Want to do
Long Term
EUROPEAN VOLUNTARY SERVICE
at the
Youth Association from Transylvania?

Here’s what we offer!

The Youth Association from Transylvania recognizes the need of the local and regional community to have young people coming from other countries, who can contribute to developing the potential of the area from a cultural, social and economical standpoint.

The role of the volunteers within our organisation will be to act as support person and as execution agent to the activities and initiatives that already exist in the community or our NGO. They will have to bring their own motivation and plans in order to fill in the frame of these actions with meaningful, efficient content. The way the EVS activity of each volunteer is constructed as follows: they will have to allocate 60-70% of their time and activity, to work on this main activity. 20% of the time, their task will be to do common activities with the other volunteers, activities which are done around the yearly community traditions, events, happenings and holidays of the community. 10% of their time will be spent to create and do visibility materials and promotion activities for the NGO and especially for their own EVS activity.

The venues of their activities will be in Cristuru Secuiesc and a few of the activities may also be implemented in Odorheiu Secuiesc and Sighișoara. In this context, here are the 8 different types of main activities we propose for the volunteers:

1. Supporting the local Radio station – 2 volunteers
   There is a local radio station which is understaffed and cannot do any field work. To this opportunity we would add one volunteer who would do radio field work, gathering local news, presenting portraits of local personalities and who will have radio emissions which introduce and present Europe to the local community. This means that the volunteer will work together with the radio station staff and when they would require in situ meetings with people of interest outside the station, the volunteer will carry out this role by
going out and taking interviews and by formulating first hand accounts either in recorded or written formats. Then he or she will edit and deliver these materials to the station. He or she will receive all the necessary training needed to achieve this. The day to day tasks of the volunteer will be to

- scope out the daily, weekly and monthly news on a local and micro-regional level and suggest them to the radio station staff
- to go out in the field and make voice recorded interviews or case studies about the news given by the radio station staff and the ones suggested by him/her and approved by the staff,
- to find people of interest in the area who could serve as portrait material for the Radio station,
- to make voice recorded interviews with these people,
- to come up with an interactive program of intercultural value which shows the EU, EVS and other Youth and Community Programmes to the local community, via radio.
- All these have to be voice recorded and edited into a standard radio emission format.
- With time and if the volunteers have the necessary motivation for it, live shows may also be attempted.
- **This activity may also be implemented in Odorheiu Secuiesc.**
- Other activities which may come up as the activity is developed more concretely

**2. Recycling and up-cycling education manager – 2 volunteers**

Cristuru Secuiesc and the region has a lack of options to recycle and act sustainable ecologically so to aid this lack, we will have one or two volunteer who will do activities on recycling and up-cycling with workshops and other environmental education activities for 3 different age groups, children, teens and adults. The volunteers will receive all the necessary training needed to achieve this. The day to day tasks of the volunteer will be to

- searching online for recycling and up-cycling techniques and learning these methodologies
- planning weekly workshops on recycling and up-cycling for the 3 age groups, with a schedule for each month in advance so that these workshops are announced properly and all the materials used to recycle and up-cycle are gathered by the community and the hosting organisation in due time
- create promotional materials and do campaigns for the region, both on a printed and a digital level
- organize the workshops for the 3 age groups using non formal methods
- creating brochures on the methods and materials created
- organizing periodical exhibitions and bazaar type of events to display and share the created materials
- organizing monthly environmental education activities for the community in order to sensitize them towards living in a more sustainable and environmentally conscious way
- organizing other independent workshops and personal activities on environmentalism linked to personal wishes and or other events happening in the region
- doing monthly recycling and up-cycling workshops in the other villages from around Cristuru Secuiesc, if there is an interest for it.
- This activity may also be implemented in Odorheiu Secuiesc.
- Other activities which may come up as the activity is developed more concretely

3. Support person for the Hosting Organisation – 1 volunteer

Last but not least, we would like to have at least two volunteers which will support the activities of our association/ This means that the volunteers will work directly with the staff and the volunteers of the NGO, in the office, supporting all the activities carried out by us on a local, regional, national and international level:
- supporting the organizing initiatives, international exchanges, trainings, seminars, workshops and vocational trainings within the Youth in action and Lifelong Learning Programme, both hosting and sending, by creating visibility and dissemination materials, helping with logistics and bringing new ideas
- doing local cultural activities in collaboration with the local council and cultural and youth organisations, like doing specific traditional weekly, daily or weekend based events: re-establishing a theatrical troupe, school competitions, Easter, Christmas events, sports activities, parties, celebrations and so on
- doing social activities for the inclusion of the orphan children who are at family placement in the city and for the Roma community of the city, these are non formal education activities for leisure time, for combating illiteracy, for learning other languages and about other cultures and for strengthening cultural identity and traditions
- supporting us in organizing work-camps, leisure time activities, nature-, literature-, IT-camps, festivals and so on
- This activity may also be implemented in Odorheiu Secuiesc and Sighișoara.

Besides all these, in terms of actually doing the activities, **during the first month** of each volunteers activity, the activities will be more general ones, where the volunteers get used to the community, to the culture, the habits, the logistics and the main activity. Also, in the first month they will also have intensive Hungarian and Romanian language
Volunteer profile
The Youth Association from Transylvania is looking for any youth aged 18 to 30 who is serious and motivated to come to a small city and support us in the development of a community with a lot of potential. We do not require for volunteers to have any pre determined skill sets or aptitudes in order to carry out the activity, only an inquisitive demeanour and an openness to learn new things which may be needed to carry out the activity. Also, we do not require participants to have advanced or intermediate English (or any other foreign language) speaking skills, we only require them to have a basic skill in English and an openness to learn the local language in order to effectively communicate with the local community. Last but not least, we are looking for energetic, creative open minded and independent youngsters, but then again all of this will also be the end result of their project. If the potential volunteers do not possess these attitudes, they will certainly develop them while working together with us.

Recruitment process
For anyone wishing to join us as an EVS volunteer, we will firstly require a CV and a motivation letter. Besides requiring the full and honest information regarding their profile and motivation, we also encourage candidates to be creative with their applications, to include anything that might reveal their individuality, their likes, dislikes and potential skill sets. Upon receipt of these documents, the board of the NGO will study the applications and will decide whether the presented profile is appropriate for our needs and activities, in light of this decision we will either refuse candidates or move on to having a Skype or telephone interview with the candidates in order to evaluate motivation and personality in a direct and oral environment. After the interview, the board will take a decision.

Also we ask for patience and understanding from all candidates regarding the fact that from recruitment until start of activity the preparation procedures and activities take time, especially in the case of candidate volunteers who are recruited prior to submitting an application.
About the Town

Cristuru Secuiesc lies at the eastern end of the Transylvanian plateau between the towns of Odorheiu Secuiesc and Sighișoara, in the valleys of the Târnava Mare, Goagiu and Nicoul Alb rivers, 390-395 meters above sea level.

As far as nationality is concerned: in 1910 there were 3766 Hungarians, 71 Germans, 25 Romanians and 24 of other nationalities whereas in 1992 the town was inhabited by 10059 Hungarians, 262 Romanians, 264 Gypsies, 7 Germans and 4 others and in 2011 there were 9491 inhabitants, 9266 of which were declared Hungarian, 183 Romanian and 8 German while most of the Roma community declared themselves as Hungarian or a few, Romanian.

In 1910 the population belonged to three denominations: 1965 reformed, 925 unitarians, 833 Roman catholics while in 1992 there were 5054 reformed, 3617 unitarian, 2585 Roman catholic, 261 orthodox churchmembers. In 2011 there were 4438 reformed, 3354 unitarian, 1248 Roman catholic, 208 orthodox and a few baptists, evangelists, Greek catholics, Jehovah's witnesses and adventists as well. There are four churches in the town: reformed, unitarian, roman catholic and orthodox.

The city has 4 primary and highschools one of them being a vocational highschool, it has a folclor museum, the Dr. Molnár István Museum, the PIPACSOK folk ensemble - founded in 1992, a civil fanfare - founded in 1895, a philharmonic - founded in 1911 and among the notable sight are the Gyárás mansion, the Sándor Petofi and Nicolae Bălcescu statues in the main square and the Cross on the hill next to the city which offers a great view upon the city. Not far from the city lies the salt spa called Sóskút with its medicinal springs where people suffering from chronic rheumatism and arthritis can find cure. There are also a lot of hills, meadows, rivers and forests for hikes and the Harghita mountains are also close. The city also boasts with a Theatre, a Lidl supermarket and many smaller general stores, several restaurants and pubs for leisure time with a tradition of having live musicians singing slow music. The youth community is quite abundant, with youth from all around the region pouring out from the 4 high schools and also the youth moving back from universities in the area.
Beside this main headquarter, after gathering a bit more hands on experience, a few of the activities will also be organized in 2 larger cities close to Cristuru Secuiesc, which are Sighișoara and Odorheiu Secuiesc.

**Sighișoara** is a city and municipality on the Târnava Mare River in Mureș County; it has a population of 26,370, Romanians 75%, Hungarians 17.6%, Roma 5.3% and Germans 1.5%. It is considered to be the most beautiful and well preserved inhabited citadel in Europe, with an authentic medieval architecture. In Eastern Europe, Sighișoara is one of the few fortified towns which are still inhabited and because of this, it iss a popular tourist destination. The landmark of the city is the Clock Tower, a 64 m high tower built in the 13th century.

**Odorheiu Secuiesc** is the second-largest city in Harghita County, Transylvania, Romania. The city has a population of 36,948, of which 95.7% or 35,359 people are ethnic Hungarians, making it the city with the second-highest proportion of Hungarians in Romania. The city is also home to communities of ethnic Romanians (2.91%) and Roma (1.16%).

**Logistics**
The volunteers will be housed in flats which will have 2-3 rooms and they will stay 1 or 2 in a room, depending on the size of the rooms; a maximum of 5 volunteers will stay in one flat. These flats will be fully furnished:
- kitchens will have fridge, stove, microwave, dishes, glasses, furniture,
- bathrooms will have toilets, showers or bathtubs with shower, washing machines and cleaning appliances
- rooms and bedrooms will have furniture, beds, television and also internet connection with Wi-Fi connection

For meals, we offer 3 options where groups of volunteers can chose to:
1. Receive the amount allocated for meals, to buy and cook their own food and provide bills for all the purchased food.

2. Let us buy all the foodstuff according to their needs and wishes, making sure that we have all the bills and that they eat regularly.

3. Let us offer them lunch in the local restaurants between Monday to Friday and him or we buy all the foodstuff needed for breakfast, dinner and weekends, according to the needs and wishes. These three flexible options allow for meeting the needs and styles of many different volunteers at the same time.

The flats where the volunteers will live will be at maximum 20 minutes walking distance from the office of the association or the place where their activities take place. There is no local bus service in the city but we can provide bikes to the participants which require one.

The working language in the city and in the greater region is Hungarian, so the main focus will be put on learning this language first and after that Romanian which will be needed in trainings, evaluation meetings and free time touristic activities in Romania.

The rules of conduct regarding mutual collaboration and respect between volunteers, association and community will be set up within the specific projects and activity agreements with the volunteers.

Traveling here
90% of travel costs is covered by the Youth in Action Programme, while 10% has to be covered by each participants. Each volunteer should find the lowest means of transport to arrive in Romania, this means low cost airline tickets and second class bus, train tickets. All tickets, boarding passes and bills must be kept and given to us.

For arriving in Cristuru Secuiesc You should manage the travels in your own country and the flight. We will manage your travel from Airports in Romania. When choosing your Flights, be sure that You find Wizz Air connections from your country to Airports like Targu Mures (very close) Cluj, (close), Arad, Timisoara and Bucharest (very far).
# A bit of informal Romanian and Hungarian before you arrive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English</th>
<th>Romanian</th>
<th>Hungarian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hy! / Hello!</td>
<td>Bună! / Salut!</td>
<td>Szia! / Hali!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good morning!</td>
<td>Bună dimineaţa!</td>
<td>Jó reggelt!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good day!</td>
<td>Bună ziua!</td>
<td>Jó napot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Good night!</td>
<td>Bună seara!</td>
<td>Jó estét!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome!</td>
<td>Bine aţi venit!</td>
<td>Üdvözlőm.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>My name is...</td>
<td>Numele meu e...</td>
<td>A nevem ...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thank you!</td>
<td>Multumesc!</td>
<td>Köszönöm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I need help.</td>
<td>Am nevoie de ajutor.</td>
<td>Segítség.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I’m sorry, I don’t speak Romanian/Hungarian.</td>
<td>Î-mi pare rău, nu vorbesc Româneste / Maghiará.</td>
<td>Sajnáalom, nem beszélek Románul/Magyarul.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you speak French/German/English?</td>
<td>Vorbești Franceză/Germană/Engleză?</td>
<td>Beszélsz Franciául, Németül, Angolul?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excuse me!</td>
<td>Scuză mă!</td>
<td>Bocsánat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Da</td>
<td>Igen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>Nu</td>
<td>Nem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maybe</td>
<td>Poate</td>
<td>Lehet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>