

Description of the Project 2009-PL-11

“Jump onto the volunteer's ferry” group EVS project will be realized In Foundation of Social Integration Prom from Wroclaw, between 1st Dec 2009 and 31st Aug 2010. Two volunteers one from Italy and one from Turkey will work during seven months (02.01.2010-02.08.2010). Main task of the project is equal opportunities and working with Romani communities.

Project is aimed at developing solidarity, promoting active citizenship and mutual understanding among young people. Volunteers will work in foundation's office, in “You are not alone” – a club for people with mental disorder and their families, in drop in centers, including the one integrating for Polish and Romani children. Four hours a week will be dedicated to Polish lessons. Methods that will be used in project (workshops, observations, presentations, exchange of ideas, cooperation process, group dynamics) assume that volunteer will actively take part in every stage.

Project environment:

Our organization is located in Wroclaw www.wroclaw.pl/ms/english/ , www.wirtualnywroclaw.eu/ – a very open and cosmopolitan city for full of young people and students.

We cooperate with teachers, psychologists, art therapist, trainers, dance instructors, lawyers, students and other non-governmental organizations.

The main goal of the Foundation “Prom” is to integrate and support people from disadvantaged backgrounds; to enable them to participate in educational and cultural events; to promote them in society; to fight against discrimination, intolerance and lack of acceptance towards the most helpless groups in Poland (the poorest, unemployed, national minorities).

The major need is to break off the negative stereotypes and know each other by acting together.

We work with children , youth and adults from poor and pathological families (we have four drop in centres (working afternoons) for children and youth. We take care of them, organize artistic and sports activities, excursions, summer and winter holidays, we offer a chance for them to develop their interests, artistic skills and enhance educational possibilities.

We provide the poorest with food, give legal advice free of charge , learn about social issues and human rights, we have great experience in work with Romani Community from Wroclaw. We cooperate with Romani Bacht Association, we participated in international study tours to Romani Associations from Czech and Slovakia, recently we published book:”Education of Romani people in Central Europe” and picture story about Romani History.

Description of the organization:

Who we are:

Foundation of Social Integration -Prom is a non-governmental organization established in March 2004, composed of persons interesting in coming with conscious and effective aid. It forms an association of educational workers, teachers, cultural animators, therapists, students and voluntary workers.

Who we help:

Being obliged to act for the common good, the Foundation chose as its main goal the help for the most needful people, integration and activation of different environments, including social groups discriminated against, marginalized and those endangered by the risk of social exclusion.

The beneficiaries of our actions are children and young people from large families, families endangered by unemployment and threatened by pathologies, national minorities (**particularly Romani people**), the unemployed and the poorest urban inhabitants, disabled persons, including mentally ill.

How we help:

1. We run four drop in centres for children and young people based in different district of City Wroclaw. One of them integrational for Romany children based in the city centre. With full teaching and supporting programme (help in learning, foreign language classes, dance courses, model-making, artistic and sports activities, feeding, speech - therapy aid and psychological assistance),
2. We organize summer camps, day camps and winter holidays for our charges,
3. We participate in arrangement of clubs for children, organize financial help, we have our programme web page on the Internet (www.fundacjaprom.pl), we organize artistic competitions with Romani subject matter, Reviews of Young Romani Talents, integrating summer camps for Romani and Polish children, training

courses and conferences.

4. We run four social and legal advice centres on the territory of Wrocław,

5. We organize different kinds of integrating events for all beneficiaries.

Who supports us:

Our activities are financially supported by the City Wrocław Council, Lower Silesian Governor's Office, Ministry of Interior and Administration, Ministry of Culture, Danone Poland, The Fund of Environmental Protection, Batory Foundation, The Fund for Disabled Persons, EEA and Norway Grants.

More information's: www.fundacijaprom.pl

Description of activities:

The main aim: development of solidarity and social activity promotion within the group of youngsters and children.

Other aims:

- wider knowledge, new abilities and qualifications for the participants of the project
- preparation of young people in active, social life of European countries
- introduction of young people to the cultural variety and opulence of European countries and their common heritage
- youths integration with the society and increase in the responsibility for local community matters through active action on their behalf.
- overcoming of barriers, social stereotypes and prejudices rooted in the mentality of young people, fighting all kinds of discrimination
- encouragement of young people from disadvantaged background (bad living conditions, endangered by pathology, with disabilities and from minorities) to take part in the project
- promotion of tolerance and solidarity among young people
- increase in the effectiveness of the actions of the organisations taking part in the project
- cooperation with organisation with similar to Prom Foundation profile
- higher variety of activities for Prom's beneficiaries
- increase in the meaning and effectiveness of actions in the local community through introduction of European elements

Volunteers will be supporting Prom's employees in the carrying out the project:

Proposed activities:

- participation and help in the activities for children and persons with mental problems
- participation in educational projects organised by the foundation
- preparation of volunteers' own activities under the supervision of Prom's educational workers
- organisation of meetings with the representatives of other community centres and non-governmental organisations from Wrocław promoting volunteering within the Roma Association - Romani Bacht and Ukrainian Association in Poland
- meetings promoting volunteers' cultural background
- organisation of international meetings and conferences within government programme for Roma community
- visiting Lower Silesia region with Prom's tourist agency
- organisation and participation in summer and winter holidays for children from community centres
- looking for contact with the organisations from the volunteer's country of similar to Prom Foundation's profile to take part in the programme Youths in Action (work in the Prom's office)
- promotion of the European Voluntarism within the young people from the community centres contributing to the increase of knowledge about different countries and their cultural tradition
- preparation of the brochure and internet subpage with children and teachers

Volunteers will have a chance to observe different specialist at work: teachers, psychologists, dance teachers, language teachers, music therapy and art therapy teachers, lawyers from free of charge offices acting within Prom Foundation.

Three phases of the project: preparation, implementation, evaluation.

Preparation: contact with the sending organisations, primary and final selection of volunteers, establishing plan of action, volunteers' insurance, purchase of visa. Making sure that volunteers have as much as possible information about host country and that they take part in the necessary training before their arrival.

Implementation: volunteering in the foundation. First phase: introduction of the volunteers to their new environment, place of work, Prom's employees. Adapting volunteers' duties to their interests, introduction training.

Second phase: conducting by volunteers their own activities in the community centres for children and Nie Jestes Sam club (You Are Not Alone club). Volunteers take part in the project mid evaluation (February 2010).

Project evaluation: Issuing of Youthpass certificate. Volunteers support once there are in their own country, spreading results and making the most out of the project outcome, printing of the brochure, internet subpage preparation about volunteering, encouraging volunteers to take part in the final evaluation training.

Host organisation will use its own evaluation questionnaire on each phase of the project.

Important events organised in the foundation during the year and assisted by volunteers: Christmas Eve, winter holidays in January/February, summer holidays in July.

Typical volunteer's day will be structured as follows:

9:00-12:00 work in the Prom Foundation's office – twice a week

9:00-12:00 work in the Nie Jestes Sam club (You Are Not Alone club) for people with mental problems and their families – twice a week

4 hours of Polish language – during week

12:00 lunch

15:00 – 19:00 work in the community centres for children: Zakatek Krasnoludka (Dwarf's Corner) – community centre integrating Polish and Roma children and Promyki (Rays) community centre.

Volunteers will have 2 days off during a week, mainly at the weekend. If their assistance is required at the weekend (during trips with the children from community centres) then they get those two days back during the week. Volunteers will work 35 hours per week, half of this time they are going to spend with the children and young people from community centres. They are entitled to 20 days holidays, in the time suitable for the Foundation and volunteers.

Linguistic support: Since the beginning we will encourage volunteers to learn polish language but for the first months he can communicate with mentor and co-workers in English. Volunteers will have four hours of individual Polish lessons per week.

Accommodation: Volunteers will be living in student apartments or with other EVS volunteers working in different organisations in Wroclaw.

Alimentation: Volunteers will be provided with lunch in the student bar but for meals during free time, same as breakfast and supper will receive cash. While working in the community centres for children and Nie Jestes Sam club (You Are Not Alone club) volunteers will be served coffee, tea, biscuits or other snacks.

Local transport: volunteers will be provided with monthly pass for local transport: regular bus, night link, fast bus and trams.

Expecting learning outcomes:

Volunteers participating in the EVS project will increase their interpersonal and intercultural competencies and will learn Polish language. They will gain valuable professional and interpersonal experience. They will learn how to work within the group and solve the conflicts if necessary. Moreover, after such a long stay out of their country they will become more flexible and more adaptable to the changes in their environment, more tolerant to the cultural difference between people.

They will learn different teaching methods necessary to work with children and people with mental problems. They will get to know Roma minority in Wroclaw and the characteristics of work for non-government organisation in Poland. They will learn decision taking and time management.

Volunteer profile and recruitment process:

We would like to invite all the people to take part in the project who are:

- interested in psychology, educational science studies, social work in a big city
- interested in Roma culture, history and current problems of Roma community
- creative
- optimistic, outgoing and honest

- flexible, friendly and helpful
- independent, with ability to show initiative
- responsible and trustworthy

Volunteers are not required to have qualifications necessary to work with children, young people or people with mental problems. They might have just interesting skills and hobby: sport, painting, dancing – very popular with our beneficiaries.

Volunteers will be selected first through their CVs and Cover Letters and later through phone interview. All the volunteers will be treated equally through the whole selection process. First round of interviews will be conducted by the recruiting team in the sending organisation and the second round in the host organisation. The final decision will be taken in the host organisation by community centres' educational workers and management team. Through duration of the projects, volunteers will meet their mentors once a week to discuss Prom's activities and adapt them to Volunteers' interests and needs. Volunteers will receive their scope of duties in writing. Their task will be to support Prom's employees working in the community centres for children or in the club for persons with mental problems, not to replace them. Prom Foundation's employees will be well aware of the project and the difference in the scope of activities between them and volunteers before applicants arrive in the host country.

Proposed deadline to send application to hosting organization :20 of November 2009.

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