

CIVIC SERVICE CONDITIONS

VOLUNTEER WITH CBF Under the FRENCH CIVIC SERVICE

Conditions :

- to read the project and be interested in CBF network and its action
- to be between 18 and 25 years old
- to be citizen of European Union
- to have your Driving licence (strongly required)
- to be available one year (usually from september to september)

We provide :

- an insurance covering health, injury, work accident, maternity, family
- an allowance of 467€ per month covering food expenses and pocket money
- an accomodation to share with other volunteers
- some part of your local trip costs
- some possibilities to get to know different organizations that belong to CBF network
- some possibilities to participate in trainings

We cannot provide :

- your travel costs to come to France
- french language courses

But depending on the local organisation and context it might be possible in some cases to find some solutions.

Description :

With an intervention in the field of building (from renovation to construction) the long term volunteering sector brings concrete help to families or people in need, often excluded from society, sometime facing addictions and also to organizations dedicated to collective interest projects.

The teams intervene with and for the families for the improvement of their living conditions, giving them in this way the means to reinvest their housing. Volunteers work in one of the five local Compagnons Bâtitisseurs organizations in France, and they share a community life.

Role of a CBF volunteer :

The volunteer places are open to girls and boys over 18 from different nationalities, with or without preliminary knowledge in construction and renovation. They have different status: European Voluntary Service volunteer and French Civic Service volunteers.

Local volunteers involved on a medium term basis can be part of the team. They are part of a project aiming at involving young people with fewer opportunities, working closely with local actors from the youth field.

The volunteers must be prepared to commit themselves for 1 or 2 years in the fulfilment of the objectives of the organisation and develop their awareness of:

- Working closely with families in need and with organizations involved in community projects
- Participating in the associative and local life
- Working as a volunteer and as a team in a particular context of a non lucrative organization
- Sharing a daily and collective life with other volunteers
- Sharing a different experience of life.

This commitment is very demanding but also offers unquestionable experience and awareness of responsibility. On the project, volunteers also will find many ways to enjoy themselves through new acquaintances and cultural exchanges.

Work description :

Working with the staff (administrative and technical mentors) and sometimes with the social worker in charge of the family, the volunteers participate in the technical, financial and human aspects on the building site. The volunteer try to make the families involved in the improvement of their living conditions by working together in their home.

Although the main purpose in the carrying out of the work (to renovate a house or a flat), the activity has therefore an important social and human aspect that makes our intervention different from a professional one. This in particular includes the participation of the family in the project (choice of the work that has to be done, the material...) and also in its technical realization.

Furthermore, most of the time the volunteers share the lunch with the family which provides a valuable time to get to know each other and may create strong links based on trust and sharing.

Volunteers are also fully involved in the organization life, especially through their participation in the national and local administrative councils, general assemblies and through the Long Term Volunteers' Collective which regroupes all the volunteers of CBF network. In summer, volunteers are offered to work as group leaders or co-leaders on international summer workcamps organized by CBF.

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