

WHO ARE WE ?

Association Solidarités Jeunesses (SJ)

is an association part of a movement of **non-formal 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 the social progress, as well as respect for human beings and the environment are fundamental and shared values, and the freedom to choose, to dream, and to resist is innate and encouraged by all.

Our activities are meant 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 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 made of one National Secretary based in Paris, and eight Regional Delegations.

Our delegations host volunteers from France and from all around the world for short or long periods of time all year round.

Many 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 organized 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 to unite their forces in order to work together, in the interest of all peoples, towards the sustainable **development of peace**.



ASSOCIATION REV Réseau d'Entraide Volontaire

The Occitanie EST Regional
Delegation of Solidarités Jeunesses is
called REV, for "Réseau d'Entraide
Volontaire",

REV like a dream in French (rêve!).

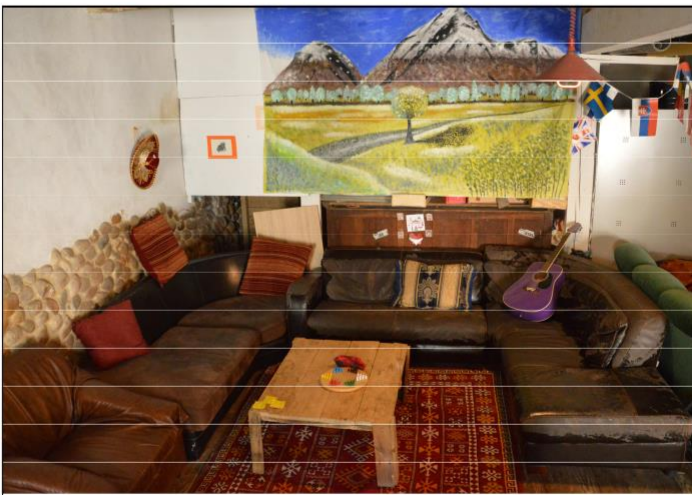
Founded in 1974, the association became a delegation
of Solidarités Jeunesses movement in 1979.

Hosting youngsters with fewer opportunities was since the
beginning in the core of our structure.

REV wants to give back this central place to this public.
The implication of the association within local projects of
inclusion and education brings forward the exchanges between local and international volunteers
and participants. Since several years, REV is settled in an old and stylish house, in Beauvoisin
village.

If some of the workcamps are organized in the house itself like some renovation camps, there is
no full year camp in it.

Indeed, the association organizes 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 summertime, 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 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 from the sea
and 60km from the Cévennes Mountains.

VOLUNTEERING

Voluntary service is an exchange, a meeting between an individual, or a group of individuals, and a local community.

The volunteer offers time, energy, efforts and commitment to a project that benefits a community. Through this experience and this project, the volunteer has the opportunity for experimentation, personal and intercultural learnings.

In Solidarités Jeunesses, volunteering doesn't mean humanitarian actions, every volunteering experience is different regarding the country, the project, the cultures, ...

In REV, **volunteering implies a personal commitment**: this means that any future volunteers has to approach cultural diversity regardless of age, origins, nationality, skills, and it also let volunteer have deep collective and personal discoveries.



Ewa's Volunteering feedback after one-year experience in Le REV

« Every work and activity which I did this year taught me something new, even if sometimes it was difficult or I didn't like it from the beginning, after all I can just say I'm really grateful for everything, because it was an amazing experience, which changed me (i hope) in a good way.

The part of the project which I really loved and I was most happy about, is collective life.

For me it's the weirdest idea ever, to collect group of random people from different countries and cultures and let them live together. It can sound like a mess, but surprisingly it's amazing how you can create new family in this way.

Also the thing which I was really happy of is I discovered a lot of new cultures, differences and similarities between everyone and I'm sure I would never have get this knowledges in any school.

I feel like by this year, after this project I touched in beautiful, amazing and definitely unforgettable way, a real life is waiting for me after my volunteering. »

REV 'S LOCAL PROJECT AND ACTIONS

REV's project is really diverse, in one year of volunteering you will participate to various projects and actions. You will actively participate in the life of the house, through collective dynamic and different activities.

Our approaches and activities :

□ **Chantier / Workcamp**

The workcamps are changing every year, it depends on the contracts and evolution of REV's project through the years.

Throughout the year, the workcamps are mainly dedicated to manual workshops (site maintenance, rehabilitation of patrimony and green spaces, gardening ..)

In Le REV, the workcamps are in general **2 days per week**.

Last year, volunteers participated to the plantation of trees with the objective to preserve the natural local environment, and during the whole year the group was taking care of the maintenance of the hiking path around Beauvoisin, our hosting village.



When REV does not have outside workcamps the work is focused on the house, the garden, volunteers have opportunity to develop new project to improve the site with the help of the team and our technical leader.

□ **Local Animation**



Rev's association has **the aim to develop activities for the village and local population**.

As volunteers, you will be asked to develop relationships with the locals through social and cultural activities (weekly English courses for adults and teenagers, animation of monthly intercultural dinners, participation to punctual cultural events in the local area).

The association is really involved in the village and is trying to develop as much as possible actions in order to encourage the participation of the inhabitants, and create intercultural and intergenerational meetings, discovery and experiences.

Local animation is a big part of REV project,

Volunteers will have to be motivated to develop interactions with the locals. The learning of basic French will of course be a big asset.

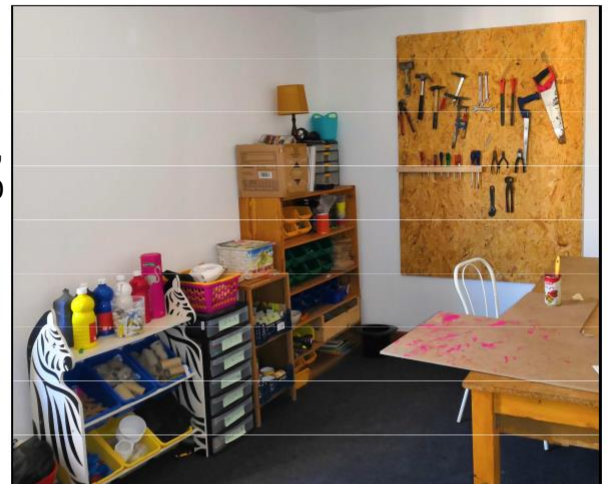


As a social and main action of local animation, the REV opened **Le Petit REV**.

We transformed a little flat in an open space for the locals. This Petit REV is a **second hand shop** (with super solidary prices) and it's also a place where people can have coffee, spend afternoon playing games,...

On the first floor you will discover a place when you can fix, recycle, arrange old things in order to not throw it away and to fight against planned obsolescence.

In Petit REV, volunteers have opportunity to develop any social actions they feel helpful for the local community, that can encourage mutual understanding, diversity, solidarity, ...



□ **Hosting and welcoming individuals and groups**

The SJ delegations are hosting long term volunteers, but not only.

The REV's house is open to welcome and host groups (Youth Exchanges, EVS group programs, inclusion and discovery of volunteering for teenagers with fewer opportunities, ...).

Hosting group aims to allow participants to discover the values of the association through their participation in the workshops, the intercultural exchanges, the collective life that we are building.

The volunteers are involved in hosting, accommodation and animation of these groups. Every hosting is different, but the team of volunteers is really involved in the schedules of activities, the collective organization and leisure times.

Individual hosting is mostly for teenagers with fewer opportunities, with social or familial difficulties. The goal here is to involve them in the volunteer team, support them to discover a new way of life and by this experience allow them to get more confidence and find their place in society.

Hosting requires a lot of maturity by volunteers, and a posture of full inclusion regardless of personal background, culture, gender and sexual orientation. This is one of the most precious value that we share in all SJ projects.

□ **Green volunteering and environmental project**

The association is clearly involved in environmental problematics and the daily life is organized, as much as possible, with care for our environment. The goal is to develop educational tools, ways of living that will encourage and raise the awareness of our volunteers, our staff members, and moreover the local population. The association is really encouraging the volunteer team to enhance eco behaviors (awareness on consumption of drinkable water, electricity, meat, ...). The project needs volunteers who are ready to reflect on their consumptions, and if possible, to improve and develop new ideas for the project itself in term of ecology and sustainability.

The association will ask the volunteers to buy and eat seasoned and local products, to have a responsible consumption of meat, to participate in the recycling (compost and sorting waste), ...

REV has access to a nice garden; 5 min walk from the house. In this garden, volunteers will have opportunity to work in cooperation with some local people, to grow their own seasoned vegetables, to learn about ecological gardening, composting, dry toilets and so much more ...

□ **Collective life**

The project of SJ delegations is based on a collective perspective, when you decide to participate to our local projects, you decide to get involved 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 also actively participate to make this collective work. That means living with people carrying different opinions, values, cultural expressions and history.



□ **International Workcamps in Summer time**

The main activity of the movement Solidarités Jeunesses is organization and hosting international workcamps. The season of international workcamp is from June to September for every SJ delegations. These workcamps are bringing together people of all over the world to share a collective project and experience. Indeed, the participants will share the project (it can be about society, medias, participation in a village project, environmental support to a landscape,...) 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 for the summer period. Every volunteer will be asked to lead one, but it doesn't mean that you can't lead more ;)

SCHEDULE AND TASKS

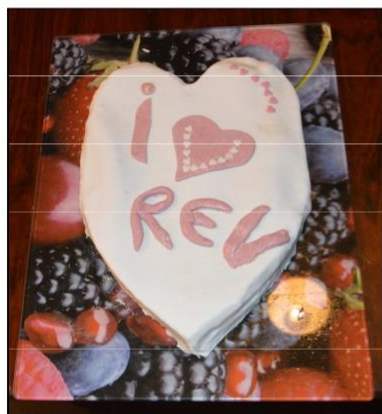
The project includes approximately **30 to 35 hours of work per week**, from Monday to Friday.

These hours are flexible and change a lot through the year depending on the project activities. Some weeks volunteers work less than 35 hours and some weeks more.

The association always try to let volunteers have their leisure hours back, but that's not always possible. Participating to the project is a full-time involvement that requires sometimes to do more than expected.

When the association is hosting groups, the daily life gets more intense, and it can include you working in the evenings. Groups are coming for a short time, so the team develops a lot of activities and actions to encourage the exchanges between participants as much as possible.

The weekly tasks are including the collective meeting time, the maintenance and cleaning of the hosting place, the local activities and the manual workcamps.



Each day the collective will have a cooking team who will prepare and serve the lunch for everyone, these meals are always shared with all the team, this is a collective time that association's members really value in the daily life.

If cooking is not your « passion », do not worry, it can be a learning through your volunteering experience and creativity will come !

GROUP AND ACCOMODATION

REV's house is hosting 5/6 international volunteers, from 18 to 25 years old (on average).

We are also currently hosting a sweet cat named Mao (until September).

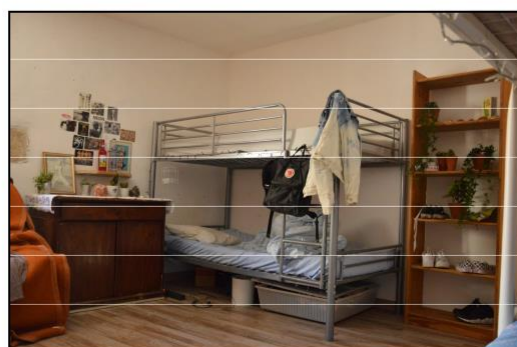
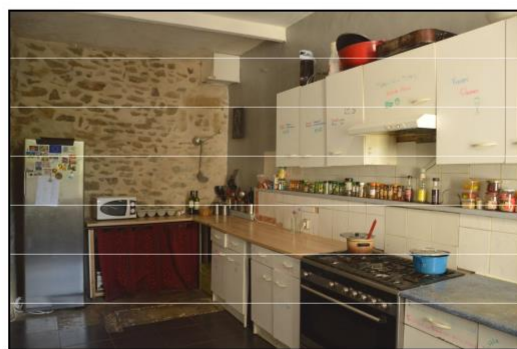
During the years, the REV is also hosting EVS for short-term period and sometimes teenagers, for a week to 2 months.

REV 's house is both association's office and volunteers 's house.

You will be hosted in shared bedrooms with bunk beds (2 to 4 people per rooms).

There are 2 common bathrooms with showers and toilets.

The group is autonomous to appropriate itself the common areas and organize collectively.



DON'T FORGET TO BRING WITH YOU

- Clothes for rain and warm clothes
- Good working and walking shoes
- Music instruments, recipes, pictures ...
- Swimming suits
- ID, student card if you have one



And anything else you think you might need ;)

The association is providing blankets, sheets and all the sleeping supplies. We have some towels, but we advise you to bring your own if possible.

The association is not encouraging volunteers to overuse computer but if you need, there is a computer with internet that the volunteers can use.

Volunteers will have possibility to lock their valuable items in a secure place, but if it's possible, we advise you to not take them with you unless there are necessary for you.

The house is an open and social place and each volunteer is responsible for its personal stuffs.

HOW TO COME

The closest city is NIMES

BY PLANE

The **airports** with the best connections are those in **Toulouse, Marseille, Lyon, Paris, Montpellier** and **Nîmes** .

All of these airports are connected then to trains and bus and will give you a direct access to Nimes.

BY BUS

There are buses that cross France and even neighboring countries. You can check it here, for instance : <https://www.checkmybus.com/>

There are bus connections between the airports and train stations.

<https://fr.ouibus.com/>

Nimes To Beauvoisin, **C34** bus network https://www.edgard-transport.fr/ftp/FR_lignes/liO_C34_01012019.pdf

BY TRAIN

For train connections, France has big railroad network called SNCF, and you can access Nimes easily. Beauvoisin, our hosting village also has a train station, it does not have a lot of circulation but it still worth checking. If you come by train, it would be great if you could go to VERGEZE-CODOGNAN (there's a train from Nimes to Vergèze) so we can pick you up by car easily.

<https://www.oui.sncf/>

BY CAR

France has a famous network of car sharing which is sometimes the cheapest way to travel in the country <https://www.blablacar.fr/search-car-sharing>

ADRESSE

Réseau d'Entraide Volontaire
8 rue de la Chapelle 30640 Beauvoisin
Téléphone : 0033 9 79 38 26 68
Mail : revvolunteers@gmail.

Responsable : Victor Nouis / Tel : 00 33 6 48 13 65 73

www.solidaritesjeunesses.org

/ <https://www.facebook.com/SJREV>

See you soon !!

