2000 to 2999 km from the departure point to Altamura: € 360 / green travel = € 410

Insurance

Once selected, the volunteer will be automatically enrolled by Cigna (European insurance system).

Working time

Activities will be run from Monday to Friday for a maximum of 6 hours per day. Saturday and Sunday are free. The volunteer has to right to get 2 days of holidays during the month. We recommend to bring your own laptop.

Other info

About the city of Altamura:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Altamura>

Most of the activities will be run in a library managed by the organization:

www.agorateca.it

More info about Associazione Link:

www.linkyouth.org

Weather

Average temperature in February/March can vary from 1 to 12 degrees and it could be rainy or snowy. We recommend to bring warm clothes and waterproof jacket.

Emergency contact:

Mino Vicenti_ +39 3316030491

The attached program is provisional and my slightly change. Before arrival, volunteer will receive the definite version.

Program

Week 1

Mon	On arrival training Get to know each other
Tue	On arrival training Get to know the local community
Wed	On arrival training ESC, Youthpass/Year of Skills
Thu	Introducing the topic Sharing experiences/competences
Fri	Meeting target groups: people with disabilities, children, elderly

Week 3

Mon	Newspaper + podcasting Production in working groups
Tue	Newspaper + podcasting Production in working groups
Wed	Newspaper + podcasting Production in working groups / Visibility
Thu	Newspaper + podcasting Production working groups / Dissemination
Fri	Newspaper: last check Printing

Week 2

Mon	Creating the newspaper Choosing the topics
Tue	Creating the newspaper Task division
Wed	Web radio and podcasting Training: how to use the tool
Thu	Web radio and podcasting Creating a format fo HCG
Fri	Mid-term evaluation Working on Youthpass

Week 4

Mon	Newspaper: Distribution Public presentation, meeting stakeholders
Tue	Newspaper: Distribution Public presentation, meeting stakeholders
Wed	Promoting the results on social media / Evaluation
Thu	Evaluation Working on Youthpass
Fri	Evaluation Future opportunities