

EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS PROGRAMME

LONG-TERM INDIVIDUAL VOLUNTEERING ACTIVITY



HOSTED BY

KINDERGARTEN "PÄIKESEKUIR"

Päri Village, Viljandi County, Estonia

SUPPORTED BY

CONTINUOUS ACTION NGO

Tallinn, Harju County, Estonia

17.10.2022-18.10.2023 (12-MONTHS)

THE PROJECT OUTLINE

Dear future volunteer!

We are excited to know that you're considering volunteering in our kindergarten "Päikesekiir". Following you can read all about the project, the practicalities and how to become our volunteer _

Viljandi Municipality kindergarten "Päikesekiir" offers pre-school education for kids aged 1.5 years to 7 years. We are open every weekday (Monday to Friday) from 7.00AM-6.00PM and operate in 3 different locations and have 3 houses:

- Päri kindergarten;
- Puiatu kindergarten;
- Pärsti kindergarten.

The work varies and you'll be well integrated into our local community. One of the kindergarten's is operating in a historic manor house where together with the kindergarten you'll find different leisure time activities that are organised (sewing, photography, sampling) to local community. Also if you enjoy reading, you don't have to search far - we have the library in the same building!

Our kindergarten is hosting an international volunteer for the second time! Our first volunteer Besarta came from Kosovo and we've been thrilled to have her. We are looking to have the same good cooperation and offer you, our new volunteer, the same warm welcome into our community.

This is your chance to become our volunteer! Read more to see how to spend your next 12-months in Estonia!

**WE'RE A SMALL
KINDERGARTEN IN
VILJANDI COUNTY
DEDICATED TO
OFFER KIDS PRE-
SCHOOL EDUCATION**

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

We are looking our future volunteer to:

- be aged 18-30 (according to European Solidarity Corps programme rules);
- know English at least on a basic level;
- have great interest towards volunteering and participate in activities;
- enjoy spending time with kids.

The specific competences are not required beforehand, but if you have some experience with kids, know multiple languages or have volunteered before, please mention it when applying!

Becoming a volunteer doesn't require any specific knowledge before.

We are waiting a volunteer who wishes to challenge themselves, tryout different activities with kids, share their culture and traditions with us and in return learn more about Estonian customs.

We, as a hosting organisation, create the safe environment for you to learn and experience. You're more than welcome to also initiate your own activities and bring new ideas to our small community.

WHAT YOU CAN DO IN OUR KINDERGARTEN?

First and foremost you can have MANY MANY MANY activities with kids. You will be working alongside with our kindergarten teachers and assistants who help to plan the specific activities together with you. The activities are not only playing with kids, but also teaching them new things. Additionally, we have run some local projects that allow us to have excursions to different places in Estonia and teach kids more about environment, nature and history.

As a volunteer, you'll have a mentor and supervisor and all the support from our small team. All the tasks are given as clearly as possible and we will have weekly meetings to discuss and reflect on the activities.

WHAT IS VOLUNTEERING WITH US?

Understanding the volunteering placement is hard. We asked our very first volunteer Besarta to comment her stay with us. **Besarta is with Päikesekiir until mid-October 2022** and has described working with us as:

I still remember the bus ride from Tallinn to Viljandi on my first day in Estonia and how charmed I was with every little town we passed. It was fall; the sky was grey, the leaves were orange, and the houses were so colorful it felt like I was stepping into a storybook.



That feeling has never left; Estonia, Viljandi, and the Päikesekiir kindergartens have continued to charm me everyday since.

The three kindergartens themselves are completely different from one another. They differ in location, exterior and interior, staff, and of course, children.

What they all have in common, however, is the Päikesekiir spirit, teamwork and Astra.

Astra, the kindergarten's director, is a wonderful woman who is very active and open to new ideas in her work.

Luckily, I got to be part of many great projects during my service. I also had the chance of being involved in the planning and the implementation of said projects, which was a new and exciting experience for me.

At Päikesekiir, I got to experience many new and exciting things which I'm very thankful for, but the heart of it were the children. The children who -despite the language barrier (which at times was not a barrier at all)- were accepting and loving from the very start.

I'm very thankful to Astra and all the staff for the kindness and support they have shown me during my time there. I'm very thankful to the children who made everyday better than the last.

HOW TO BECOME OUR VOLUNTEER?

If you're interested in volunteering in our kindergarten "Päikesekiir" you don't have to do anything else, than:

- prepare your video-CV (in English)
- write a short motivation letter why you see yourself volunteering in kindergarten?

Send the documentation to the supporting organisation NGO Continuous Action e-mail vabatahtlik@continuousaction.ee as soon as possible, but latest on 18.09.2022!

What is video-CV and what do we mean by that?

We are looking for a short 1-3min long video where you tell us about yourself:

- where are you from?
- what are your hobbies?
- what are you currently doing in your home country?
- what have you studied?

Don't worry, the video doesn't have to be professional. It can be easily filmed with smartphone and doesn't have to be edited!

Just make it personal and show us your personality through the screen.

WHO SUPPORTS THE MANAGEMENT OF THE PROJECT?



The European Solidarity Corps programme project in Päikesekiir kindergarten is coordinated by the supporting organisation NGO Continuous Action.

Continuous Action is a non-governmental non-profit organisation founded in May 2005 that unites people interested in voluntary activities, lifelong learning and equal opportunities. We cooperate with governmental, non-governmental, recreational, educational and cultural associations, societal organisations and movements, with other organisations, enterprises and clubs both in Estonia and abroad which are interested and promote the same actions and values as we do.

The aim of our activity in and through Continuous Action is to enable the possibility of lifelong learning and to act within the boundaries of equal opportunities irrespective of gender, social status and age both in Estonia and at the international level.

NGO Continuous Action has been working and works with following programs:

- Youth in Action;
- Leonardo da Vinci;
- Grundtvig;
- Erasmus+;
- European Solidarity Corps.

The project is funded by Estonian National Agency Erasmus+ ja Euroopa Solidaarsuskorpuse agentuuri noorteprogrammide keskus from the European Solidarity Corps programme funds.

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER YOU HAVE SENT IN YOUR DOCUMENTS?

**THE INDIVIDUAL
PREPARATION FOR
THE PROJECT IS
DONE BY THE
SUPPORTING
ORGANISATION NGO
CONTINUOUS
ACTION AND STARTS
AS SOON AS THE
VOLUNTEER HAS
BEEN SELECTED FOR
THE PROJECT**

Once you have sent in your documents, the supporting organisation will send you a confirmation e-mail and if needed, will specify some details. **For applying please send all your documents to supporting organisation!**

Eventually, all the video-CVs and motivation letters are collected and looked through by the hosting organisation who then invites you to a video interview to tell you more about:

- the project;
- the local community;
- your working tasks.

The video-interview is a good way for the hosting organisation to understand your motivation and interest and hear more about you as a person while you can also ask all the questions about the planned activities, see the people in the hosting organisation and understand better if this activity is for you!

Remember that the practical aspects of the project will be organised and coordinated by the supporting organisation Continuous Action in cooperation with Viljandi's Municipality. Questions about practical details (e.g. travel reimbursement, accommodation, pocket money, etc) can be directed to supporting organisation.

EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS PROGRAMME, LONG TERM VOLUNTEERING

GOT ANY QUESTIONS?

DON'T BE SHY! EMAIL US AT:

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