

Step Forward for Better Future! – looking for European Voluntary Service volunteers to Georgia!

Sending organization: Involved NGO

Hosting organization: Georgian Youth for Europe (GYE)

City: Rustavi; Village Pona, Lagodekhi, Kakheti Region (Georgia)

Web: www.gye.ge, www.evsrustavi.blogspot.com

Georgian Youth for Europe works mainly with young people aged 12 – 25 but also with adults. The mission of GYE is to empower youth of Kvemo Kartli to achieve their full physical, intellectual, emotional, social, and spiritual potential both as individuals and as responsible citizens. GYE pursues multiple program directions to achieve this mission.

It promotes:

- learning through peer-education training and workshops on art and management;
- healthy lifestyles by organizing outdoor activities,
- hobby clubs and first aid courses;
- democratic principles by offering trainings on human rights;
- environmentally-conscious behavior by raising public awareness about environmental issues through demonstrations, yard clean-up campaigns, after-school environmental education, movie-making on environmental problems, Eco Gardens,
- and activities to recycle litter it into saleable products.

GYE has been organizing and leading many Youth in Action projects since 2006 (Youth exchanges, Training courses, EVS, Study visits).

Hosting organisation "Georgian Youth for Europe" (GYE) was founded in 2006 by the leaders of the Kvemo Kartli Organization of Scout Movement. Majority of social workers and other employees of the organization have passed at least 1 year of volunteering program in different European countries, specializing in different directions. Currently the organization is hosting 5 European volunteers from 4 different countries. Besides voluntary services, with the support of the European Commission GYE organizes various youth exchange programs in Georgia and beyond. The organization is actively involved in various content of non-formal education programs and projects (out-door and adventure education, environment, healthy lifestyle, human rights, etc). During the last 6 years GYE hosted around 40 long term and 60 short term EVS volunteers.

The project's mission is to **promote available initiatives and non-formal education activities for young people and children from Rustavi city**. The project will extend the local youth and children opportunities to realize themselves in physical and intellectual fields, and actively participate in the youth and the local project development and implementation.

The main activities will be implemented in conjunction with two following main objectives: development of civil society and international development cooperation.

Project foresees **one long-term Service of 12 months**, but also **short-term services which will be given to 10 young people** from Estonia. 50% of the young people planned for short-term services in the **duration of 1 month** will be young

people with fewer opportunities: they will be given maybe even the first time to go and live abroad with other people, and learning new skills.

Participants' Profile

For long and short term EVS projects GYE doesn't have any guidelines for gender or age. Any special skills are not required, the main criterion is applicant's motivation and reasons why he or she would like to participate in the project activities and volunteering in Georgia. Preference will be given to volunteers who are **really willing to work with youth and organize different kind of activities**. Having some experience working on eco-friendly atmosphere and outdoor is a bonus.

Participants are asked to send us electronically their Curriculum Vitae and Letter of Motivation, both in English. You are very welcomed to send your Europass CV - information on that can be obtained also from Involved's website. Please notify which part of Estonia are you coming from and in case of status of unemployment, provide more information on time frame and possible reasons. You can also send your CV and Letter of Motivation in the Estonian language.

Volunteers will not be given high-level responsibility tasks, including financial responsibility, though s/he is taken as a staff member. There will be maximum 38 working hrs per week (including language studies) and 2 free days per month as a rule for EVS. There are no special skills required. Knowledge of computer (Office e.g.) is expected.

GYE would like to host volunteers aged preferably 18-25.

For short term volunteers (group), we will try to select candidates from both gender: Male/ Female (5+5).

Practicalities

Food-Allowance: A monthly allowance is provided (€ 85,00) to cover food expenses. Volunteers will need to prepare meal by themselves.

Accommodation: All the costs related to the accommodation will be covered. Volunteer shares a flat with other volunteers situated in a housing estate - about 5 minutes walking distance from the town centre. Flat is newly reconstructed and has really good condition for living. The volunteers will be given money to buy their own food. There is a kitchen in the volunteer flat where they can prepare meals. Shops and restaurants are close-by (a 2-5-minute walk). Some parts of the project, short term volunteers will spend in Village Pona, where they will need to share room with other volunteers (3-4 person per room). Room has own toilet and bathroom.

Upon arrival, the volunteer will receive intensive Georgian language course. Already on the first day we will provide the volunteers with a SIM card with Georgian phone number. So that they could contact family, friends and also there will be free wifi for Internet communication.

Every day in host organization volunteers will spend six-seven hours. Volunteer will be free on Saturday on Sunday. Each month will be awarded an additional 2 free days.

The project is open to and takes special account of young volunteer's skills and talents so that the time they spend with us will be effectively lived as an occasion to grow up and experience. The volunteers will have the task of, inside the center, working together with professional social and cultural educators, to organize and carry out programs for children and young people.

The travel concerning the arrival and departure will be managed by the Sending and Receiving Organization, together with the volunteer. We will take into account project budget. The Sending Organization will provide international insurance for the volunteers (MSH International).

Main Activities

Long term EVS project: 1 volunteer from Estonia Project Implementation Dates: 01.09.2015-31.08.2016

Working methods used: organizing, leading clubs for the local youth.

Activities for long term EVS volunteer:

- Enthusiastically and diligently manage 2 clubs and participate in 1 club (one of which must include the teaching of volunteer's native language) and independently design and implement at least 1 project
- Volunteers' local activities must fall into one of the four thematic areas:
 - Foreign Language & Technology
 - Vocational Training & Social Enterprise
 - Environment & Survival
 - Health
- Cooperate and Participate! Support GYE staff members and other volunteers in implementing their projects.
- Motivate Georgian volunteers to organize, implement, and promote events
- Share your cultures and languages with Georgian Youth. The volunteer will be a youth ambassador of his/ her country, residing in the city of Rustavi. The EVS volunteer will give the local Georgian youth a possibility to see local life from an outsider's eyes.
- Bring a European "presence" to daily work with local youth life. The volunteer will help this organisation gain a better understanding of other religions, cultures, life styles, and traditions.
- Promote EVS and the "Erasmus+" Programme by presenting these programs in local schools meetings with youngsters in local schools; try to increase awareness about these programs among Georgian youngsters with fewer opportunities and less-privileged backgrounds.
- Volunteer will make an effort to learn the local language and make an effort to adapt to Georgian culture and daily life.
- Volunteers will attend meetings with partners (preparation, on-going and evaluation meetings); and will take part in regular weekly meetings on Mondays and weekly office cleaning days on Tuesdays.

Short term group EVS project: 10 short term EVS volunteers from Estonia. Project Implementation Dates: 01.09.2014-01.10.2015

Working methods used: organizing thematic workshops, street actions, planting trees, gardening and different indoor and outdoor activities.

Working Hours 6-7 hour per day. Weekend is free. Also volunteers will have 2 additional free days during the month.

Project is dividing into 4 main parts:

- I. Integration
- II. Planning - Preparation - Implementation
- III. Activities in Youth Eco Village Pona.
- IV. Evaluation.

1. Integration phase - (1st week) Volunteers will have OAT organised by SALTO-EECA. Volunteers also will attend daily events/activities organised by the long-term EVS volunteers from GYE (City Game which will helped to discover Rustavi city, Simulation workshops, Intercultural day/Welcome party)
2. Planning-Preparation-Implementation. - (2-3rd week-10days) During the second week Short Term Volunteer will be in charged of preparing activities, events, workshops for the Rustavi children and youth with fewer opportunities.
3. Activities in Youth Eco-Village Pona- (3rd-4th week-10days) Volunteers will move to Kakheti Region, where GYE is developing Youth Eco- Village. Volunteers will assist Georgian youngsters to create campsite area, planting the trees, renovation works, etc.
4. Evaluation Phase- At the end of the project, GYE will run 2 day Evaluation meeting with the volunteers.

Finances

Travel Grant per Participant (Estonia-Georgia-Estonia) – 360 EUR

Individual support (pocket money) – 64 EUR per month

You will be also provided money for food (85 EUR per month).

Erasmus+ grant is covering also accommodation, local transportation, mentorship and insurance.

More information and applications: info@involved.ee

Please send your CV and Letter of Motivation ASAP and by the set deadline in Involved's website.

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