

European Solidarity Corps – 1 individual long-term activity

“From rural to international youth”

Social Center “La MAGIC” & Association CONCORDIA Auvergne

France, Broût-Vernet

12 months (from January 2021)

This project is coordinated by the office of Concordia in Auvergne and will be hosted by the Social Center “La Magic” in a rural area of this region.

THE COORDINATING ORGANIZATION: CONCORDIA AUVERGNE

Concordia is a national, French, non-governmental and non-profit 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 work camps for young volunteers.

Today, **Concordia develops various international volunteering projects** in France (work camps, European Solidarity Corps, Civil Service) and gives opportunity to French youngsters to volunteer abroad. Moreover, Concordia works with Erasmus+ Program (Youth Exchanges and Trainings).

The Paris head office supports activities of the 11 regional offices, including Auvergne, based in Clermont-Ferrand. Since 2010, in Auvergne, Concordia has hosted 7 international volunteers in its office and 27 volunteers in partner organizations. Our role is to foster local and international partnerships, to ensure a quality follow-up of volunteers and to support the implementation of activities.

For more information please visit: www.concordia.fr

THE HOSTING ORGANIZATION: SOCIAL CENTER “LA MAGIC”

Social Center “La MAGIC” is an association created in 1962 with the **aim to help people living in a rural area**. Today the social center performs its actions on the territory of 23 municipalities (department of Allier, region Auvergne Rhône-Alpes) with 12 814 inhabitants.

In this context mobility of people is essential for having access to cultural, sportive and leisure activities. However, teenagers, elderly people living alone, or families having financial difficulties may face problems to reach these services. So within this geographical area the role of “La MAGIC” is to reduce the social gap, isolation and social insecurities by helping to organise local events and services for moderate prices. The social center targets all inhabitants of the area, including the most disadvantaged ones, with a **purpose to enhance personal and collective development and to maintain social links, and solidarity in the countryside**.



It offers various actions for people of different age groups, as well as inter-generational activities. The team works with children and youngsters (animations, summer camps...), families (parenting training courses), adults (administrative support, workshops for unemployed people...), and with elderly people (conferences, computer skills workshops, bringing food at home...).

The center's office is located in the municipality of Broût-Vernet (1 182 inhabitants), where the majority of its actions take place, but a lot of other events are organized on the territory of municipalities.

For more information please visit: www.lamagic.fr

ROLE AND TASKS OF THE VOLUNTEER

This individual volunteering activity will take place within the framework of the European Solidarity Corps. For 12 months, the volunteer will work in the office of Social Center "La MAGIC", in Broût-Vernet. He/she will be fully integrated in their team and will have a tutor helping him/her with assignments and daily life.

Various missions will be entrusted to the volunteer, and more specifically the following ones:

- **Promoting European mobility** among youngsters followed-up by La MAGIC and also among adults of the residence in Vichy, as well as students of local middle and high schools. For this purpose, the volunteer will be in charge of bringing them information about non-formal educational programs, sharing experiences during different meetings or events, giving his/her testimony on social media...;
- **Raising awareness on intercultural** topics, presenting her country and trying to fight against stereotypes. The volunteer will contribute in creating pedagogical activities, participating in workshops, organizing debates, etc.;
- Assisting youngsters in the preparation and realization of a **European youth exchange** or other collective projects like camps to enhance their international mobility and active citizenship;
- Suggesting new activities for youngsters and local population in accordance with their needs and your expectations (for instance: creation last year of a "gift box", helping children in home assignments, leading cultural and artistic activities, encouraging sport and good health practises ...);
- Accompanying a group of inhabitants in the creation of a social centre in Burkina Faso and helping them to define vectors of cooperation between the centres (what kind of projects they can implement, what means they have to use...).



All these activities will be discussed with the volunteer and can be adapted according to his/her interests. Some of them will be developed in partnership with Concordia or other local youth organizations. In particular, there is another social center 20 km far away, hosting a CES volunteer too. Some actions can be organized in common, like a festival on Europe. The volunteer will also be encouraged to implement own initiatives and will benefit from qualified support of the team to do that.

VOLUNTEER'S PROFILE

We are searching for an active and motivated person with the following qualities:

- Capacity to adapt to new environment;
- Ability to communicate with different audiences;
- Good presentation skills;
- Desire & readiness to work in rural area;
- Sense of initiative and willingness to develop one's project;
- Good level of English and/or French or motivation to learn (with at least language bases);
- Motivation to participate in European project

Thanks to participating in this project the volunteer will:

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| ✓ Improve his/her French (speaking/writing); | ✓ Upgrade team working skills; |
| ✓ Elaborate project management skills; | ✓ Improve pedagogical and facilitation skills; |
| ✓ Get to know international mobility programs and means of project granting; | ✓ Learn how to work with different audiences; |
| | ✓ Develop ways to present his/her culture. |

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

- **Activity period:** from January 2021 to the end on December 2021 (12 months)
- **Working conditions:** the volunteer will work in the office of "La MAGIC" in Broût-Vernet (some actions may take place in municipalities nearby), approx. 32 hours per week. Except regular days off (Saturday and Sunday), the volunteer is entitled to 24 days of vacations spread out during these 12 months of the project.
- **Living conditions:** the volunteer will live in Vichy (the nearest city) in a residence for young adults. He/she will have a private furnished bedroom, with Internet connection and an easy access to all necessary household equipment (washing machine, TV, etc.). Vichy is a city of around 25 000 inhabitants and it is very famous in France, since it is one of the best spa resorts in the country. Vichy is a touristic city, with rich historical and cultural heritage and all necessary infrastructure, which makes it very comfortable for living.
- **Local transport:** since the volunteer will live in Vichy, 2 employees of "La MAGIC", who live at the same place will make arrangements to bring the volunteer by car to Broût-Vernet.
- **Financial support** will be provided to cover expenses for food (**7,50 € per day**). Apart from that, the volunteer will receive **pocket money (6 € per day)**.
- **Travel costs** will be covered based on the distance from volunteer's country to France, but there is a maximum amount of reimbursement according to the European Solidarity Corps rules.
- He/she will benefit from 1 year **health insurance** that covers all medical expenses.
- The volunteer will be given an access to **Online Linguistic Support (OLS)** – an online language platform that will help the volunteer to follow a personalized language course.
- He/she will be individually followed by **dedicated tutors** from Concordia and the social center, who will help him/her with working assignments and integration.

APPLICATION PROCESS

DEADLINE: we are waiting for your application until **23th of October 2020**

To apply, you have to **FILL IN THE APPLICATION FORM FOLLOWING [THIS LINK](#)**

You can also send us any additional document showing your motivation.

We are looking forward to reading your application!

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