



ASSOCIATION SOLIDARITÉS JEUNESSES

WHO WE ARE ?

Solidarités Jeunesses (SJ)

is an association of a movement for **informal education** which values **voluntary commitment**, strong political will, and **solidarity** as its core principles.

Our course of actions is influenced by our ideal vision of society, in which progress is social, respect for human beings and the environment is a fundamental and shared value, and the freedom to choose, to dream, and to resist is innate and encouraged by all.

Our activities are organised for all, regardless of gender, social and cultural background, or nationality.

Since its creation, **SJ participates in the construction and maintenance of peace** by promoting intercultural and international social connections here in France and abroad.

SJ works through **participative pedagogy** which supports initiative and **personal commitment** and combines the skills and intelligences of all our volunteers and employees.

Solidarités Jeunesses is composed of one National Secretary based in Paris, 8 Regional Delegations, Our delegations host volunteers from France and from all around the world for short or long periods of time all year round.

These places have all been renovated thanks to the work of our short- and long-term volunteers, workers and permanent staff.

Did you know...?

The first workcamps were organised after the First World War, in the Verdun region of France.

Citizens of countries hostile to each other during the war were hoping to actively facilitate reconciliation between their respective peoples, believing that the absence of war didn't necessarily indicate the lasting presence of peace. These men and women decided to cross their borders and unite their forces in order to work together, in the interest of all peoples, towards the sustainable **development of peace.**



Languedoc Roussillon Regional Delegation of Solidarités Jeunesses is called REV, for “Réseau d'Entraide Volontaire”, **REV like a dream in French (rêve!)**.

Founded in 1974, the association became a delegation of Solidarités Jeunesses in 1979. Hosting youngsters with fewer opportunities was since the beginning in the core of the structure. REV wants to give back this central place to this public. The implication of the association within local projects of inclusion and education bring forward the exchanges between local and international volunteers/participants. For several years, REV is settled in a old and stylish house, in Beauvoisin village.

If some of the workcamps are organised in the house itself like some renovation camps, there is no full year camp in it. Indeed, the association organises workcamps around Beauvoisin, in different places to work on local and regional heritage. It is often the case that volunteers go to other villages to work and discover other places, in partnership with locals and inhabitants. During summer time, life in REV gets more intense due to the rhythm of international workcamps (that go on for some weeks or even some months). Those workcamps foster a lot the territorial impacts of the association in summertime, in cooperation with some local authorities and associations.

Beauvoisin is situated along the Camargue Region, 15 km from Nîmes, 35 km to the sea and 60km from the Cévennes Mountains.

The principal actions and values of REV's association

- **Workcamp** : the workcamp changes every year, it depends on the contracts of the association. But mainly the workcamp during your volunteering will be to work outside, handywork in garden, restauration of places of the territory, fixing some parts of the hosting house ...



- **Local animation** : Rev 's association has the aim to developp activities for the local people . As a volunteer, you will be ask to developp relationships with the locals thought the activities . Volunteers are visiting old people in a nursing home every week, and organising free english classes for the locals. The association is involved in the village and is taking part in a lot of social and cultural actions. With the aim to get involved socially in the local life , the association is opening a new place, with a social second hand shop and a open workshop where people can learn with “do it yourself” activities to fix tools, repare bikes, fix electronic daily supplies by their selves, and of course participate to fight against programmed osbolescence. We hope that this initiative will work in our village and developp a big involment by the population of our village.
- **Green Volunteering and involment in environmental issues**

The association is clearly involved in environmental issues and is expecting to host volunteers involved or ready to change their way of living with eco citizen behaviour and to have a thinking about the global impact of good ecological gestures.

In this part of the project values, the association will



ask volunteers to buy local products, to have a limited consumption of meat, to participate in a daily recycling behaviour and be creative to propose nice ways to improve the project with these goals.

In that part of the project, REV has access to a nice garden where we have chickens, where we are growing vegetables, it will be ask to volunteers to have a big interest in gardening, green initiatives and show a involment to improve the maintenance of the garden. This garden as the aim to be share with the locals and transform itself in a collective garden , a place of sharing knowledges and huge local participation. We are still building this project but we are pretty confitent about it !

➤ **Hosting and welcoming individuals and groups**

The Sj delegations are hosting long term volunteers in their houses but not only.

Indeed, the house of REV's association has a dormitory who is permitting to host groups during the year. The groups can come for short term volunteering (ex: this year in april we are hosting 10 russians people for 2 weeks), these hostings and welcomings are made to have a impact on the society though exchanges, better knowing of international cultures and discoveries. The association is approximatly hosting 2 groups per year, in these hostings the association is expecting a lot of involment by the volunteers (logitical , touristic , thematics, exchanges ...) This is a huge part of the project during the year.

The Rev can also make some social individual hosting, this means that we also might host a young person or a minor in difficulties, these people are coming to discover a new way of living, to participate in collective project, to have a discovery and mostly to let them have access to a project again and social insertion. Obviously, these hostings are demanding to the volunteers and the staff a lot of maturity, distance and collective mentorship.

➤ **International Workcamps in Summer time**

The main activity of the movment Solidarités Jeunesses is the organisation and the hostings (by all the delegations) of international workcamps and these workcamps are a the core of our values . The season of international workcamp is from june to september for every Sj delagations. These workcamp are bringing together people of all over the world to share a collective project and experience . Indeed, the people will share the project (it can be about society, on medias, participation in a village project, environmental support to a landscape.. it can take a lot of forms) and live together for 3 weeks . The volunteers hosted by Sj delegations will be trained during their volunteering to lead this workcamp in full autonomy during the summer period. Every volunteer will be ask to lead one, but it doesn't mean that you can't lead more ;)

➤ **Collective life**

The project of SJ delegations is based on the collective, when you decide to participate to our local project, you decide to get involve with a team on every aspects of the daily life, every aspects of the actions.

You will not just spend one year with a collective of volunteers from all over the world you will actively participate to make this collective work. That's means live with people caring differents opinions, values, cultural expressions and history and learn to live together with all the similarities and differences.

With this aim to create a collective team, the association is for example putting the individual food budget of volunteers into a collective budget, the people we host will have to find their own way to share their differencies and make it a straight and a learning for life.

SCHEDULE AND TASKS

Generally, 30 working hours are planned per week. The group will organise himself and with the local partner to divide leisure and working time.

During the week of groups rises, cooking and kitchen team, team workcamps, team cleaning, shopping ... Living in a dozen high demand organisation and some rigueure. Every one will have to do every tasks during the year of the volunteering, if forexample you do not feel comfortable to cook

this is ok it can be add to the learnings of your volunteering !

It can happen that for some events the association and the volunteers are making more than 30 hours a week, the association will always try to let volunteers have their hours back, but that's not always the case, participating to the project is full time involvement so it requires sometimes to do more than expected.

GROUP LIFE

The group will consist of about 6 long term volunteers from different nationalities. They will be monitored and supported by a team of employees working at home. Throughout the year several local volunteers gravitate around the house and will take part regularly in the activities of the association.

Also, the association is hosting 2/3 short term volunteers during the year, so it can happen that volunteers are seven to live together for a short period.

When it comes to the language spoken falling on the work camp, this depends very much on the group, English and french purpose are the two languages spoken Generally falling on the camp MOST of the times.

Volunteers are asked to have have the curiosity and the envie to learn french, because we have many actions with the locals and the french is really a lot more practical to communicate.

In the group life, if for the group of volunteers if it's ok, after 6 months everyone shoul really try to communicate in french with the team.

FREE TIME

Solidarités Jeunesses considers workcamp as an experimentation of collective lifestyle. That is why volunteers will organise their free time and leisures that could fit to group expectations, regarding budget, time and available leisures.

Those possibilities can be really diversified (regional tourism, local events, meeting inhabitants, green tourism, go to the beach etc.). It is the responsibility of all volunteers to organise their free time and to participate to the good dynamism of the group/workcamp.

You will organise the leisure time depending on local possibilities, your interests and means, and also maybe with the help of locals you will meet.

ACCOMODATION

The house is located in a small street beauvoisin and is offering space needed to live all together in good terms.

The staff's office is in the hosting house (staff only), with also a meeting and working room where volunteers and staff will work together a lot. In this shared room, the volunteers have access to a computer with internet and a lot of supplies they might need on daily life, to create manual stuff, to print important papers ...

In the house, the volunteers have a floor (where the staff is mostly not going) where you will find the bedrooms, a laundry, 2 toilets, and 2 bathrooms . This area is to share between volunteers, at your arrival the staff will propose you some organisation but the group will decide most of the things for the year to make it work for every one.

You will stay in rooms of 2 to 4 people. You will share your bedroom with others volunteers during

the all period of volunteering.

The association has a pet, a cat, called Shitty, we have noticed that volunteers love to have the pet with them because it really helps to feel like home !

DON'T FORGET TO BRING WITH YOU.

- good (walking and/or working sécurité) shoes
- clothes against rain and cold, summer clothes
- music instruments, recipes, pictures, souvenirs from your country
- sun screen (!)
- mosquito repellent
- bathing suit
- student card if you have one



The volunteers can have the possibility to lock away their valuables, but we ask you not to bring along anything of value if you don't think it is really necessary. **Everyone is responsible of his/her own things !**

HOW TO GET THERE ?

The airports with the best connections are those in Marseille, Lyon, Paris, Montpellier and Nîmes . There are bus connections between the airports and train stations.

BY TRAIN / BY BUS

You can check the schedules or make a reservation for a train on this web site : www.voyages-sncf.com or <https://www.oui.sncf/> use the schedule given here. You have to get off the train at the Nîmes's station.

• **Check again the times just before you leave. Sometimes, the schedules for the trains can change !**

• Between Nîmes and beauvoisin you can use the bus line in the region, **C34 by EDGAR (yellow bus)**. You will find these buses at the back of the train station.

C34 NIMES - BEAUVOISIN - VAUVERT

JOURS DE FONCTIONNEMENT	LàS	LàS	LàS	LàS	LàS	LàV	LàS
NÎMES-Gare Routière	6:45	7:50	11:10	12:20	16:15	17:25	18:30
NÎMES-Planas	6:48	7:53	11:13	12:23	16:18	17:28	18:33
NÎMES-Bethleem	6:50	7:55	11:15	12:25	16:20	17:30	18:35
NÎMES-Mas de Vignolles	6:57	8:02	11:23	12:32	16:28	17:40	18:42
NÎMES-Vistre	7:02	8:07	11:28	12:36	16:32	17:44	18:46
AUBORD-La Place	7:07	8:13	11:32	12:41	16:37	17:50	18:51
AUBORD-Square Saint Jean	7:09	8:15	11:34	12:43	16:39	17:52	18:53
GÉNÉRAC-Campagnoles	7:13	8:19	11:38	12:47	16:43	17:56	18:57
GÉNÉRAC-Avenue de la Gare	7:15	8:21	11:40	12:49	16:45	17:58	18:59
BEAUVOISIN-Cimetière	7:17	8:23	11:42	12:51	16:47	18:00	19:01
BEAUVOISIN-La Place	7:19	8:24	11:43	12:53	16:48	18:02	19:02
BEAUVOISIN-La Gare	7:22	8:26	11:45	12:56	16:50	18:04	19:04
BEAUVOISIN-Esquillon	7:24	8:29	11:48	12:59	16:52	18:06	19:06
BEAUVOISIN-Estagnol	7:27	8:30	11:50	13:00	16:53	18:08	19:07
VESTRIC-ET-CANDIAC-Collège Emmanuel d'Alzon	7:32	8:35	11:54	13:06	16:59	18:13	19:12
VAUVERT-Coté Soleil	7:34	8:37	11:56	13:08	17:01	18:15	19:14
VAUVERT-Robert Gourdon	7:36	8:39	11:58	13:10	17:03	18:17	19:16
VAUVERT-La Gare	7:38	8:41	12:00	13:12	17:05	18:19	19:18
VAUVERT-Afficion	7:40	8:44	12:02	13:14	17:07	18:21	19:20

The hours of bus has changing every year and during the holidays, so before coming you are advised to check on the website.
Beauvoisin has also a train sation that volunteers can check but the traffic is not as dynamic as the one for the buses.

BY CAR

If you come by car or hitch hiking, take a map!

Check out the advice roads on : www.mappy.fr .

ADRESSE

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www.solidaritesjeunesses.org / <http://www.rev.solidaritesjeunesses.org>

See you soon !
L'équipe de Solidarités Jeunesses

