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Social Youth Development
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Dear volunteer,

Please find below a short description of the organization, the project's environment and the projects of K.A.N.E. After reading this document, if you are interested in any of our EVS projects, please fill in the attached questionnaire.

The organisation:

K.A.N.E. is a Youth organization, active mainly in local and regional level and implementing youth development projects. It is based in the city of Kalamata, in the south of Greece. Kalamata is the capital of Messinia, a region known for its amazing natural beauty –as it combines perfectly the sea with the Taygetos mountains- but also faces problems common in many rural regions (i.e. lack of employment opportunities, cultural, educational and other leisure activities, sense of isolation).

Since its establishment in 2008, K.A.N.E. participates in, implements and promotes activities on a local, regional and international level such as trainings, seminars, network meetings, youth exchanges, youth initiatives, social, cultural and educational projects, etc., in line with the values of UNESCO's Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), focusing mainly on Cultural Education, Gender Equality and Sustainable Urbanisation.

These projects are open to all young people, mostly aged between 16 and 30. Of course, due to the main aims of our existence we focus more on local youngsters, trying to support their personal development through training, non-formal education and intercultural activities.

The organisation has already created 2 youth structures; the Youth Centre of Kalamata and the Kalamata Street Festival. Additionally, K.A.N.E. is now successfully collaborating with local, regional and international organisations and public bodies.

K.A.N.E. is a small NGO and the local and international volunteers are very important for the success of its projects; to ensure that, we are cooperating only with people having high level of commitment to the values of voluntarism.

The place:

The town of Kalamata is situated at the province of the Peloponnese, in southern Greece. It is surrounded by a beautiful environment that combines the sea with the mountain, a combination that offers its citizens, not only beauty, but also chances to often get in touch with nature, all year long. As it is well known, the Peloponnese is a place of immense historical importance, as it possesses several monuments dated back to diverse historical periods. For this reason, it is a popular tourist-destination, especially during the summer. By having 70.000 permanent citizens and 6.000 students, the town is also "alive" during the winter, while its family character ensures low criminal activity and a safe way of life. Finally, as a reasonably flat town, it is easily explored by bike or on foot.

The projects:

1. Therapeutic Horseback Riding (2011-GR-4-TH)
2. KEKYKameA Centre (2011-GR-4-KC)
3. Youth Center of Kalamata (2011-GR-4-YC)

4. EVS e-structures (2011-GR-4-ES)
5. Day Care Centre (2011-GR-4-DC)
6. Natural Farming and Environmental Awareness (2011-GR-4-NF)

KEKYKameA – Therapeutic Horse Riding (2011-GR-4-TH)

Aim: Volunteers will become the “added value” of the project. They will offer to the children the opportunity to feel part of the society, to improve themselves and get in touch with new cultures, languages.

The project of Therapeutic Horse Riding will take place at the “Horse Riding School” of Kalamata. The “Horse Riding School” is situated at the western part of the town, at a distance of 4 km from the city-centre. It is easily accessed by bicycle. The site consists of a waiting hall room, the horse stable and the training court. The volunteers will be asked to work with children with neurological damage, psychological and learning difficulties, autism etc.

Activities:

- Preparing, in cooperation with a specialist and according to each child’s or group of children’s needs, the session and the non formal education games.
- Maintaining and safe-keeping the props and other material used in or out the training court.
- Preparing and training the horse, as well as caring for the horse’s warm-up, prior to the session.
- They will be the volunteer-assistants to the trainer, following the child and the horse throughout the course. One of them will lead the horse according to the trainer’s instructions, while the other will be next to the child making sure that it is always safe. At the same time they will be monitoring the horse’s behavior and calmness.
- They will engage in non-formal educational games and other creative activities with the children before and after the session making, thus, sure that the children’s waiting time is pleasant.
- Some time will have to be devoted to taking care of the horse and its gear before and after the sessions. This way, the volunteer builds a sense of trust and safety to the horse.
- After the end of the session, the volunteers and the trainer will keep a journal of the children’s progress, the difficulties faced and the new aims set.
- An additional task is to help spread the word for the therapeutic horse riding’s importance, promote the values of volunteering and accepting people with disabilities, by including them in the community’s everyday life.
- Also, in cooperation with other volunteers and the coordinating organisation, they might be asked to inform local youth about EVS.

The therapeutic sessions are taking place every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Some of the days are having morning sessions, others afternoon sessions and others both. This depends of the needs of the children. The timetable will be scheduled always from the previous week so the volunteers to be aware of it before.

EVS positions: 2

Open placements:

1. Arrival Date: 5th September 2012
2. Arrival Date: 5th November 2012

ATTENTION: The project of the Therapeutic Horse Riding is taking place at an open space. Therefore, when it is raining, no lessons are taking place. During rainy days the volunteers are working on other activities.

K.E.K.Y.K.A.meA. centre (2011-GR-4-KC)

Aim: To help the centre's work, broaden the children's horizons with new activities and bring in the European dimension.

The role of the volunteer is to undertake tasks in collaboration with the Greek volunteers that already work there and the enrichment of those tasks with more and newfound initiatives. These will be the ones that will create material for the promotion of the programme that aims in the acceptance of children with special needs by society and the acknowledgment from the public regarding the actions of the organisation and the therapeutic centre. The volunteers will undertake work that has been already carried out by volunteers, is additional to the work that's produced and cannot be carried out by permanent personnel; therefore they do not replace in any case the existing personnel or possible new job positions. *Some of the activities referred below are requiring some knowledge of Greek language (so they cannot be done during the first months of the EVS).*

The activities will be the following:

- Escorting the children in the bus. During the bus ride the volunteer will be responsible for the children's safety, but also they will have to be having creative ideas, in order to have a more pleasant ride, which is a painful process for some of the children.
- Raising the public's awareness on the importance of the centre and of the spread of volunteerism.
- Preparing games to be used while children are waiting in the Cafe and caring for this space, in order to be kept clean and secure for the children.
- Maintaining and safekeeping of parts and materials that are used.
- Attending the activities of creative occupation during the children's waiting before and after their sessions, and during the time before their departure for home.
- Creating new games and creative occupation activities.
- Production of audio-visual material in order to raise awareness for the centre's project.
- Informing the youth of Kalamata about EVS in collaboration with the coordinating organisation and the volunteers of other EVS projects

The organization will dedicate part of the volunteer's work-time in initiatives or personal projects that they will want to undertake, and help the volunteers to realize them, with the support of specialized personnel.

EVS positions: 2

Open placements:

1. Arrival Date: 5th September 2012
2. Arrival Date: 5th September 2012

NOTE: Some of the activities require basic knowledge of the Greek language. Therefore the volunteer will start these activities when he/she will reach a basic level of speaking the language.

Youth Centre of Kalamata (2011-GR-4-YC)

Cultural Centre

Aim: The creation of a “reference place” for the local youngsters, the active participation, the cultural development and be the informational point for European projects, of the town of Kalamata. *Target group: 15 – 30 years old.*

The volunteers’ tasks are:

- Taking care of the youth centre and it’s activities.
- Participation in the programming, development and evaluation of the activities.
- Preparation of the material; searching, finding and developing the informational resources.
- Preparation and running the “info point” for local youth.
- Developing their own personal project.
- Implementation of other activities of the organization like workshops etc.
- Following the environmental schedule of the Youth Centre (cleaning of urban spaces, environmental actions etc.)
- Creation of other educational activities.
- Taking initiatives and proposing to the organization and the local youngsters new projects, fresh ideas etc.
- The development of other projects for social, environmental and cultural cause.
- Participating in the language exchange workshops.
- Assisting future EVS Greek volunteers with language lessons and language practice workshops (if from the same country/ language).
- The development of a personal project within the already existing activities.
- Taking care of the Youth Centre’s maintenance (cleaning, keeping the timetable etc.)

The volunteers’ work is being divided in 3 categories: Fixed activities (30% of working time), Workshops/ Actions (30%of the working time), Personal project (40% of the working time).

As the centre will be an “open space” for volunteers and youngsters, the volunteers will work between 16:00 to 22:00. At any case the working hours of the volunteers will not exceed the 35 hours per week. **The project is requiring high level of commitment by the side of the volunteer, sense of solidarity and tolerance and willing to work within a team.**

EVS positions for the forthcoming deadline: 4

Open placements:

1. Arrival Date: 5th September 2012
2. Arrival Date: 5th September 2012
3. Arrival Date: 5th September 2012
4. Arrival Date: 5th October 2012

EVS e-structures (2011-GR-4-ES)

Aim: To maintain the web sites, blogs and other means of electronic communication of the organization and its projects in order to support the EVS structures in Greece.

The main goal of the project is to develop, update and improve the websites (www.evsgreece.org, www.ngokane.org, www.evskalamata.blogspot.com, a new website for the Youth Centre of Kalamata including internet radio, facebook, forums etc.). Those websites are the support measures for EVS volunteers in Greece and Kalamata. Also, they are the way to promote the Youth in Action programme and volunteer work for the Greek youngsters.

The volunteers' tasks are:

- Web-mastering and updating the website of evsGreece - the networking website for EVS volunteers in Greece
- Assisting in the promotion of the website and other activities of the network
- Coordinating the monthly newsletter
- Assisting in the development of promotional and visibility tools and strategy
- Searching for partners to develop common projects
- Assisting in the web-mastering of the virtual communities (yahoo group and facebook group)
- Participating in some of the Youth Centre's activities.
- Assisting the hosting organization in the other e-platforms which it uses.

The volunteer's profile:

- Knowledge of web development (training will be given on joomla – but he/she should be at least basic user)
- Knowledge of multimedia editing (photo/graphics/video). Experience with montage of films.
- Interest in youth information and youth media
- Motivation to work with deadlines and
- Initiative to use space for own projects
- Open to explore the culture of EVS in Greece!

The volunteer (beside the actual work) we expect to be the link between all volunteers in Greece and help to their networking and internal communication and information.

EVS positions: 1

Open placements:

1. Arrival Date: 5th September 2012

Day Care Centre (2011-GR-4-DC)

Aim: The Day Care Centre is the only place in the town of Kalamata in which children with autism can participate in educational and therapeutic processes, created especially for them. The volunteer participating in this project should be informed about autism before choosing this project.

The role of the volunteer is to undertake tasks in collaboration with the Greek volunteers that already work there and the enrichment of those tasks with more and newfound initiatives. These will be the ones that will create material for the promotion of the programme that aims in the acceptance of children by the society and the acknowledgment from the public regarding the actions of the organisation and the therapeutic centre. The volunteers will undertake work that has been already carried out by volunteers, is additional to the work that's produced and cannot be carried out by permanent personnel; therefore they do not replace in any case the existing personnel or possible new job positions. *Some of the activities referred below require some knowledge of Greek language (so they cannot be done the first months of the EVS).*

The activities will be the following:

- Escorting the children in the bus. During the bus ride the volunteer will be responsible for the children's safety, but also they will have to be having creative ideas, in order to have a more pleasant ride, which is a painful process for some of the children.
- Raising the public's awareness on the importance of the centre and of the spread of volunteerism.
- Maintenance and safekeeping of parts and materials that are used.
- Participation in the therapeutic processes as an observer and later on as personnel's assistant.
- Production of audio-visual material for the awareness of the centre's project.
- Informing the youth of Kalamata about EVS in collaboration with the coordinating organisation and the volunteers of other EVS projects

EVS positions: 1

Open placements:

1. Arrival Date: 5th October 2012

NOTE: Some of the activities are requiring basic knowledge of the Greek language. Therefore, the volunteer will start these activities when he/she reaches a basic level of speaking the language

6. Natural Farming and Environmental Awareness (2011-GR-4-NF)

Aim: To support actions of urban “natural farming” and “bio farming” as well as participate in awareness actions for natural farming, original seeds’ protection, compost, beach/park cleaning, green roofs etc.

The role of the volunteer will be to support the above mentioned actions, create new and take initiatives, which will involve local youth in the project.

Activities:

- Field work: Planting trees/vegetables, maintaining the ground
- Observing and documenting (texts, photo, video) the process and the results
- Creating campaigns
- Preparing and carrying out the 3R (reduce-reuse-recycle) workshop in the youth centre of Kalamata
- Participating in actions like beach cleaning, park cleaning, other environmental actions
- Participating at the reforestation carried out by the municipality of Kalamata (few times per year)
- Developing, managing and carrying out a personal project concerning environmental issues.
- Evaluating and comparing the process of natural farming
- Making a study and writing an essay about green jobs and sustainable development
- Making a study and a campaign about urban farming (green roofs, green balconies etc)

EVS positions: 2

1. Arrival Date: 5th September 2012
2. Arrival Date: 5th September 2012

NOTE (for all the above):

All EVS positions are for long term projects (6 months to one year). However, we can host short term projects for volunteers in case of fewer opportunities or special occasions.

All projects are having fewer or no activities during August, so volunteers are invited to use their free days during this period. The Youth Centre of Kalamata is closed between 1st and 25th of August.

As organization, we promote teamwork, solidarity between volunteers and the sense of responsibility towards the local community and the hosting projects