

Info Pack


VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

Contact Making Event

20-26 June 2019
Worcester, UK



A few words about the project



Do you work with local or international volunteers?

Are you ready to start a new journey with ESC?

Would you like to develop new partnerships for the future Cooperation?

Come and join us on a unique learning journey during which you will get to learn more about the new European Solidarity Corps and will have the opportunity to network with representatives of numerous NGOs from around Europe!

WHAT: Contact Making Event

WHEN: 20 - 26 June 2019

WHERE: Worcester, United Kingdom

FOR WHOM

The proposed mobility is aimed at youth workers, project managers or volunteer coordinators who are willing to develop new contacts, aiming at creating and building new partnerships within the framework of the European Solidarity Corps.

The mobility is open to 18+ participants. Nominations will be made by the individual partner promoters.

WHY

The idea of the project was inspired by the introduction of the new European Solidarity Corps (ESC) Programme and the fact that majority of the organisations still do not have a clear understanding of how the programme works and what benefits are there for young people and organisations (both at the local and international level).

Therefore, it doesn't matter here whether the organisations already have many years of experience with the European Voluntary Service (EVS). When it comes to ESC we are all newcomers and we all may have questions about the implementation and running of volunteering projects as well as how to support volunteers in the process of identifying and engaging in the placements. At the same time, drawing experience from our work with EVS and other voluntary projects, we have taken particular interest in mentoring as a way of supporting young volunteers prior, during and after their voluntary experience.

AIM AND PROJECT STRUCTURE

The proposed project aims at **developing the capacities of partner promoters** (in particular: youth workers, volunteers coordinators, supervisors and mentors) in developing and ensuring greater quality within the European volunteering programmes. The focus here falls particularly on matters such as:

- >> promoting volunteering opportunities at the local and international level
- >> developing strong and sustainable partnerships
- >> volunteers' management and mentoring
- >> ensuring greater impact of the volunteering projects (both for the volunteers and the communities they work in).

To achieve the aim and ensure that it is sustainable, the proposed project - *Volunteering Opportunities* - has been divided into **two distinct stages**.

- Contact Making Event for Coordinators and Supervisors
- Training Course "Ensuring Quality in volunteering projects" for Mentors.

Currently we are implementing the first part of the project, the CME.

CME OBJECTIVES

- To better understand the background, needs and challenges related to volunteering activities across the partnership
- To provide a meeting point for organizations to exchange information, develop cooperation and establish international partnerships for future cooperation
- To understand the concept of Volunteering Opportunities within the new European Solidarity Corps Programme
- To raise awareness of the learning dimension in volunteering projects and provide tools for learning support for the mentors and volunteers
- To create an inclusive learning environment for the attendees to share their own best practice, inspire and motivate one another
- To improve the capacity of organisations in practical implementation of voluntary projects in the frames of Erasmus+ and to provide up-to-date information about the programme.

Participants will have the chance to thoroughly **explore the possibilities granted by the Erasmus+ Programme**. Here, we shall focus on two important aspects:

- 1) technicalities of applications design, meeting deadlines, composing partnerships
- 2) funding possibilities available to different target groups, quality measures required when preparing and implementing international activities, ensuring greater learning opportunities for both youth work professionals and young people, etc.

The **ultimate success** of the project will be seen in participants going back home with fresh ideas, competences and contacts to take actions at local and international level.



FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

The following project is supported by the ERASMUS+ grant. Hence, 100% of the food and accommodation expenses will be covered by the organisers, as well as up to 100% of the overall travel costs:

- **275 EUR** - Latvia, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Romania (S4YD), Spain, Italy
- **360 EUR** - Bulgaria, Greece, Malta, Romania (Curba)

There is a 30 EUR participation fee in the project!



PRACTICAL ARRANGEMENTS

All participants will be sharing 2-3 bedded rooms at the **Travelodge Hotel** situated in the very centre of Worcester at **3 High Street, Cathedral Plaza**.

All meals will be provided at the hotel or other venues, depending on the daily agenda.

The training workshops shall be carried out at the venue situated just 5 min away from the hotel.



Thursday 20th June – Please arrive at the Travelodge Hotel in Worcester by 6 pm.

Wednesday 26th June – To allow enough time to get to the airports, your return flight should be after 10 am from Birmingham Airport, or later from other airports. If unsure, please consult us before purchasing any tickets.

It is important that you purchase your tickets for travel within the UK in advance! In order to find suitable connections between your airport of arrival and Worcester please check:



**www.thetrainline.com
www.gwr.com**



**www.nationalexpress.com
uk.megabus.com**

TRAVEL TIPS:

- You can arrive a few days earlier and leave a few days after the mobility. Extra stay will not be supported with food or accommodation, yet you can use this time to visit some places around the UK. Should your stay be longer than 3-4 days, please consult this with our team before you purchase the tickets.**
- In line with the rules of the ERASMUS+ Programme, please make your travel arrangements using the cheapest means of travel.**
- Travel reimbursement will be done in EUR cash during the mobility.**

WHAT TO BRING?

TRAVEL ESSENTIALS

- > Passport/ID
- > Insurance
- > Pocket money

THINGS TO PACK

- Toiletries
- Slippers for the use at the hotel
- Walking shoes
- Comfortable clothes
- Medicines (if you take any)
- UK 3-pin adapter
- Umbrella (you never know in the UK)
- Notebook to take notes

FOOD AND SNACKS FOR THE INTERCULTURAL EVENING

A special multi-cultural dinner will take place on one of the evenings. Given the experience with similar projects, we'd like to suggest focusing on consuming the food, rather than watching or listening to long presentations. Feel free, though, to prepare any info that you can later share during any other evenings.

Looking forward to seeing what you've got!

NGO PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

The main focus of every Contact Making Event is ... NETWORKING!

Therefore, participation in the mobility will be an opportunity to get to know the representatives of many NGOs and institutions present at the mobility. We'd like to recommend then bringing some promotional materials, brochures of your organisations and anything else that you feel may be suitable. Although the main focus of the meeting is on VOLUNTEERING, feel free to prepare info on any other areas of interest to your organisation.

How to apply?

**COMPLETE THE THE
E- APPLICATION FORM**



**UPON SUCCESSFUL
SELECTION TO THE CME,
CONFIRM YOUR
ATTENDANCE**



**WAIT FOR THE SELECTION
RESULTS TO BE
ANNOUNCED BY THE
SENDING ORGANISATION
IN YOUR COUNTRY**

**START THE
PREPARATIONS TO
THE MOBILITY**





We're waiting for you in the UK!



CONTACT

Any questions related to the project and the mobility, travel to the UK as well as any other matters should be addressed to the **project coordinator**
Basia Ligas on:

eu.consiliumdt@gmail.com

To ensure that your e-mails arrive without delays, please always start your messages with
ERASMUS+ CME Volunteering Opportunities.



We'll appreciate any ideas and suggestions of yours that could be incorporated at the time of preparations to the mobility or during the activity itself. This is going to be a contact making event which we wish to implement **NOT FOR YOU** but **TOGETHER WITH YOU!**
Let's make it an exciting learning journey!