



Volunteering to help people with mental disabilities

December 2019 – August 2020

Concordia is a French national non-governmental and non-profit making organization, founded in 1950 by English, German and French youngsters. Their aim was to enhance the values of tolerance and peace after the 2nd world war by organizing international workcamps of young volunteers.

The main objectives of Concordia are the following:

- Education in helping young people to grow up by acquisition of collective life.
- Culture in favoring the youth exchanges on an international level, always emphasizing the values of peace, friendship and mutual respect.
- Social in taking part in concrete actions of solidarity, as well as supporting a civic attitude
- Social economy in contributing to realization of local development, in favor of the environment, patrimony, tourism and socio-educational animation.

Project environment

The EVS project takes place in the region of Aquitaine, south-west of France in a little city called Cadillac, 30 kilometres far from Bordeaux. This region is well known for the diversity of landscape, ocean (1h30), mountains (3h) and touristic places such as Saint Emilion, la dune du Pillat, le bassin d'Arcachon... Moreover, the area is rich in its cultural and environmental heritage and vineyard is also a very important activity of the region. During this project the volunteer will work with a local association in Cadillac called Entre Acte. This association is working during day time with people with disabilities (mental illness).

As we believe that doing an EVS is also to be involved in the activities of the association, we ask the volunteers to take part to the local events and activities that Concordia and the area organize (Organization of the Christmas market, support to the local fair trade grocery shop, opening days of Concordia, special associative days or weekend organized by others volunteers, helping in the garden of the association...).

Moreover, we encourage volunteers to develop a personal project besides their initial missions. In July and August the volunteer will participate to the work camps with Concordia as a co-leader or leader.



Tasks and activities

The main task of the volunteer is to work with mentally disabled people who live on their own in order to break their cycle of loneliness, restoring/ maintaining social links and helping them to regain their self-confidence.

In particular the volunteer will:

- ✓ Help out the social worker
- ✓ Organize activities with the patients about the country or the passion of the volunteer (cooking, relaxation, helping them to write the newsletter of the association Entracte, painting, acting...)
- ✓ Participate in outdoor activities with them
- ✓ Participate to the weekly meeting with the team
- ✓ Being involved in the life of the association

The detailed activities will be proposed by the volunteer according to his/her skills and interests and with the support of the pedagogical team. The project will also allow the volunteer to know and develop new pedagogical techniques in term of work with mentally disabled people.

During the summer, the volunteer will lead or co-lead 2 international volunteers' work camps with Concordia and will have a training for that.

Requirements

- Basics knowledge in French or motivation to learn french
- Motivation to work with disabled people. Experiences in the field will be a plus
- Cultural, artistic or sport skills are more than welcome
- Be flexible, autonomous and open to meet/live with new people, to think outside of the box
- Be willing to develop a personal project
- Motivation to discover the associative world and all its activities
- Driving license
- Availability to start in December 2019 or January 2020

Practical conditions

- **Working Hours:** The volunteer will work approx. 30 hours per week.

- **Working and living conditions:**

Accommodation will be provided. The volunteer will be accommodated in the house of Concordia, next to the offices of the association, with 4 or 5 other volunteers. The volunteers will have to adopt a collective life which means cook and eat together, propose activities in group and participate to the associative events that we organize once a month in the house of the volunteers. The volunteer will get pocket money (6€ per day) and money for food (7,50€ per day). Internet is available in the house but it's better to bring your own laptop.

It is also important to know that the same house is also used by the association to organize events but also by people involved in our local activities.

Transports: There is few public transport in this area, it is possible to find bicycles and the volunteer will have access to the car of the association to go to work and to do some shopping for the house.



More information

Website: <https://www.concordia.fr/>

Facebook : <https://www.facebook.com/pg/concordia.aquitaine/about/>

Tourism Cadillac : <http://www.cadillac-tourisme.com/accueil/index.php?lang=en>

How to apply ?

If you are interested in this project, please send your CV and the application form to Céline VIAUD, cd.aquitaine@concordia.fr. After receiving the applications, we may arrange skype interviews.

Deadline : 13/12/2019





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TO SHARE AND DISCOVER NEW
CULTURES,
LEARN TOGETHER,

BE READY TO LIVE A NEW EXPERIENCE!



