

“New adventure begins”

Project details

Location: Kaposvár, Somogy County, Hungary



The main square at Kaposvár

About Compass Youth Organization:

Compass Egyesület has been established in 2005, and we are working with Youth In Action (now: Erasmus+) program since 2006.

From that time we hosted more, than 500 foreigner EVS volunteers, and sent abroad 80. In Hungary we are the biggest NGO in EVS hosting. Right now; we host 20 EVS volunteers together, and coordinating 18 other volunteers at the same time.

Our main aim is to involve the local community to the local, regional and international activities, to gain & to improve their skills and competences, to show them a different way of learning; Life Long Learning which is based on non-formal education.

We believe, to reach self-development, people need to experience what volunteering means and they need to try themselves in different kind of programs and activities.

For this reason we bring the people opportunities. Opportunities to travel; in 2013 we have been partners and sent different local groups to 50 youth exchanges, seminars and training courses. We believe, by working at our NGO not only the local community will gain knowledge, experiences and enrich their life, but the EVS volunteer, the coordinators and all people involved in the process.

We have a Key Competence program, chart specialized for what we are doing here, during an EVS.



Our EVS volunteers promoting European Voluntary Service at the local shopping center

Our NGO is well known about the spirit of teamwork! It is the great example of living and working together with many different cultures and nations. When someone is applying for an EVS place at Compass, needs to commit: to joining the biggest and greatest international Family of Hungary!

Nowadays we are the most active and successful NGO in the entire country, and we are the only one working in our county/region. (Hungary is divided for 19 counties).

Compass Organization is located in the south-west Hungary near the Croatian border.

The capital, Budapest is around 200 km away, and it takes about 3 hours to get there by train or bus.

We are very lucky, to be located in the same county with the Lake Balaton, which is the largest lake in Central Europe! It takes a 50 minutes drive from Kaposvár.

Our President: Andrea Eglyné Katona (katonaandrea1@gmail.com)

Our Coordinators:

Nikolett Szakné Vágner (nikolett.vagner@compassegyesulet.hu)

Kyra Egly

About the Project:

The target group of the project is mostly the youth who live in Kaposvár and the surrounding area, but we work with all ages and origin of people.

The local young people do not have a lot of chance or the right motivation to travel, or to learn new languages and gain international experiences.

Due to this we decided to bring the international environment to our city, by the diversity of EVS, here at the Compass Office! Our EVS volunteers, are our greatest tools! We offer the chance for the youth to come to our office and experience an international environment, to improve their social, cultural-intercultural skills, organizing free-time activities, summer camps, send them abroad for EVS, Youth

Exchanges or Trainings and Seminars. We are offer them; possibilities, to extend their chances, and to expand their world!

Tasks of the volunteer:

Attend to Compass Ability Quest later making self sufficient Ability Quests. The most important tasks of the volunteer:

Cultural clubs.

The volunteer will be leading language clubs for youth, between the ages of; 6-30, but in some case for elderly people as well. The aim of the clubs is to teach languages for the local community, using the methods of; non-formal education. The volunteer has to use/teach/his or her own language and English. The volunteer will teach the participants to express themselves and to communicate in foreign languages. They have to prepare for every lesson, choose and discuss about different topics, like sport, culture, movies, history, or anything what could be interesting for the participants. The aim of the club is not only teaching the language itself but the volunteer's national culture.

Background work:

The volunteer has to prepare every week, for the following weeks regarding the weekly schedule of language clubs or any other local activities; sport, culture, art, etc. They should find a theme, for each language club with; photos, movies, games etc. that they can use and practice during the clubs with the individual or the group. Compass has a toolkit so called "Ability Quest" which contains different methods of teambuilding, sport and role playing games and self development training. The volunteer is invited to use this toolkit and to add any further ideas of his or her own. These activities enrich both the knowledge and the experiences of the 'audience' and the volunteer itself.

Language lessons at the local schools:

The volunteer regularly goes to local secondary schools, to take part in language lessons. This is very essential and useful for the local community, because through the volunteer they have the chance to hear and learn from a native speaker. By this; they can improve their communication skills, listening, hearing, understanding, and most importantly the ability to speak in a foreign language. We are also doing outreach work in 4 elementary, 9 high/technical school, where we promote local and international projects, volunteering, useful free-time activities and the Erasmus + program.

Taking part in popularization of the Erasmus+program

As mentioned above we regularly go to local schools. Why? To make different kind of presentations (country, culture, Erasmus+, EVS..) to encourage young people for participating at local, regional & international events, to invite them for different conferences & events (eg: at the City Hall, County Hall)

In these events; one of the tasks are to promote the Erasmus+ program, the EVS and our own projects. *The volunteer has to take an active part* in these events! They are welcomed to use their own ideas & presentations. They have to create presentations, short speeches for conferences, introductions of themselves and their country in the above mentioned events.

Summer camp:

The volunteer has to lead groups in different themed summer camps. These camps are mostly for Hungarians, but foreigners living in Kaposvár can also take part. For Hungarian groups we make these camps as an intensive, non-formal language week. The participants learn the usage of a foreign language and the communication with people of different ages, cultural-, social-, economical-backgrounds, through a diverse range of games, activities, team buildings and situations. The volunteer has to prepare with these; activities, games, articles, or any other ideas for the youngsters, for the participants to help their development in communication and foreign language skills. We believe that good communication skills are essential for life. No matter what kind of marks you have at school, or what type of certifications you have what matters is; the ability to understand and to communicate with people.

Useful free-time activities:

The volunteer should encourage, or offer a possibility for the members of the local community to take part in useful free-time activities organized by Compass organization. For example involve the youth in sport activities, art, or cultural programs

or any other kind that could be interesting and suitable for the organization. We regularly have intercultural, recycling, dancing, CV writing or art workshops.

Active part of office life:

The volunteer has to take an active part of the everyday life in the office. By helping in organizing local programs of different interests and target groups, dealing with EVS database, organizing and working with different departments of the office (eg: Facebook, decoration, youth exchanges, trainings, language clubs, etc.), by giving

information for the local community about the possibilities of the Erasmus+ program, or by going to the unemployment office to hold presentations, and to give information about the Erasmus+ opportunities abroad.

Kindergarten project:

We visit local kindergartens to encourage the curiosity of kids for a diverse world around them. To show them how many different, skin tones, eye shapes, languages cultures, expressions and behaviors exist, through creative workshops, outside and inside activities, sport programs and much more!

Mother's shelter:

Is a temporary home for violated women and their child or children. Our volunteer's go there 3 or 4 times a week to entertain the kids, to expand their point of view develop mother's competences with language clubs, computer knowledge and helping them to get back to labor market with CV and motivation letter writing workshops.

Retired Club:

Working with elderly people, creating and presenting interesting workshops, and programs for them, at their local center, (eg: knitting, or dancing).

Village program:

We visit the surrounding villages & rural areas on a regular basis, where mostly minority people live, to hold or to attend on cultural/intercultural- sport- and culinary events, programs.

Every month the volunteer has to write a 'Monthly Report'. This report should contain a text of the different activities and programs with pictures attached. It is a great way for both the volunteer and the hosting organization to follow the process of the individual.

We have a weekly meeting in the office, every Thursday morning. During these meetings Andrea Katona Eglyné (the president), the coordinators and the volunteers can talk about any special, upcoming events or programs which will happen in the next week/s, it is also the time and space for suggestions, discussing any ideas and any occurred problem/s.

Accommodation, workplace:

We expect the volunteer to:

- Respect the accommodation provided by Compass and the rules of common life.
- Provide sending and hosting organization with written reports in every month as required.
- Take care conscientiously of the materials and objects that are being provided by the hosting organization (camera, phone, office equipments, furniture, decorations, etc) for him/her in order to fulfill the goals and objectives of the project much easier. If not, the volunteer is required to pay the equivalent amount of money for each one in part.
- In the accommodation the volunteer has to take care of the cleaning itself. Washing the dishes, taking out the trash, take care of the usage of the provided equipments and furniture, freshening the air. Basically keeping the apartment tidy and using all belongings as it should be.
- The volunteers have to keep the office clean, in organized 'cleaning groups' according to the weekly schedule. After the language clubs or any other program, activity held in the office all materials, and belongings (games, papers, pens, furniture, projector, etc) should be put back, to its original place.

- Take seriously your commitment to the entire project period ☺
- Support the aims and methods of Compass Organization. Try to give in all your passion and knowledge in whatever you do.
- *Complete a voluntary service within the above mentioned placement.*

Working time:

Maximum 35 hours weekly. Daily agenda: starting at 10:00 finishing at 18:00.

Free days: two days per every week. (Saturday, Sunday) Although, the working hours are flexible. Depending on; the volunteer's and the organization's needs.

For example if the volunteer has to work on the weekend, (because of an event) then the he/she will get the free day in another time.

Each month the volunteer has 2 free days. Which means that; during the 12 months, a volunteer has 24 days for holiday.

Please don't forget to bring:

- Souvenirs from your country. For example: flags, postcards, or miniature models of famous places would be brilliant. You can also bring brochures from the tourist office. Or anything else you can find, and it could be interesting for the local community, for the intercultural events, or for any of your workshops, activities! Bringing some magazines in your language would also be very useful (eg: language clubs). If you have folk clothes, and they aren't too much of a trouble, please bring it with you. They could help in your local work; workshops, cultural events, lessons while giving an idea to people about your culture and traditions.
- A laptop, if you have one (is very necessary for everyday work)
- A camera and SD card, if you have one
- Towels for the bathroom (we will provide you with bedding (bed clothes, pillows etc))



●Your favorite book, pillow, pictures of friends & family in case you
get homesick ☺

Make sure to: Check us on Facebook!

facebook.com/compass.egyesulet

See You Soon!