

Youth center Zagorje, Spice up your life, april 2015

Erasmus+: Youth in Action | EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE | Zagorje, Slovenia

SPICE UP YOUR LIFE (SUYL)

Project duration: 2015, 15th January – 14th October

Hosting organization (HO): Zagorje youth center

Partners (SOs): Youth development center – Mutual aid from Bulgaria, Youth center Villa Elba from Finland, Youth Association YMCA Bitola from FYR Macedonia, Talentum Alapitvany from Hungary, ZURY Association from Romania and YUTHART from Turkey.

Number of volunteers in project: 11 (2 from, Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary, Romania, Turkey and 1 from FYR Macedonia).

In order to assure good interaction and bonding of group members organizers dislike hosting couples and siblings.

Gender: Organizers prefer gender balance

Age: 19 – 26

Activity starts (volunteers should be in HO): **26th March 2015**

Activity ends (volunteers will leave HO): **25th April 2015**

Venue: Slovenia, Zagorje ob Savi, Cesta 9. avgusta 48, 1410 Zagorje ob Savi

APV: 17th – 19th February 2015 (1 coordinator and 1 EVS from each SO)

Description of the project:

'Spice up your life' will support participants in the acquisition of competences which will improve their personal development and employability in the European labor market. On the other hand, local youth will gain informations on EVS and raise awareness and understanding of other cultures and countries. Nevertheless, high

beams, that will be set by volunteers, will serve to Zagorje inhabitants for many years to come.

Main activities (approx. 90 %):

- setting around 10 high beams (including whole process from preparing wood to planting plants)

- spring gardening in youth center garden (preparing soil, patches and sowing first seeds)

- gardening in Zagorje park herbal garden

- multi-culti cooking with Zagorje secondary school students (exchanging knowledge about different cultures, countries and cuisine)



- visiting some good entrepreneurial practices in the region

- presenting Erasmus + Program, SUYL project, EVS and and national culture and cuisine at two public outdoor events.

Dissemination (media) activities (approx. 10 %):

- setting and publishing a social network profile(s)

- a smaller group of volunteers will write a blog, make a short video and a photo-gallery. Additionally, they will write articles for regional newspaper's EVS annex.

There will be **tutors** to support both gardening and media activities.

Language:

The language used to communicate will be **English**. According to the regulation of the E+ there will **not** be an English language course, since this is a short term project. Volunteers with **basic** English knowledge are also welcome.

Working time:

Activities and timetable will depend very much on weather. So it can happen that volunteers will work also during the weekend, but altogether they will work max 38 hours per week and will be free 2 days in a week.



Learning outcomes

Volunteers will:

- gain knowledge and skills connected to gardening (how to prepare high beam and patch, how to weed, about soil, about composting, how to use different tools, how to sow and plant and similar)
- gain competences for presenting their nation and culture in picture and word
- improve their skills of communicating in English
- gain skills of working and living in an (international) team
- (optional) gain / improve their skills of writing articles and blog
- (optional) gain / improve their skills of working with camera and editing
- gains skills of preparing meals and cleaning their own stuff
- gain knowledge about hosting country, culture as well about other partner nations and cultures

We will be happy to host:

- **reliable** and highly **motivated** individuals that are interested in this field of work. **No specific education** or knowledge is required.
- volunteers which like to do **manual** work **outside** on fresh air
- volunteers which are **flexible about working** hours and understand, that work outside depends on **weather**

- volunteers with at least basic English knowledge
- volunteers who don't have possibilities or courage to attend long term EVS
- volunteers who are motivated (with the help of their mentors) to validate **learning outcomes**, acquired during the project and will use an instrument to do so (Youth pass or similar)

Project environment:

Youth center Zagorje ob Savi (Mladinski center Zagorje ob Savi, MC ZOS) is a public body established to perform extracurricular activities for young people. Fields of activity are: informal education, volunteer work, culture and art, health and sport, information and consulting, international projects and mobility of young people, intergenerational activities, participation and active citizenship. Our main purpose is to provide supportive structure for creative young people in the local area with the goal to create a learning and encouraging environment where they can gain knowledge and experiences, explore their passions and become an active member of community.



Zagorje ob Savi is a small town located in the Zasavje region,

in the heart of Slovenia in Zasavje known for its coal mining past, with approximately 7.000 inhabitants. It is surrounded by beautiful nature and numerous hills. It offers all necessary infrastructure such as health center, administrative unit, library, police station, shops, cultural center, sports grounds, restaurants, primary and high schools, retirement home, airport (sport planes) etc. The town lies 50 km from the capital Ljubljana and just the same to Celje, the third largest Slovenian town. The railway provides good connections to the neighbor regions, trains depart every hour. Visitors are attracted by

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beautiful nature and hills that offer limitless opportunities for cycling, hiking and relaxing in nature or adventurous rafting on river Sava.

Youth center is situated five minutes by walk from town center, right next to primary school, kindergarten, gym and football field. It has a concert hall, an office, multi-functional room for events and music room for bands to rehearse.

Costs:

Travel and visa costs and pocket money are covered by the ERASMUS+, according to the regulations of the Programmer and regarding the distance between departure and arrival town (see Program Guide for details). Accommodation and meals are provided by the host organization and also covered by the ERASMUS+.

Accommodation:

Volunteers will live in private apartments (probably in two groups).

Apartments are situated in walking distance to youth center and all major points in Zagorje.

People of same nationalities should expect to live apart.

Volunteers will make their own meals and take care of cleaning of their clothes, living and working space.

Project core-team (from left) looking forward to work with you:

Polona Siter Drnovšek, project coordinator

Nina Nachtigal, EVS coordinator in the organization

Marko Pavlovič, director

Selection process:

Selection of candidates will be done by sending organization. Hosting organization will finally confirm the selected candidates and has the right to refuse a candidate and ask for a new one.

Dead lines of selection process:

6th January: SUYL info-pack is sent to partners

7th January: Activity Agreement is sent to partners

12th January: SO send info about volunteers to HO

14th January: feedback to SO

15th January: Activity Agreements are signed by SO and volunteers and send in original to HO

6th February 2015: Original Activity Agreement signed from volunteer, SO and HO should be on the address of HO.

Contact: polona.siter@gmail.com

Check it out:

<http://www.mczos.si/>

<http://www.mczos.si/evs-blog/>

www.facebook.com/mladinskicenter.zagorje