Intercultural & sustainable development at school
30/08/2021 - 04/07/2022
Cancale (35), France

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 project takes place in the region of Brittany, north-west of France in a little city called Cancale, 17 kilometres far from Saint Malo. Cancale is a small charming seaside port in the Côte d’Armor department of Brittany. The village is surrounded by fields and nature. The volunteer will stay in a manor house built in 1886. The manor house has been converted into a sea class centre for the children of La Boissière school and other schools. A perfect place to discover French and Breton culture, learn to sail and for all nature lovers!

Undoubtedly, these iodized delicacies can be enjoyed while admiring the wonder that is Mont Saint-Michel, set in the middle of the bay.

The volunteer will be in a Team with a French volunteer during all his/her mission.

As we believe that doing an ESC 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 (Open doors of the school, international workcamp, opening days of Concordia)

Moreover, we encourage volunteers to develop a personal project besides their initial missions.
Task and activities

The main task of the volunteer is to work with the kids who stay for some days with their teachers. It consists of opening up the school’s pedagogical horizon thanks to interculturalism and popular education methods.

In particular the volunteer will:

- Collaborate in the work of the teaching team by bringing a intercultural dimension (participating in the co-animation of activities and evenings)
- To be involved in the everyday life of the boarding school.
- Support individual or collective youth projects, or any other non-formal education project in themes chosen collectively and according to volunteer’s areas of interest (cooking / dance / digital)
- Contribute to the projects’s promotion carried by the center (blog article, visuals, photos, videos...)
- Preparation and participation in the international workcamp based in Cancale

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 kids.

Profile of participants

- Interest for education toward young pupils;
- Convinced by non-formal education principles and benefits;
- Speak good English and/or French or to be motivated to learn French;
- Motivation for European projects and international workcamps;
- 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
- Availability to start in September 2021

Practical conditions

35h/week with 2 days-off per week.

The volunteer will have more holidays according to the school calendar. Thereby, some weeks the volunteer will work more and recover this time during the holidays. Working and living conditions:

The volunteer will stay in the Olympe Hériot sea class centre with access to an individual bedroom (one for each European Volunteer), toilets, shower, kitchen and a living room. The volunteer will eat with the staff during the week and at the house during the weekends, and take shifts and spit the various chores (planning, cleaning, shopping, etc.). We will encourage the purchase of local and seasonal products.
Risks and crisis prevention

In order to prevent any kind of crisis, Concordia Île-de-France believes that the info given during the preparation of the volunteers plays a very important role.

The detailed description of the activities, the possibilities for socializing, the accommodation and food and working conditions are very helpful for the volunteers in order to be orientated before their arrival.

The volunteer receives a detailed info pack before arrival and a welcome pack upon arrival where she/he can find useful call numbers and emergency numbers as well as info for his/her better integration to the local society.

The volunteer will participate in a monthly meeting in order to have the chance to talk about difficulties s/he is facing and find ways to overcome any possible issues occurred with Concordia member staff.

Once the volunteer arrives s/he attends a 1 day orientation session, where among other things s/he becomes aware of all the necessary instructions and measures for risk prevention for his safety in the house (house conditions, fire protection, use of electronic or gas devices etc), transport rules and habits, traveling, health prevention and local everyday life.

The volunteer will be provided with mobile numbers of his mentor and the ESC coordinator. He/she will be able to use these numbers.
More information

http://centre-cancale.erpd-heriot.ac-versailles.fr/

How to apply

Please send the application before August, 2021 to cdv.idf@concordia.fr (CV and cover letter, or any others documents that you want showing your motivation).

We look forward to receiving your application!